15 de enero de 2026

Por e-mail

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Ref.: Respuesta de Chiquita Canyon, LLC a la de Denuncia No. 1 del Resumen de Violaciones del 18 Noviembre de 2025

Estimadas Sra. Neal y Sra. Zmily:

Chiquita Canyon, LLC ("Chiquita") presenta esta carta en respuesta al Resumen de Violaciones ("SOV") del Vertedero de Chiquita Canyon ("El Vertedero") emitido por el Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas ("DTSC") el 18 de noviembre de 2025.[1]

El 10 de diciembre de 2025 Chiquita solicitó una extensión de tiempo para responder a la SOV debido a la naturaleza voluminosa de las acciones allí solicitadas y a los plazos de las solicitudes en la temporada de las fiestas. El 15 de diciembre de 2025 el DTSC otorgó la solicitud de extensión con respecto a la Denuncia No. 1 hasta el 15 de enero de 2026. El 18 de diciembre de 2025, Chiquita proporcionó respuestas interinas sobre las Denuncias No. 2 y No. 3, como también a las denuncias contenidas en una sección titulada "Otros Problemas/Inquietudes" de la SOV, copia que de adjunta a este documento como **Adjunto 1.** Chiquita también destacó que proporcionaría evidencia de que los manifiestos de condensados en cuestión para la Denuncia No. 2 habían sido corregidos en e-Manifest, como también un mapa de los tanques T1/T2 y sus tuberías asociadas.

[1] Chiquita Canyon, LLC es el único propietario, operador y titular del permiso del Vertedero de Chiquita Canyon. Chiquita Canyon, Inc. y Waste Connections US, Inc. no forman parte del nombre de las instalaciones ni gestionan, dirigen ni realizan operaciones en el centro, como lo denuncia la SOV.

Chiquita proporciona la constancia de corrección del manifiesto como **Adjunto 2** y pretende presentar el mapa solicitado para el 23 de enero de 2026. Por lo tanto, Chiquita responde solo a la Denuncia No. 1 de aquí en adelante.

Como se indica a continuación, Chiquita disputa las denuncias indicadas en el SOV y solicitó acciones. Chiquita ha proporcionado voluminosa información oportuna sobre el Vertedero a sus reguladores y continúa haciéndolo. Chiquita continuará cooperando con solicitudes de información razonables que se encuentren dentro del alcance de la autoridad del DTSC que apliquen al Vertedero.

Chiquita proporciona la siguiente información en el interés de cooperar de forma continua con el DTSC. La información, los documentos y los adjuntos aquí proporcionados no deben ser interpretados como una admisión de ninguna denuncia factual o conclusión legal en la SOV ni una admisión de ninguna responsabilidad por ningún asunto descrito en la SOV.

Denuncia No. 1 - No Minimizar la Posibilidad de una Liberación de Desechos Peligrosos

Resumen de la Denuncia del DTSC:

El DTSC afirma que Chiquita violó 22 CCR § 66262.251 presuntamente no minimizando la posibilidad de que ocurra una liberación imprevista repentina o no repentina de desechos peligrosos o constituyentes de desechos peligrosos en el aire, suelo o agua superficial, que podría ser una amenaza para la salud humana o para el medioambiente. El DTSC enumera 27 incidentes individuales que forman la base de esta denuncia.

Respuesta de Chiquita a la Denuncia:

Chiquita niega haber violado 22 CCR § 66262.251 como denuncia el DTSC, por varios motivos. Primero, esa disposición actualmente no aplica a Chiquita (y no aplicaba en los momentos en los que ocurrieron los incidentes individuales citados por el DTSC). El cumplimiento de la Sección 66262.251 es una "condición de exención" a los requerimientos de solicitud de permisos bajo la Sección 66262.17. Específicamente, la Sección 66262.17(a)(6) indica que una de las condiciones para esa excepción es que "[e]l generador de grades cantidades cumple con los estándares del artículo 9 de este capítulo". Y la Sección 66262.251 está contenida en el Artículo 9. EPA ha reconocido que la disposición de "minimizar las liberaciones" es meramente una condición para excepción, indicando que "[l]a condición para excepción de LQGs en [40 CFR] § 262.17(a)(6)-(7) [la contraparte federal de 22 CCR § 66262.17(a)(6)] hace referencia a 40 CFR parte 262 subparte M [la contraparte federal del Artículo 9].” (*Consulte* 81 Reg. Fed. en 85,790). Chiquita no tiene (y no ha tenido) la obligación de cumplir con las condiciones de la excepción de acumulación del LQG de los permisos establecidos en la Sección 66262.17 porque ya está cubierto por una excepción de permisos diferente, que es la Excepción de Respuesta Inmediata. Chiquita no puede haber "violado" las condiciones de una excepción que no necesitaba.

Segundo, Chiquita sin embargo mantiene que sí cumplió con la Sección 66262.251. Esa disposición indica en su totalidad que "[u]n generador de cantidades grandes debe mantener y operar sus instalaciones para:

(1) minimizar la posibilidad

(2) de que ocurra un incendio, explosión o cualquier liberación de desechos repentina o no repentina imprevista de constituyentes de desechos peligrosos
(3) al aire, suelo o agua superficial
(4) que pueda amenazar a la salud humana o al medioambiente" (numeración agregada).

Cada uno de estos elementos debe ser evaluado al analizar una potencial violación:

- La disposición únicamente trata liberaciones del *"centro*", que se define para los propósitos como "toda tierra y estructuras contiguas, que no sean dependencias, y mejoras en la tierra usadas para el tratamiento, la transferencia, el almacenamiento, la recuperación de recursos, la disposición o el reciclaje de desechos peligrosos". *(Consulte* 22 CCR § 66260.10 (énfasis agregado)). Por lo tanto, cualquier liberación de unidades de desechos no peligrosos no es relevante.
- El LQG es necesario únicamente para *"minimizar la posibilidad"* de liberaciones cubiertas, no para eliminarlas por completo. Está bien establecido que la ocurrencia de una liberación no necesariamente indica que un generador no cumplió con este requerimiento. (*Consulte, por ejemplo, EE.UU. v., Environmental Waste Control, Inc.*, 710 F. Sup. 1172, 1237 (N.D. Ind. 1989) ("40 C.F.R. § 265.31 [una disposición federal que tiene básicamente el mismo texto que la Sección 66262.251] ...no se viola simplemente con un incendio esporádico. La regulación requiere la implementación de procedimientos diseñados para minimizar incendios. La ocurrencia de un solo incendio, rápidamente contenido, no convence a la corte de que EWC no implementó estos procedimientos"), declaración 917 F.2d 327 (7° Cir. 1990); cert. rechazado, 499 U.S. 975 (1991)).
- Las únicas liberaciones que deben minimizarse bajo esta disposición son liberaciones de *"desechos peligrosos o constituyentes de desechos peligrosos". (Consulte* 22 CCR § 66262.251 (énfasis agregado)). Las liberaciones de desechos no peligrosos no son relevantes bajo esta disposición.
- Únicamente se abarcan liberaciones *"al aire, al suelo o a aguas superficiales"*. De hecho, se define como una "liberación" para estos propósitos a un "derrame, fuga, bombeo, torrencial, emisión, vaciado, descarga, inyección, escape, lixiviado, vertido o disposición *al medioambiente*". *(Consulte* 22 CCR § 66260.10 (énfasis agregado)). Por lo tanto, las liberaciones que son contenidas no implican a la Sección 66262.151.
- La disposición solo trata liberaciones que puedan *"amenazar la salud humana o el medioambiente".* Por lo tanto, las liberaciones muy pequeñas e incluso liberaciones más grandes que se limpian rápidamente, no están cubiertas.

Chiquita ha revisado cada uno de los 27 incidentes a los que hace referencia el DTSC en la SOV en su Anexo A, en virtud de la naturaleza limitada de § 66262.251, al margen del hecho de que la Excepción de Respuesta Inmediata aplica a cada incidente. Todos estos incidentes también están fuera del alcance de la disposición por uno o más de los siguientes motivos:

(1) La liberación no involucró material peligroso;
(2) La liberación involucró un pequeño volumen de material y por lo tanto no representó una amenaza importante para la salud o para la seguridad humana o para el medioambiente;
(3) La liberación fue contenida inmediatamente y por lo tanto no constituyó una liberación en el medioambiente;
(4) La liberación no salió de "instalaciones" dentro de la definición de ese término;

(5) La liberación no salió de la contención secundaria y por lo tanto no representó ninguna amenaza importante para la salud o la seguridad humana ni para el medioambiente y no constituyó una liberación al medioambiente.

Hasta el punto en que cualquiera de los incidentes pueda ser potencialmente considerado una liberación del tipo tratado por § 66262.251, estos incidentes habrían sido aislados y no negarían el hecho de que Chiquita haya implementado numerosos procedimientos diseñados para minimizar liberaciones - que como se indica arriba, es todo lo que requieren las disposiciones.

Desde enero de 2024, miembros específicos del personal han realizado inspecciones para observar si había fugas o acumulaciones en la Zona Reactiva y en los canales de aguas pluviales, conforme a la Condición 27(b) de la Orden de Depuración Estipulada en el Caso No. 6177-4 (“SOFA”), emitida por el Distrito de Gestión de la Calidad del Aire de la Costa Sur ("AQMD de la Costa Sur"). Estas inspecciones fueron documentadas e informadas al AQMD de la Costa Sur semanal y mensualmente, como lo requerían la Condición 27(c) y la Condición 8(q)(iii) de la SOFA. En el caso de que ocurra una filtración o acumulación, Chiquita toma y contiene inmediatamente cualquier líquido estancado en un camión cisterna o camión de lixiviados sellado o redirige el líquido al sistema de recolección de lixiviados, conforme a la Condición 24 de la SOFA 24. Chiquita además informa a la Junta Regional de Control de Calidad del Agua de Los Ángeles (la "Junta del Agua") incidentes en los que el líquido sale de la huella del Vertedero, conforme a los Requerimientos de Descarga de Desechos (“WDRs”) de Chiquita. En respuesta a la Orden Administrativa Unilateral (“UAO”) emitida por EPA el 21 de febrero de 2024, Chiquita también desarrolló un Plan de Gestión de Lixiviados (“LMP”), que identifica prácticas para implementar en el caso de que se descubra una filtración. Algunas medidas detalladas en el LMP incluyen construir estructuras de contención para evitar que los lixiviados viajen, asegurando la disponibilidad de equipos de limpieza (ej. camiones de aspersión) y el monitoreo continuo para evitar recurrencias.

Para reducir y combatir las filtraciones en el Vertedero, Chiquita completó el Proyecto de Instalación de Drenajes en el Talud de la Pendiente Oeste y el Proyecto de Terminación de la Pendiente Norte para mitigar mejor las filtraciones de lixiviados. Como parte de los proyectos, Chiquita instaló un nuevo drenaje de la pendiente del talud y removió y cambió el revestimiento de la malla temporal que cubría el área, por un revestimiento de geomembrana de 30 milésimas de pulgada. Desde que se completaron los proyectos en 2025, Chiquita ha notado una importante reducción de filtraciones.[2]

Desde el 28 de agosto de 2024, bajo la Condición 27(e) de la SOFA, Chiquita debe informar la ocurrencia de derrames de lixiviados o fugas al AQMD de la Costa Sur. La mayoría de los derrames y fugas se mitigan el mismo día que ocurren. El 18 de octubre de 2024, conforme a la Condición 27(f) de la SOFA, Chiquita desarrolló Procedimientos Operativos Estándar (“SOPs”) para las operaciones de los tanques de lixiviados, conforme a los estándares de la industria y a las mejores prácticas de gestión. Estos SOPs detallan procedimientos para el llenado de los tanques y para las inspecciones de los tanques se realiza personal de Chiquita y establecen pautas para la transferencia de lixiviados. Como se trata en mayor detalle a continuación, Chiquita ha actualizado sus SOPs de gestión de lixiviados

[2] Al tratar las medidas que se tomaron para minimizar o responder a filtraciones de lixiviados del Vertedero, Chiquita de ninguna manera está sugiriendo que alguna filtración de este tipo o acumulación asociada implicaría el requerimiento de la Sección 66262.251 de minimizar las liberaciones, incluso si aplicaba ese requerimiento. Por ejemplo, como el Vertedero solo gestiona desechos no peligrosos, las filtraciones del Vertedero no son de las "instalaciones" que, como se indicó arriba, se limitan a unidades para gestionar desechos peligrosos.

para que representen la consolidación de sus tanques de acumulación y tratamiento de lixiviados en el Parque de Tanques 13.

Desde la instalación del Parque de Tanques 13 y con los esfuerzos adicionales de Chiquita, la cantidad de líquido derramado o fugado ha estado tendiendo hacia una reducción. Chiquita además continúa expandiendo sus esfuerzos de desagote para y remover líquidos del Vertedero, según las Condiciones 17 y 18 de la SOFA.[3]

La disposición sobre "minimizar la liberación" indicada en la Sección 66262.251 actualmente no aplica a Chiquita (y no ha aplicado durante el período que abarca la denuncia del DTSC) porque es una condición para una excepción que el centro actualmente no necesita (y no ha necesitado durante el período relevante). Sin embargo, Chiquita ha cumplido con el requerimiento de minimizar las liberaciones. Por consiguiente, la Denuncia No. 1 del DTSC no tiene mérito.

Resumen de las Acciones Indicadas por el DTSC:

(i) El DTSC indica que Chiquita debe operar sus instalaciones de forma que se minimice la posibilidad de una liberación repentina o no repentina de desechos peligrosos o de constituyentes de desechos peligrosos.

(ii) El DTSC además le indica a Chiquita que para el 15 de enero de 2026 le proporcione al DTSC un plan escrito que describa los esfuerzos que hace Chiquita por operar sus instalaciones de forma que se minimice la posibilidad de que se liberen desechos peligrosos y constituyentes de desechos peligrosos. El DTSC solicita que Chiquita evalúe las liberaciones documentadas en esta SOV e incluya en el plan escrito una descripción de las medidas actuales y futuras que implementará Chiquita para evitar liberaciones de desechos peligrosos y constituyentes de desechos peligrosos. Las medidas actuales y futuras incluirán, pero no se limitan, a mejoras en los procesos para minimizar liberaciones que involucren errores humanos (que incluyen contratistas externos), diseño del sistema de gestión de lixiviados, mantenimiento/construcción de tuberías, camiones, mal funcionamiento/fallas de los equipos y liberaciones que involucren tuberías, tanques, pozos, sumideros y bombas. El DTSC indica que no es "adecuado" que el plan mencionado arriba simplemente haga referencia al LMP o a materiales preparados para otras agencias.

Respuesta de Chiquita a las Acciones Indicadas por el DTSC:

Las acciones indicadas por el DTSC con respecto a la Denuncia 1 no tienen fundamento, dado que la denuncia no tiene mérito, como se indica arriba. No obstante, para cooperar y ser transparentes, Chiquita además trata cada una de las acciones indicadas por el DTSC, como se detalla a continuación.

(i) Como se describe en detalle arriba, Chiquita ha implementado y continuará implementando procedimientos diseñados para minimizar la posibilidad de una liberación repentina o no repentina de desechos peligrosos

[3] Al tratar las medidas que se tomaron para minimizar o responder a fugas o derrames de tanques de lixiviados, Chiquita de ninguna manera está sugiriendo que alguna o todas las fugas o derrames implicarían el requerimiento de la Sección 66262.251 de minimizar las liberaciones, incluso si aplicaba ese requerimiento. Por ejemplo, algunos de los lixiviados del Vertedero son no peligrosos y por lo tanto las fugas y los derrames de estos lixiviados no serían una liberación de un desecho peligroso o constituyente de desechos peligrosos potencialmente dentro del alcance de la disposición a la que se hace referencia.

o constituyentes de desechos peligrosos de las instalaciones al aire, al suelo o al agua superficial que puedan amenazar la salud humana o el medioambiente.

(ii) Donde el DTSC pueda estar sugiriendo que Chiquita debe preparar un plan completamente nuevo para minimizar liberaciones que no hagan referencia al LMP o a materiales preparados para otras agencias, Chiquita objeta enfáticamente esta duplicación de esfuerzos. De hecho, las propias regulaciones del ETSC desalientan la duplicación en contextos similares. *Ver, por ejemplo*, 22 CCR § 66262.261(b) (“Si el generador ya preparó un Plan de Prevención, Control y Contramedidas de Derrames (SPCC) ... o algún otro plan de emergencia o contingencia, solo debe enmendar ese plan para que incorpore disposiciones sobre la gestión de desechos peligrosos que sean suficientes para cumplir con los estándares de esta parte"); § 66262.17(a)(7)(A)(1) (“Para empleados de instalaciones que reciben capacitación en respuesta a emergencias conforme a las regulaciones de la Administración de Seguridad y Salud Ocupacional..., el generador en grandes cantidades no tienen la obligación de proporcionar capacitación de respuesta a emergencias separada conforme a esta sección, siempre y cuando la capacitación general de las instalaciones cumpla con todas las condiciones de exención de esta sección"). Donde el DTSC pueda creer que los planes de Chiquita pueden mejorarse, Chiquita tiene la voluntad de conversar sobre cualquier disposición con la que el Departamento pueda tener dudas.

Chiquita está proporcionando copias de sus SOPs recientemente actualizadas para el Parque de Tanques 13 elaboradas para el AQMD de la Costa Sur, como también información sobre acciones correctivas tomadas en respuesta a las liberaciones de lixiviados en la SOV del DTSC y un resumen de las medidas recientes que ha tomado Chiquita para mejorar su sistema de gestión de lixiviados.

SOPs Actualizadas

Chiquita ha consolidado y reubicado sus parques de tanques para acumular y tratar lixiviados peligrosos. Ahora hay un solo parque de tanques para acumular y tratar lixiviados peligrosos, el Parque de Tanques 13, que fue diseñado para minimizar el riesgo de derrames y otras liberaciones y para contener adecuadamente y tratar cualquiera que pueda ocurrir. Todo el Parque de Tanques 13 se encuentra en un revestimiento de 60 milímetros para evitar liberaciones al suelo. El Parque de Tanques 13 consiste de tres secciones separadas:

- La primera sección del Parque de Tanques 13 es donde ocurre la entrada de lixiviados, ingresando lixiviados característicamente peligrosos en tanques de clarificación y después enviándolos a tanques de residencia. Esta sección completa se encuentra dentro de un terraplén y se nivela hasta un sumidero, por lo tanto todas las potenciales fugas de lixiviados se toman y pueden bombearse hacia afuera para su tratamiento. Esta sección tiene un doble revestimiento y contiene un sumidero con detección de fugas.
- La segunda sección contiene el área de tratamiento de carbono que tiene un doble revestimiento y contiene un sumidero con detección de fugas. Después de que los líquidos pasaron por tratamiento, se toman muestras de los mismos y se entuban hasta la tercera sección.
- La tercera sección contiene tanques que almacenan líquidos post tratamiento, no peligrosos, después de haberse tomado muestras. Se entregan los resultados de las muestras y después los líquidos se envían para su disposición final. Esta área tiene un solo revestimiento y almacena únicamente líquidos no peligrosos.

Chiquita ha actualizado sus SOPs de gestión de lixiviados previas para el Parque de Tanques 13. Estas SOPs abarcan las últimos procedimientos para el tratamiento de lixiviados en el Vertedero e integran las mejores prácticas de gestión, como también la experiencia aprendida de Chiquita. Se elaboraron las SOPs del Parque de Tanques 13

para que incorporen, donde corresponda, acciones correctivas tomadas en respuesta a derrames o fugas de lixiviados y se incluyen como **Adjunto 3.**

Juntas, estas SOPs requieren que personal de Chiquita tome medidas importantes para evitar liberaciones. Estas medidas incluyen: realizar una inspección de cada tanque de lixiviados como lo indican los requerimientos del tanque específico, asegurar que cada tanque tenga francobordo disponible para los líquidos autorizados, inspeccionar los tanques visualmente para confirmar que no hayan daños físicos visibles antes de la transferencia, determinar el tiempo de llenado previsto, monitorear la mirilla que está en el frente de los tanques para asegurar que el llenado no sobrepase la capacidad del tanque (si corresponde), verificar qué camiones están autorizados a cargar y dirigir a los choferes a la posición de carga apropiada e inspeccionar visualmente el tanque y el área para asegurar que no haya derrames durante y después de la transferencia. Chiquita agregó empleados y pasó las responsabilidades de los contratistas a los empleados donde era posible, para mejorar aún más los procesos. Chiquita además proporciona capacitación a los empleados que manejan lixiviados, que se actualiza según la necesidad.

Acciones Correctivas Tomadas

Además de incorporar lecciones aprendidas de incidentes previos en el diseño del Parque de Tanques 13 y en las SOPs, Chiquita ha implementado una variedad de acciones correctivas para mitigar la posibilidad de liberaciones de lixiviados, que incluyen mejoras en la infraestructura y aumentar la automatización siempre que sea posible. Más específicamente, incluyen:

- Volver a capacitar a personal de Chiquita sobre las operaciones del sistema de lixiviados, que incluyen procedimientos sobre la operación de las bombas y habilitar bombas, como también sobre procedimientos correctos para el mantenimiento.
- Asegurar que los contratistas externos proporcionen capacitación adecuada a sus empleados sobre operaciones relevantes, por ejemplo asegurar equipos específicos durante cambios de turno.
- Hacer actualizaciones y mejoras de la infraestructura, por ejemplo mejorar las bombas neumáticas por bombas Lorentz, que se adaptan mejor a ciertos entornos dentro del pozo.
- Realizar más mantenimientos, inspecciones o acciones de rutina para evitar potenciales liberaciones, que incluyen:
    - Utilizar un camión de vacio para recoger líquidos mientras se realiza el mantenimiento en la tubería de presión.
    - Inspeccionar la compuerta superior de los camiones de transporte para asegurar que estén cerrados antes de que los camiones puedan salir del parque de tanques.
    - Inspeccionar debajo de los camiones de transporte antes de que salgan de las instalaciones para asegurar que no haya pérdidas.
    - Aumentar la frecuencia de la inspección de los medidores de flujo magnéticos.

Mejoras en el Sistema de Gestión de Lixiviados

Además, Chiquita instaló transmisores hidrostáticos con nivel de líquido para medir el nivel de líquidos dentro de los tanques y en todos los tanques de acumulación de lixiviados, con capacidad de que se instalen estos transmisores. Esto permite que personal de Chiquita monitoree y comunique la información sobre el nivel de los tanques al

personal necesario involucrado antes y durante las operaciones de llenado de tanques, minimizando aún más el potencial de que haya liberaciones.

En resumen, Chiquita no violó 22 CCR § 66262.251. Chiquita ha implementado numerosas acciones, precauciones, análisis y medidas para minimizar el potencial de liberaciones. Chiquita ha ampliado mucho su capacitación al personal y sus inspecciones de equipos para prevenir el error humano y reducir las posibilidades de que los equipos fallen/funcionen mal, como también liberaciones que involucren tuberías, tanques, pozos, sumideros y bombas. Además, como demostraron las SOPs actualizadas aquí adjuntas, Chiquita ha diseñado el Parque de Tanques 13 para minimizar lo máximo posible cualquier liberación de lixiviados.

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Como se indicó arriba, Chiquita está proporcionando esta información en el interés de cooperar de forma continua con el DTSC. La información, los documentos y los adjuntos aquí proporcionados no deben ser interpretados como una admisión de ninguna denuncia factual o conclusión legal en la SOV ni una admisión de ninguna responsabilidad por ningún asunto descrito en la SOV. Chiquita continúa estando disponible para analizar estos problemas, si es necesario. Por favor, póngase en contacto conmigo si tiene alguna pregunta.

Atentamente,

Kate Logan

Kate Logan
Gerente Sénior de Proyectos de Reparaciones
Vertedero de Chiquita Canyon

Adjuntos

cc: Ken Habaradas, Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles
Robert Ragland, Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles
Liza Frías, Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles
Nichole Quick, M.D., Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles
Shikari Nakagawa-Ota, Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles
Karen Gork, LEA del Condado de Los Ángeles
Renee Jensen, Asesor de LEA
Blaine McPhillips, Asesor Suplente Sénior del Condado
Emiko Thompson, Obras Públicas del Condado de Los Ángeles
Alex Garcia, Departamento de Planificación Regional del Condado de Los Ángeles
Ai-Viet Huynh, Departamento de Planificación Regional del Condado de Los Ángeles
Wes Mindermann, CalRecycle
Todd Thalhamer, CalRecycle
Jeff Lindberg, Junta de Recursos de Aire de California
Jack Cheng, Distrito de Gestión de la Calidad del Aire de la Costa Sur

Larry Israel, Distrito de Gestión de la Calidad del Aire de la Costa Sur
Enrique Casas, Junta Regional de Control de Calidad del Agua de Los Ángeles
Thanne Berg, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Dylan Clark, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Pete Ruttan, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Tim Crick, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Diane Barclay, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Christopher Kane, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Johnathan Crook, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Lisa Winebarger, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Bridget Floyd, Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas
Dylan Smith, Chiquita Canyon
Sarah Phillips, Chiquita Canyon
Amanda Froman, Chiquita Canyon
John Perkey, Chiquita Canyon
Megan Morgan, Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.
Nicole Weinstein, Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

CHIQUITA CANYON
A Waste Connections Company

December 18, 2025

Via E-Mail

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Department of Toxic Substances Control
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San Diego, CA 92108
Zanalee.Zmily@dtsc.ca.gov

Re: Chiquita Canyon, LLC Response to November 18, 2025 Summary of Violations

Dear Ms. Neal and Ms. Zmily:

Chiquita Canyon, LLC ("Chiquita") is in receipt of the Summary of Violations ("SOV") for the Chiquita Canyon Landfill ("Landfill") issued by the Department of Toxic Substances Control ("DTSC") on November 18, 2025.[1] Based on the allegations set forth in the SOV, DTSC requested that Chiquita take certain actions and provide certain information within thirty (30) days of the SOV. Other actions and requests for information did not include an explicit deadline.

As discussed below, Chiquita disputes the allegations set forth in the SOV and the requested actions. Chiquita has provided voluminous and timely information about the Landfill to its regulators and continues to do so. Chiquita will continue to cooperate with reasonable requests for information that are within the scope of DTSC's authority and applicable to the Landfill.

[1] Chiquita Canyon, LLC is the sole owner, operator, and permit holder at Chiquita Canyon Landfill. Chiquita Canyon, Inc. and Waste Connections US, Inc. are not part of the facility name, nor do they manage, direct, or conduct operations at the facility as alleged in the SOV.

Chiquita provides the following information in the interest of continued cooperation with its regulators. The information, documents, and attachments provided herein should not be construed as an admission of any factual allegation or legal conclusion in the SOV or an admission of any liability for any matter described in the SOV.

Chiquita notes that this response addresses only Allegations #2 and #3 as well as the "Other Issues/Concerns" raised in the SOV. On December 10, 2025, Chiquita requested an extension of time to respond to the SOV because of the voluminous nature of the requested actions therein and the timing of the requests over the holiday season. On December 15, 2025, DTSC granted the extension request with respect to Allegation #1 to January 15, 2026, so Allegation #1 is therefore not addressed herein. DTSC denied the extension request with respect to the remaining allegations, so Chiquita responds to those allegations to the extent feasible herein.

Allegation #2

Summary of DTSC Allegation:

DTSC alleges that, beginning "on and/or before" October 27, 2025, Chiquita failed to properly complete hazardous waste manifests for hazardous waste condensate. DTSC alleges that such actions violate 22 CCR § 66262.23(a) (requirement to complete and certify hazardous waste manifests) and potentially HSC § 25189.2(a) (false statement or representation in, *inter alia*, a manifest).

Chiquita Response to Allegation:

To the extent that DTSC is alleging improper completion of manifests based on conservative (i.e., over-inclusive) coding of condensate, Chiquita notes that "over-managing" a waste as hazardous is a long-recognized and permissible approach under the hazardous waste regulations where it is intended to ensure protective management of the waste. EPA confirmed in the Generator Improvements Rule that:

> Even if the waste may not be hazardous, "over managing" the waste is acceptable and meets the requirements in [40 C.F.R.] § 262.11 [the federal counterpart to 22 CCR § 66262.11] because the generator has made a determination intended to ensure, beyond a doubt, proper and protective management of the waste within the RCRA regulatory program. The practice of over-managing non-hazardous waste as hazardous waste has been in existence for years and EPA's final language in § 262.11 continues to allow this practice.

See 81 Fed. Reg. 85732, 85750 (Nov. 28, 2016). Chiquita's use of conservative waste codes was intended to ensure protective management, not to misrepresent the waste or evade regulatory controls. Accordingly, the inclusion of additional waste codes on a manifest, by itself, does not establish a violation of the hazardous waste regulations, let alone a false statement under the Health & Safety Code.

To the extent that DTSC is alleging improper completion of manifests based on discrepancies between the waste codes on a manifest and on a Waste Stream Documentation Form or a waste profile, Chiquita notes that those documents are not the regulatory benchmark for manifest compliance. The Waste Stream Documentation Form prepared by Chiquita's hazardous waste management consultant, Montrose, reflects Chiquita's waste determination for the condensate and identifies the applicable waste codes pursuant to 22 CCR § 66262.40(c) and 40 C.F.R. § 262.11(f). As explained below, Chiquita has aligned its manifest corrections with that determination. By contrast, the waste profiles are administrative documents generated by Clean Harbors (which coordinates Chiquita's hazardous waste shipments to its own permitted incineration facilities) to support manifest assembly upon waste pick-up and to inform appropriate transportation procedures, but are not themselves required under federal or state law.

To the extent that DTSC is alleging improper completion of manifests based on tank- and shipment-specific analytical results, Chiquita notes that waste determinations and toxicity characteristic designations are based on a "representative sample" of a waste, not on isolated results that may not be representative. *See, e.g.*, 22 CCR § 66261.24(a) (requiring a "representative sample" to characterize a waste as toxic); 40 C.F.R. § 261.24(a) (same). The hazardous waste regulations generally indicate that in order to obtain the requisite "representative sample," there should be "in no case less than four samples, taken over a period of time sufficient to represent the variability or the uniformity of the waste." *See* 40 C.F.R. § 260.22(h), incorporated by reference in 22 CCR § 66261.3(a)(2)(B) (discussing delisting of hazardous wastes). For instance, EPA guidance provides an example where—in the context of a representative sample of analytical data—"it is definitively concluded that [a certain constituent] is not present in [a waste] at a hazardous level" even though two samples were above the regulatory threshold. EPA, "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods" (EPA Publication SW-846), Chapter 9 at 14–17; *see* 22 CCR § 66260.11 (incorporating SW-846 by reference); 22 CCR § 66261.20(c) (stating that the sampling methods described in EPA's SW-846 guidance shall be considered representative). Therefore, an isolated exceedance in an individual grab sample does not, by itself, necessarily support recharacterizing the waste stream or concluding that a new waste determination is required.

Accordingly, the fact that a single sample in June 2025 reflected pyridine slightly above the regulatory threshold (6.4 mg/L versus 5.0 mg/L) did not, standing alone and based on the dataset then available for the condensate waste stream, warrant adding D038 to the manifests for the condensate shipments at issue.

However, on review of the Waste Stream Documentation Form prepared by Montrose, the waste profiles prepared for the condensate waste stream by Clean Harbors, and the associated manifests, Chiquita identified an administrative discrepancy that resulted in omission of the arsenic waste code (D004) from the hazardous condensate manifests. In conducting the waste determination and preparing the Waste Stream Documentation Form, Montrose analyzed nine condensate samples collected over a ten-day period in February 2024. Those analytical results show consistent exceedances of the toxicity characteristic threshold for arsenic (detections ranging from 35 to 50 mg/L, versus a 5.0 mg/L threshold), and Montrose therefore appropriately included D004 on the Waste Stream Documentation Form.

Chiquita has advised Clean Harbors on multiple occasions that its condensate may contain arsenic above applicable regulatory thresholds, including by providing laboratory reports. That information, however, was not reflected in Clean Harbors' waste profiles for Chiquita's condensate stream (CH2712208[2], CH2712208EL-1[3], and CH2909598[4]). Because Clean Harbors generates manifests from the applicable profile, D004 was likewise not listed on the associated manifests. Chiquita is working with Clean Harbors to correct the hazardous waste manifests for condensate shipments to add D004, consistent with Montrose's waste determination.

With respect to other waste codes, Montrose did not include D035 (MEK) on the Waste Stream Documentation Form because the February 2024 results did not, in Montrose's judgment, support designating the condensate waste stream as hazardous for MEK. Chiquita and Montrose did include D018 (benzene) as a conservative over-characterization. For purposes of this SOV response, and as a further conservative measure, Chiquita is also including D035 on the revised manifests.

In 2024 through January 2025, all hazardous condensate shipped offsite bore the D001 waste code. However, no condensate analytical data from May 2024 to present shows a flash point below 203 °F, let alone 140 °F (the ignitability/D001 threshold). In March 2025, Clean Harbors generated a new profile that removed the D001 waste code, with the intent that it would conservatively ship any future condensate load under the former, D001-bearing profile if a sample of the tank load to be shipped tested ignitable. No D001 waste code was improperly included on or omitted from a hazardous condensate manifest.

Summary of DTSC Prescribed Actions:

DTSC directs Chiquita to, within 30 days of the SOV:

(i) Determine which hazardous waste manifests for hazardous waste condensate require corrections and submit manifest corrections via US EPA's e-Manifest system for all hazardous waste condensate shipments that contained arsenic and/or pyridine (with documentation of the completed corrections sent to DTSC).

(ii) Provide an updated waste characterization for hazardous waste condensate.

(iii) Provide complete analytical laboratory reports for all condensate samples, including but not limited to, samples collected in 2025 from Tanks 68, 69, 190, T1, and T2.

[2] This profile for disposal at Clean Harbors' Aragonite incineration facility in Utah is based on analytical reports of condensate samples collected on January 19 and 23, 2024. Approximately one week after this profile was signed, Chiquita received—and promptly provided to Clean Harbors—the report for a full TCLP analysis of another January 23 sample, which included detections of arsenic and pyridine above their respective toxicity characteristic thresholds. Clean Harbors did not amend the profile.
[3] This profile is substantively the same as CH2712208 but was intended for use at Clean Harbors' El Dorado incineration facility in Arkansas in June 2024 while Aragonite was temporarily full.
[4] This new profile was created to remove the D001 waste code because no condensate sample taken since May 2024 had tested with a flash point below 140 °F.

(iv) Provide a map of the condensate tank area including T1/T2 and its associated piping as requested in DTSC's information request on October 13, 2025.

Chiquita Response to DTSC Prescribed Actions:

(i) Chiquita (working with Clean Harbors, which prepares the manifests for condensate shipments) has identified the hazardous waste condensate manifests that require revision. Chiquita understands that Clean Harbors is in the process of updating the manifests and expects to submit the revisions via US EPA's e-Manifest system tomorrow, if at all possible. The revised manifests will align with Montrose's formal waste determination by adding the D004 (arsenic) waste code. As a conservative over-characterization, Chiquita will also include the D035 waste code for MEK on the revised manifests. Based on the data available for the condensate shipments at issue, and for the reasons described above, the revised manifests will not include the D038 waste code. Documentation of completion for these corrections will be provided next week if possible, but no later than in conjunction with our response to Allegation #1 in January.

Chiquita is not altering the manifests with regard to any existing ignitability (D001) waste codes or lack thereof. The manifests for loads of condensate that were transported, treated, and disposed of as ignitable waste under Clean Harbors Profiles CH2712208 and CH2712208EL-1 will continue to bear the D001 waste code, and manifests for loads that were transported, treated, and disposed of as non-ignitable waste under Profile CH2909598 will continue not to bear the D001 waste code.

The revised manifests will include all hazardous condensate manifests generated and submitted from January 1, 2024, to present. Chiquita's condensate waste stream was not hazardous prior to 2024. Chiquita's first shipments of hazardous condensate for off-site treatment and disposal occurred on February 26, 2024 (Manifests 018767996FLE and 018767997FLE).

(ii) Chiquita has performed an updated waste determination for hazardous waste condensate. Specifically, Chiquita (through Montrose) has determined that the condensate is hazardous for arsenic (D004). This updated waste determination is based on eight samples taken at three-day intervals between November 19 and December 10, 2025. Copies of the analytical laboratory reports for these samples are provided in **Attachment 1**. The new Waste Stream Documentation Form is provided in **Attachment 2**. The waste continues to be permissible for combustion under the regulatory exemptions in 40 C.F.R. § 268.3(c)(1) and (6) and 22 CCR § 66268.3(b)(1) and (6), as described above.

(iii) Copies of all complete analytical laboratory reports for all condensate samples taken over the same time period covered by (i) are provided in **Attachment 3**. Chiquita's condensate waste stream was not hazardous prior to 2024.

(iv) A map of the condensate tank area including T1/T2 has previously been provided, a copy of which was attached to our May 1, 2025 response to DTSC's April 1, 2025 Summary of

Violations. Chiquita is working with its consultants to produce an updated map as expeditiously as possible.

Allegation #3

Summary of DTSC Allegation:

DTSC alleges that "on and/or before" August 19, 2025 Chiquita failed to properly label tanks containing hazardous waste leachate, which it alleges violates 22 CCR § 66262.17(a)(5).[5] DTSC states it observed 20,000-gallon tanks storing hazardous waste leachate and/or condensate that it alleges were not properly labeled with the words "Hazardous Waste," a description of its contents, and the accumulation start date.

DTSC also alleges that Chiquita provided tank inspection logs from June 2025 to September 2025 that showed containers with alleged "unsatisfactory" labeling.

Chiquita Response to Allegation:

Chiquita denies that it violated 22 CCR § 66262.17(a)(5), as alleged by DTSC, for several reasons. First, that provision does not currently apply to Chiquita (and did not apply during the relevant times cited by DTSC). Compliance with the labeling and marking requirements under the referenced section is a "condition for exemption" from permitting requirements under Section 66262.17. Chiquita is not (and has not been) required to meet the conditions for the Large Quantity Generator ("LQG") accumulation exemption from permitting set forth at Section 66262.17 because it is already covered by a different permitting exemption, namely the Immediate Response Exemption. Chiquita cannot have "violated" the conditions of an exemption that it did not need.

Second, to the extent that DTSC is alleging that Chiquita failed to properly label certain tanks as Non-Hazardous or Pending Analysis, Chiquita notes that potentially inadequate labeling of tanks not holding hazardous wastes is not a violation of the hazardous waste regulations.

To the extent that labeling and marking requirements apply to Chiquita, any inadequate labeling or marking of tanks holding hazardous waste was a harmless error. It is Chiquita's policy to treat any waste stream that is characteristically hazardous as hazardous until it is determined to be non-hazardous. This includes waste streams that are pending analysis. This existing approach is already protective against any concerns of inadequate labeling and marking or improper accumulation time and further ensures that all waste streams are managed appropriately. Further, each tank, container, or bin, regardless of their contents, has other indications such as location,

[5] DTSC also vaguely cites to HSC § 25153.6, which requires a generator of non-RCRA hazardous waste to "comply with any notification requirements for non-RCRA hazardous waste which the department adopts by regulation." HSC § 25153.6(b). DTSC does not appear to allege any such notification requirements that it believes to have been violated. To the extent there is a suggestion that notification requirements have been violated, Chiquita also denies that allegation.

knowledge of waste streams flowing into and out of the tanks, logs, standard operating procedures, and other tracked information that ensure that all Chiquita personnel working with or around the tanks, containers, and bins know of their contents and whether they contain hazardous waste. Because of this knowledge and Chiquita's hazardous waste management practices, Chiquita personnel are aware of tank contents, and all waste streams are managed appropriately.

Summary of DTSC Prescribed Actions:

(i) DTSC directs Chiquita to immediately label all containers and tanks accumulating hazardous waste, and to provide documentation of compliance to DTSC within 30 days of the SOV.

(ii) DTSC also directs Chiquita to label blue and green containers used to accumulate leachate from drip pans and to accumulate soiled absorbent.

Chiquita Response to DTSC Prescribed Actions:

Although Chiquita believes that it is not currently subject to the cited labeling and marking requirements due to the Immediate Response Exemption, Chiquita is nevertheless in the process of labeling and marking the containers (including bins) and tanks accumulating hazardous waste consistent with 22 CCR § 66262.17(a)(5).[6] Ordering labels and properly marking numerous containers is a time-consuming process. Chiquita had already begun taking steps to obtain the proper labels for the new Tank Farm 13, but proper labels require planning and cannot be implemented on the aggressive schedule that DTSC has directed. Because DTSC was not willing to grant an extension, Chiquita has implemented a temporary measure to comply with DTSC's directive. Photos of the interim labels are included as **Attachment 4**.

Other DTSC Issues/Concerns

In Section II of the SOV, DTSC lists two additional areas of concern identified during its investigation. Each area is discussed separately below.

Issue/Concern 1

Chiquita Response:

It does not appear that DTSC is alleging a violation with respect to "Issue/Concern 1" at this time, but it states that "[f]urther research may identify additional violations." Chiquita maintains that there has been no violation with respect to this identified "issue/concern." As will be explained in more detail when Chiquita submits its response to Allegation #1, and as previously explained in Chiquita's May 1, 2025 response to DTSC's April 1, 2025 SOV, the occurrence of leachate and/or condensate releases does not constitute a violation of 22 CCR § 66262.251, both

[6] Chiquita interprets both of DTSC's directives as relating to hazardous waste labeling, given the underlying authority cited.

because that provision does not currently apply at the facility and because the facility has implemented numerous procedures designed to minimize releases, as would be required under that provision. In addition, Chiquita has been and will continue documenting and reporting to DTSC all releases required to be documented and reported under applicable laws and regulations.

Issue/Concern 2

Chiquita Response:

It does not appear that DTSC is alleging a violation with respect to "Issue/Concern 2" at this time, but it requests additional information about the handling of solids at the facility and states that "[f]urther research may identify additional violations." As discussed below, Chiquita maintains that its handling of leachate- and/or condensate-contaminated solids (such as soil or rock, absorbent, spent carbon media, and sludge) is consistent with applicable regulatory requirements.

Chiquita does not commingle hazardous and non-hazardous waste streams. Chiquita utilizes separate rolloff bins to ensure that hazardous waste streams are managed separately from non-hazardous waste streams. The designated rolloff bin for hazardous waste streams receives only solids used for cleanup of spills of characteristically hazardous leachate or leachate that is managed as hazardous due to cross contamination or other concerns. Once the designated rolloff bin for hazardous waste streams is full, it is sampled to confirm whether it is hazardous and then disposed accordingly.

Each rolloff bin therefore contains a single waste stream that can and should be characterized as one. Some variability in a single waste stream is to be expected, but determining which rolloff bin a waste should go into based on knowledge is appropriate under these circumstances.

Chiquita is in the process of labeling and marking the designated rolloff bin for hazardous waste streams consistent with 22 CCR § 66262.17(a)(5), as set forth in response to Allegation #3 above. Regardless, each rolloff bin has other indications such as location, logs, standard operating procedures, and other tracked information that ensure that all Chiquita personnel working with or around the rolloff bins know of their contents and whether they contain hazardous waste. This information has also been communicated to all Chiquita personnel working with or around the rolloff bins. Because of this knowledge and Chiquita's hazardous waste management practices, Chiquita personnel are aware of the contents, and all waste streams are managed appropriately.

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As noted above, Chiquita is providing this information in the interest of continued cooperation with its regulators. The information, documents, and attachments provided herein should not be construed as an admission of any factual allegation or legal conclusion in the SOV or an

admission of any liability for any matter described in the SOV. Chiquita remains available to discuss these issues as needed. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Kate Logan

Kate Logan
Senior Remediation Project Manager
Chiquita Canyon, Landfill

Enclosures

cc: Ken Habaradas, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Robert Ragland, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Liza Frias, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Nichole Quick, M.D., Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Shikari Nakagawa-Ota, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Karen Gork, Los Angeles County LEA
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Todd Thalhamer, CalRecycle
Jeff Lindberg, California Air Recourses Board
Jack Cheng, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Larry Israel, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Enrique Casas, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
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Bridget Floyd, Department of Toxic Substances Control
Dylan Smith, Chiquita Canyon
Sarah Phillips, Chiquita Canyon
Amanda Froman, Chiquita Canyon

John Perkey, Chiquita Canyon
Megan Morgan, Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.
Nicole Weinstein, Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

Manifest Tracking Number	Last Updated Date	Shipped Date	Received Date	Certified Date	Generator ID	Transporter ID	TSDF ID	Status	Action
018767997FLE	12/19/2025 10:36 AM	02/26/2024	02/28/2024	12/19/2025	CAL000347030	OKR000031492	UTD981552177	Corrected	
018767996FLE	12/19/2025 10:39 AM	02/26/2024	02/28/2024	12/19/2025	CAL000347030	OKR000031492	UTD981552177	Corrected	
018768000FLE	12/19/2025 10:43 AM	04/05/2024	04/08/2024	12/19/2025	CAL000347030	OKR000031492	UTD981552177	Corrected	
018768002FLE	12/19/2025 10:46 AM	05/01/2024	05/02/2024	12/19/2025	CAL000347030	OKR000031492	UTD981552177	Corrected	
018766113FLE	12/19/2025 09:30 AM	07/04/2024	07/08/2024	12/19/2025	CAL000347030	ALR000007237	UTD981552177	Corrected	
017790898FLE	12/19/2025 10:51 AM	12/27/2024	12/28/2024	12/19/2025	CAR000381574	ALR000007237	UTD981552177	Corrected	
017791012FLE	12/19/2025 10:54 AM	01/23/2025	01/24/2025	12/19/2025	CAR000381574	CAR000181560	UTD981552177	Corrected	
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020750336FLE	12/19/2025 11:13 AM	05/09/2025	05/12/2025	12/19/2025	CAR000381574	MAD039322250	UTD981552177	Corrected	
020750338FLE	12/19/2025 11:15 AM	05/10/2025	05/12/2025	12/19/2025	CAR000381574	ALR000007237	UTD981552177	Corrected	
018766112FLE	12/19/2025 11:17 AM	07/05/2024	07/05/2024	12/19/2025	CAL000347030	ALR000007237	UTD981552177	Corrected	

Manifest Tracking Number	Last Updated Date	Shipped Date	Received Date	Certified Date	Generator ID	Transporter ID	TSDF ID	Status	Action
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020750886FLE	12/19/2025 11:28 AM	09/30/2025	10/01/2025	12/19/2025	CAR000381574	ALR000007237	UTD981552177	Corrected	

Manifest Search Results

Show 5 entries

Enter Manifest Tracking Numb

Search Manifests

Manifest Tracking Number	Last Updated Date	Shipped Date	Received Date	Certified Date	Generator ID	Transporter ID	TSDF ID	Status	Action
019986291FLE	01/05/2026 02:39 PM	06/13/2024	06/17/2024	01/05/2026	CAL000347030	ALR000007237	NED981723513	Corrected	

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries

Previous 1 Next

Back to Search Criteria | Back to Dashboard | Export as CSV

General Information

Manifest Tracking Number
019986292FLE

Manifest Type
Paper + Data

Origin Type
Service

Version
Version 2

Status
Corrected - Corrected and signed Make Correction

Potential Ship Date

Does this manifest contain residues or rejected waste?
No

Shipment Type
Domestic

1-5. Generator Information

EPA ID Number
CAL000347030

Name
Wc 4050 - Chiquita Canyon Landfill

Mailing Address
29201 Henry Mayo Dr,
Castaic, CA 91384 UNITED STATES

Site Address
29201 Henry Mayo Dr,
Castaic, CA 91384 UNITED STATES

Emergency Response Phone
800-483-3718

Extension

Contact Phone
661-371-9214

Extension

Contact Email
steven.cassulo@wasteconnections.com

Can e-Sign?	Can Quick Sign?	Has a Registered e-Manifest User?
Yes	Yes	Yes

TASK	Leachate transfer operations using electric pump into tankers in tank farm facility.					
POTENTIAL HAZARDS	Slips/Trips/Falls	☒	Heat / Cold	☒	Splash/ Fumes	☒
	Cuts / Laceration	☐	Dust	☒	Biological	☒
	Pinch / Crush	☐	Noise / Vibration	☒	Haz Waste	☒
	High Pressure	☒	Fire	☒	Exhaust	☒
PPE REQUIRED	• Hard Hat • Blackline 5 Gas Meter • Safety Toe Shoes • FR Clothing (High Viz) • Respirator (if applicable) • Chemical Gloves • Safety Glasses					

1. Purpose

To outline the safe and efficient procedure for loading leachate into a tanker truck using an electric pump system within a tank farm while ensuring compliance and worker safety. The goal of this SOP is to prevent leachate overflow, leaks, spillage, equipment failure/malfunction, operator and/or other human error, exposure of leachate and leachate vapors into the atmosphere in and around the tank farm areas, as well as to provide information on proper maintenance and troubleshooting of the tank farm area.

2. Scope

Applicable to all personnel involved in leachate transfer operations using a stainless steel electric pump into tankers at the tank farm facility.

3. Responsibilities

- **Tank Farm Technician** – Wears appropriate PPE and monitors the pump process. Inspects and maintains equipment before use.
- **Tank Farm Gatekeepers** – Manage, monitor, and document all tanker truck operations within the tank farm.
- **Tank Farm Supervisors** – Ensure compliance with safety and environmental regulations.
- **Tanker Driver** – Assists with hose connection and ensures vehicle readiness.

4. Safety Precautions

- **Never** operate pump dry.
- **Never** bypass safety devices.
- **Never** leave the loading area unattended during loading.
- **Always** wear appropriate PPE when needed.
- **Always** maintain communication between tank farm tech and driver.

- Avoid direct contact with leachate.
- Report any equipment failure, malfunction, or maintenance requirement immediately to the supervisor on duty.
- In case of a spill or other release, activate spill response procedures.

5. Equipment Details & Materials

- Stainless steel pump system
- Suction hoses and couplings
- Mag meter
- Drip pans, containing absorbent
- Buckets
- Hoses and fittings rated for leachate transfer
- Valve tags
- Secondary containment (if required)
- Spill kit (absorbents, containment booms, pads)
- Emergency eyewash and safety shower stations nearby

6. Pre-Operation of Electric Pump Inspection

1. **Visual Inspection:**
    - The tank farm tech shall:
        - Check for visible damage, leaks, or loose fittings; and
        - Inspect suction and discharge hoses/connections.
2. **Electrical Check:**
    - The tank farm tech shall inspect power cord and plug for damage.
3. **Fluid Check:**
    - The tank farm tech shall ensure the pump casing is filled with liquid to aid in priming.
    - Do not run the pump dry.

7. Start-Up Procedure of Electric Pump

1. **Prime the pump:**
    - Fill pump casing with liquid through the fill port if not already primed.
    - Check that the suction line is submerged and free of air leaks.
2. **Power On:**
    - Turn on the disconnect switch or breaker.
    - Start the pump using the control panel or motor starter.
3. **Monitor Startup:**
    - Ensure suction is drawing and discharge flow is smooth.
    - Watch (meter) for proper reading.
    - Listen for unusual sounds (cavitation, vibration, knocking, etc.).
4. **Check Flow:**

- Confirm that flow rate meets operational requirements (200-300 GPM target).

8. Pre-Loading Checks

8.1 Inspection of Equipment

- Inspect the **tanker, electric pump, and hoses** for leaks, wear, or damage.
- Ensure all valves and connections are in **good, working condition**.
- Verify that the **electric pump system** is functioning properly.

8.2 Site Preparation

- All tanker trucks will enter tank farm area guided by Tank Farm staff and be assigned designated loading area. Tank farm tech will walk the line and verify which tank volume the truck is authorized to be loaded with.
- In consultation with the truck driver, an expected volume will be calculated based on the truck's empty "scale in" weight and max weight rating once filled (the difference is therefore the amount of liquid that can be loaded onboard).
- Confirm driver is wearing the required PPE.
- Tank farm techs will place drip pans under all potential spill points.
- Driver will apply wheel chocks to the driver's side.

9. Loading Procedure

9.1 Connecting the System

- Ensure tanker truck is properly grounded.
- Tank farm tech will hand over hose to driver.
- Tank farm tech will verify **hose clamps and fittings** are tight.
- Tank farm tech will verify the hose is empty of liquid and bleed the hose to relieve pressure.
- Driver will connect hose to his tanker and tank farm tech will verify it is properly connected.
- Gatekeeper will verify the designated leachate tank loading port is connected.

9.2 Electric Pump Loading Process

- Ensure correct pulling valves are open and treatment manifold ball valve is locked and closed.
- Ensure the mag meter is zeroed out.
- Driver will uncap all exhaust points and scrubber.
- If applicable, driver will open internal/external valves & inlet valve.
- Driver opens valve on truck.
- Tank farm tech opens valve to approved/verified tank.
- The tank farm tech shall monitor the **flow rate and pressure** to prevent overloading.
- Maintain **constant communication** with driver/personnel during loading to ensure that the driver and personnel are aware of changes in equipment and liquid transfer status.

If pump loses prime due to tank being emptied refer to Section 7.1 Start-Up Procedure

9.3 Completion of Loading

- Once calculated gallons are achieved, the driver will signal cut off and maintain valve open while tank farm tech pushes compressed air between ball valve housing and tanker.
- Driver will then close trailer inlet valve and tech will release pressure from the housing between ball valve and tanker with bleeder.
- Tank farm tech will disconnect the hose from the tanker carefully to prevent spills.
- Cap is applied to the tanker and to the hose by the driver.
- All valves are tagged on tanker by the driver, see Truck Valve Tagging SOP for additional details.
- Top hatch of tanker is verified sealed by the driver.
- The scrubbers are verified empty by the driver.
- The truck is released once all documentation is verified by Gatekeeper.

9.4 Overfilled Truck

- When loading trailers with PTO and the truck is overweight, excessive liquid needs to be pushed back with PTO pressure.
- Determine how much liquid is needed to pull out to determine how much liquid needs to be pushed back based on the total weight and PSI of the truck.
- Check the level on the tank will be pushing back into.
- If hose is hooked up to pump, the check valve will not allow liquid to push back. (hoses would need to be reversed).
- If pushing back directly into manifold, hook the truck/trailer back to manifold.
- Once hooked up, both tank and manifold valves can be opened.
- Driver can relieve all vacuum and air from trailer.
- Driver will adjust lever over to pressure (before driver engages PTO, driver should open trailer valve.)
- Once liquid has been pushed back, driver will need to relieve all pressure from trailer for vacuum to engage.

***Sometimes pressure is not needed. If tank is empty or low within the same bank, identify potential gravity feedback to tank.**

- Open tank valve, manifold valve, and trailer valve and confirm liquid is flowing back into tank.

10. Post-Loading Actions

- Turn off motor at control panel.
- Inspect for physical damage to hoses, pipes, and tanks such as cracks, any exposures of reinforcements, damaged gaskets, and corroded or cracked fittings.
- Clean up any **minor spills** using the spill kit.
- During and after leachate transfer, visually inspect the tank and area to ensure no spills occurred. If a spill is identified, it must be reported immediately.

11. Spill & Emergency Response

- In case of a minor spill:
  - Ensure the source of the spill has ceased.
  - Use **spill absorbents** to contain and clean up.
  - Dispose of contaminated materials properly.
- In case of a major spill:
  - **Stop operations immediately** and notify the supervisor.
  - Ensure the source of the spill has ceased.
  - **Activate the spill response plan.**
  - Evacuate the area, if necessary.
- In case of a fire:
  - Stop operations immediately and notify the supervisor.
  - If the fire can be contained, use one of the fire extinguishers available throughout the tank farm.
  - Evacuate the area and call emergency services, if necessary.
- In case of exhaust:
  - Keep clear proximity of exhaust ventilation actively loading.
- In case of pressure:
  - Relieve pressure by opening bleeder valve.
  - Follow spill precautions detailed above, if necessary.

12. Pump Emergency Procedure

In case of pump failure, fluid leak, or electrical fault:

- Shut down the pump immediately.
- Notify supervisor.
- Supervisor will notify Barney's Electrical to isolate power at the breaker.
- Activate the spill response plan, if necessary.
- Evacuate the area, if necessary.

13. Troubleshooting Guide

Symptom	Possible Cause	Solution
No suction	Pump not primed	Fill casing with fluid
Low flow rate	Clogged suction/discharge line	Clean lines
Excessive vibration	Worn impeller or bearing	Inspect/replace components
Overheating motor (Barney's Electrical will be notified)	Voltage mismatch, overload	Verify voltage, check amperage
Leaks	Damaged seals or fittings	Replace seals, tighten fittings

14. Documentation & Reporting
• Record all **loading activities, inspections, and any incidents.** • Report any **equipment malfunctions** or environmental concerns to management. • Record spills, leaks, and releases pursuant to the spill response plan.

Additional References
• CCL must also comply with the applicable leachate tank operations requirements in CCL's *Leachate Unit Management Plan, ETLF Operation HASP, Leachate Management Plan, Spill Response Plan, and Data Management Plan*. This SOP may be modified by one or more of these plans.

TASK	Leachate transfer operations using trailer pump.					
POTENTIAL HAZARDS	Slips/Trips/Falls	☒	Heat / Cold	☒	Splash/ Fumes	☒
	Cuts / Laceration	☒	Dust	☒	Biological	☒
	Pinch / Crush	☒	Noise / Vibration	☒	Haz Waste	☒
	High Pressure	☒	Fire	☒	Exhaust	☒
PPE REQUIRED	• Hard Hat • Safety Toe Shoes • 5 Gas Meter • FR Clothing (High Viz) • Respirator (if applicable) • Chemical Gloves • Safety Glasses					

1. Purpose

To provide a standardized, safe, and efficient procedure for transferring leachate to a tanker truck using a pump-based system equipped with vacuum. The goal of this SOP is to prevent leachate overflow, leaks, spillage, equipment failure/malfunction, operator and/or other human error, exposure of leachate and leachate vapors into the atmosphere in and around the tank farm areas, as well as to provide information on proper maintenance and troubleshooting.

2. Scope

This SOP applies to all operators involved in leachate tanker filling operations using the trailer vacuum pump system in a tank farm transfer station.

3. Responsibilities

- **Tank Farm Technician**- Must follow this SOP, wear appropriate PPE, and monitor the process. Inspect and maintain equipment before use.
- **Tank Farm Supervisors**- Ensure compliance with safety and environmental regulations.
- **Tank Farm Gatekeepers**- Manage, monitor, and document all tanker truck operations within the tank farm.
- **Tanker Driver** – Assists with hose connection and ensures vehicle readiness.

4. Safety Precautions

- **Never** leave the vacuum system unattended during loading.
- **Never** bypass safety devices.
- **Never** leave the loading area unattended during loading.
- **Always** wear appropriate PPE when needed.
- **Always** maintain communication between tank farm tech and driver.
- Avoid direct contact with leachate.

- Report any equipment failure, malfunction, or maintenance requirement to the supervisor on duty immediately.
- In case of a spill or other release, activate spill response procedures.

5. Equipment & Materials

- Transfer Pump (Diesel-Powered)
- Suction hoses and couplings
- Flow meter
- Drip pans and absorbents
- Buckets
- Hoses and fittings rated for leachate transfer
- Secondary containment (if required)
- Spill kit (absorbents, containment booms, pads)
- Emergency eyewash and safety shower stations nearby
- Valve Tags

6. Procedure

6.1 Pre-Filling Checks

- Inspect all hoses, couplings, and the pump for leaks, damage, or wear.
- Ensure all valves and connections are in good, working condition.
- Ensure pump has sufficient fuel (diesel).
- All tanker trucks will enter tank farm area guided by Tank Farm staff and be assigned designated loading area. Tank farm tech will walk the line and verify which tank volume the truck is authorized to be loaded with.
- In consultation with the truck driver, an expected volume will be calculated based on the truck's empty "scale in" weight and max weight rating once filled (the difference is therefore the amount of liquid that can be loaded onboard).
- Confirm driver is wearing all proper PPE.
- Tank farm techs will place drip pans and buckets under all potential spill points. Driver will apply wheel chocks to the driver's side.

6.2 Hose Setup

- Tank farm tech will verify the hose is empty of liquid and bleed the hose to relieve pressure.
- The driver will properly connect and secure hose to his tanker from the designated loading area.
- Gatekeeper verifies the correct tank is being pulled from.
- Ensure correct pulling valves is open and treatment manifold ball valve is locked and closed.
- Ensure flowmeter is zeroed out and or level stick is provided.
- Ensure additional manifold poly valves are in the closed position before opening the correct poly valves and tank.
- Tank farm tech will open the approved/verified tank outlet valve and the manifold poly valves.
- Connect discharge hose from the pump's outlet to the tanker's intake valve.

- Secure all connections using proper clamps or camlocks.
- Driver opens valve on truck.
- Tech will open ball valve at the designated loading area.
- If applicable, bond/ground hoses to avoid static discharge.

6.3 Pump Operations and Filling

- Driver's pump must be in neutral, open exhaust valve and tech to verify and confirm exhaust has been uncapped and open position to allow trailer to breath.
- Tank Farm tech will start/prime pump, increase RPMs to 1,400
- Transfer process begins from pump to tanker to calculated volume.
- Monitor the flow and listen for unusual sounds or leaks.
- Stay near the pump and truck throughout the operation.
- Monitor fill level using mag meter, sight gauge, level stick.
- As tanker approaches the calculated volume pump is idled down to 900 RPMs.
- Once total gallons are achieved, driver will signal tech to cut off flow and close load out ball valve.

6.4 Completion and Shutdown

- Once calculated gallons are achieved, the trailer pump is shut off and load out ball valve at the designated load out area is closed.
- Tank farm tech will turn on compressor and apply air to clear the hose from the pump to tanker.
- Once hose is clear, driver is to close truck valve, and tech will also stop supplying air and close tank valve.
- Tech will then shut off Compressor and bleed off remaining air left in air hose; tech will then bleed air from loading hose passed the check valve and verify and confirm hose is empty and pressure has been relieved.
- Tank farm tech will disconnect the hose from the tanker carefully to prevent spills.
- Cap is applied to the tanker and to the hose by the driver.
- All tanker valves are tagged by the driver (please refer to Valve Tagging SOP).
- Top hatch of tanker is verified closed by the driver.
- The scrubbers are verified empty by the driver and walk around must be conducted with Gatekeeper as per Truck Valve Tagging SOP.
- Truck is released once all paperwork is verified by Tank Farm Gatekeeper.
- Tank farm tech will close manifold poly valves and tank outlet valve.

6.5 Overfilled Trucks

- When loading with pump and truck is overweight, liquid needs to be pushed back into tank that was pulled from.
- Reverse hoses on pump inlets.
- Hook up trailer to pump & manifold.
- Calculate how much weight is needed to pull off trailer.
- Before turning on pump, tank valve and manifold valves should be in the open position.
- Once pump is turned **ON** to push back at **900 RPM,** driver can open valve.
- Once push back time has been achieved, Tank Farm Tech will turn off pump and close all valves.

- Confirm air hose is connected to **outlet bleeder**; driver will open valve to push residual liquid still in the hose into trailer.
- Once hose is clear, driver will close valve.
- Tank Farm Tech will bleed pressure from hose before disconnecting.
- Valve will be capped and tagged.
- Always conduct a final walk through around the entire truck to ensure everything is good for any issues that might arise.

Transfer Truck or Next Truck in line going to same facility to pull liquid off a truck:

- Tank Farm staff must guide all trucks to staging area.
- Set up trays under potential spill points.
- Hook up hose to overloaded truck.
- Stage transfer truck next to overloaded truck and hook up other end of hose to transfer truck.
- Have transfer truck build vacuum (**10 in vacuum**).
- Overloaded trailer exhaust valve needs to be open
- Calculate how much weight to pull off (every min. will take off (**2,000-2500 Lbs.**)
- Once transfer truck has enough vacuum, overloaded truck and transfer truck will open valves at the same time and the timer starts.
- Once time has been achieved, driver in over-filled truck will close truck valve and open truck bleeder to empty liquid in hose.
- Both ends can now be disconnected, final walk around can be conducted, and truck can be tagged out.

7. Post- Operations

- Inspect for physical damage to hoses, pipes, and tanks such as cracks, any exposures of reinforcements, damaged gaskets, and corroded or cracked fittings.
- Clean up any **minor spills** using the spill kit.
- During and after leachate transfer, visually inspect the tank and area to ensure no spills occurred.

  If a spill is identified, it must be reported immediately to CCL staff.

8. Spill & Emergency Response

- In case of a minor spill:
  - Ensure the source of the spill has ceased.
  - Use **spill absorbents** to contain and clean up.
  - Dispose of contaminated materials properly.
- In case of a major spill:
  - **Stop operations immediately** and notify the supervisor.
  - Ensure the source of the spill has ceased.
  - **Activate the spill response plan.**
  - Evacuate the area if necessary.
- In case of a fire:
  - Stop operations immediately and notify the supervisor.

- If the fire can be contained, use one of the fire extinguishers available throughout the tank farm.
- Evacuate the area and call emergency services, if necessary.

- In case of exhaust:
  - Keep clear proximity of exhaust ventilation actively loading.
- In case of pressure:
  - Relieve pressure by opening bleeder valve.
- Follow spill precautions detailed above, if necessary.

9. Documentation & Reporting

- Record all **loading activities, inspections, and any incidents.**
- Report any **equipment malfunctions** or environmental concerns to management.
- Record spills, leaks, and releases pursuant to the spill response plan.

Additional References

- CCL must also comply with the applicable leachate tank operations requirements in CCL's *Leachate Unit Management Plan, ETLF Operation HASP, Leachate Management Plan, and Data Management Plan*. This SOP may be modified by one or more of these plans.

TASK	Ensure all trucks valves are properly tagged and securely closed to complete the loading process, preventing leaks, spills, and contamination.					
POTENTIAL HAZARDS	Slips/Trips/Falls	☒	Heat / Cold	☒	Splash/ Fumes	☐
	Cuts / Laceration	☐	Dust	☒	Biological	☒
	Pinch / Crush	☐	Noise / Vibration	☒	Haz Waste	☒
	High Pressure	☒	Fire	☒	Exhaust	☒
PPE REQUIRED	• Hard Hat • Safety Toe Shoes • FR Clothing (High Viz) • Safety Glasses • Chemical Gloves					

1. Purpose

To outline that all truck valves are properly tagged and securely closed to complete the loading process, preventing leaks, spills, and contamination.

2. Scope

This procedure applies to all transport trucks involved in loading operations, bulk liquid, and hazardous material.

3. Responsibilities

- **Tank Farm Technician**- must follow this SOP, wear appropriate PPE, and monitor the process. Inspect and maintain equipment before use.
- **Gatekeeper**- must follow this SOP, wear appropriate PPE, conduct walkthrough and maintain manifest documentation.
- **Truck Driver**- Confirms tags are in place before departure.
- **Tank Farm Supervisors**- ensure compliance with safety and environmental regulations.

4. Equipment & Materials

- Tug Tight Locking Tags (Red)

5. Tagging Procedure

5.1 Prep-Valve Tagging

- If top hatch has been opened during the filling process, confirm the driver has tightened all wing nuts on the hatches.

6. Initiation of Walkthrough

- **Responsible Party:** CCL Gatekeeper
  - **Action:** The Gatekeeper will initiate a walkthrough with the driver and Tank Farm Technician after filling a truck with the approved liquids.

7. Tagging Process

- **Responsible Party:** Tank Farm Technician
  - **Action:** The tank farm technician will provide locking tags to the driver as each closed valved is identified, indicating that it is properly shut.

8. Valve Locking

- **Responsible Party:** Truck Driver
  - **Action:** The driver will **Lock** and **Tag** all drain and release valves to indicate they been properly closed and secured.

9. Documentation & Reporting

- **Responsible Party:** Gatekeeper
  - **Action:** The Gatekeeper will document "**all valves tagged**" on the manifest.

10. Approval for Departure

- **Responsible Party:** Gatekeeper
  - **Action:** The manifest will indicate that "**all valves tagged**" and given to the driver who is then approved to depart from the tank farm.

NOTES
• Ensure that all tags are visible and securely attached. • Follow all safety protocols during the tagging process to prevent any accidents.

Example of Locking Tag