

Archived: Thursday, January 29, 2026 2:42:00 PM
From: [Matt Breuer](#)
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 8:58:51 PM
To: bchen@aqmd.gov
Cc: Ryan.Rietzel@WasteConnections.com
Subject: Chiquita Canyon Landfill – Case No. 6177-4: Spill Report (Condition 27(e))
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

[EXTERNAL SENDER: Use caution with links/attachments]

All,

In accordance with Condition 27(e) of the Stipulated Order for Abatement in Case No. 6177-4, based on its current knowledge of the event, Chiquita Canyon, LLC (Chiquita) provides the following report detailing a spill of treated leachate from a tank located in Tank Farm 13, Grid 251.

(1) the date and time of the leak or spill;

- The spill was discovered on January 26, 2026, at approximately 10:30 p.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Treated leachate spilled from a tank located in Tank Farm 13, Grid 251. Liquid from the spill did not enter the stormwater channel or either stormwater basin.

(3) the name of the person that discovered the leak or spill;

- Paul Ramos

(4) written acknowledgement that they did, or did not, take corrective action with rationale for these actions;

- Upon discovering the spill, Chiquita personnel promptly closed the bleeder valve to stop the flow of liquid from the tank.

(5) a root cause analysis on why and how the leak or spill occurred;

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, it appears an employee unintentionally left the bleeder valve open, causing treated leachate to spill. Chiquita attributes this spill to operator error.

(6) the estimated quantity of the leak or spill;

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that less than 1 gallon of treated leachate spilled from the tank.

(7) corrective actions to clean and/or remove the leak or spill;

- In addition to the measures discussed above, Chiquita personnel promptly applied absorbent to the area impacted by the spill and then removed and placed the soiled absorbent into a container for proper

disposal. Cleanup commenced immediately and was completed within approximately 10 minutes.

(8) corrective actions implemented or to be implemented, including an estimated timeline, to prevent future recurrence;

- Chiquita has purchased clear drums to replace the opaque drums currently used to contain the liquid. This will make it easier for personnel to conduct visual checks during drum filling and identify potential issues. The clear drums are expected to arrive onsite and be put into use on January 29. Chiquita updated its Standard Operating Procedures on January 28 to require personnel to confirm that the bleeder valve is closed.

(9) the type of affiliation of the operator involved in the root cause;

- Chiquita personnel were involved in the root cause of this spill.

(10) whether any individuals involved in the root cause had previously received training on applicable operations to avoid leaks or spills; and

- The individual involved in the root cause of this spill had previously been trained on the applicable operations to avoid leaks and spills.

(11) the number of times individuals involved in the root cause had previously been involved in the root cause of a leachate leak or spill.

- To Chiquita's knowledge, the employee involved in the root cause of this spill has been involved in the root cause of one prior leachate spill.

Matt Breuer, PE

Region Environmental Manager

Waste Connections - Western Region

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