



CHIQUITA CANYON

A Waste Connections Company

March 13, 2026

Via E-Mail

Bob Lewis

Chair of Chiquita Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee

cclcac9@yahoo.com

Re: Chiquita Canyon, LLC Responses to Questions Asked During March 10, 2026, Chiquita Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee Meeting

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Below please find Chiquita Canyon, LLC's ("Chiquita") responses to questions asked during the Chiquita Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee ("CAC") meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2026. Chiquita provides these written responses to ensure complete and accurate information is provided to the public with all appropriate context. There were many overlapping questions on the topics presented. To avoid repetition, Chiquita has grouped questions by topic. Chiquita will also post these responses to Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website (<https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/>) each month.

Stormwater and Groundwater Reporting

- Disposal of stormwater in the East Basin. Chiquita has been hauling approximately 10 truckloads of stormwater from the East Basin every day since early January. We anticipate completing this work by March 31, 2026. However, many variables impact our timing including weather and safety conditions. Additional storm events may result in additional volume being added to the East Basin.
- Engineering controls to prevent discharge. Following depletion of the stormwater that is currently in the East Basin, Chiquita intends to restore the original functionality of the concrete culvert to allow discharge as designed. Thus, all engineering controls in use are designed to be temporary.
- Amended Investigative Order. Chiquita's deadline to appeal the amended Investigative Order is March 13, 2026.

Flares and Thermal Oxidizers

- Unplanned downtime of the Parnel thermal oxidizer on March 3, 2026. The Parnel thermal oxidizer ("TOx") experienced unplanned downtime from March 3 at 7:42pm PT to March 4 at 7:03am PT. On March 3, SCS Engineers ("SCS") provided notice to South Coast Air Quality Management District ("South Coast AQMD") at 8:59am PT stating that there would be planned downtime of the Parnel TOx beginning at approximately 8:00am PT. On March 4 at 7:44am PT, shortly after discovery of the unplanned downtime, SCS provided an

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additional notification regarding the unplanned downtime, stating that the Parnel TOx would remain down until that work was completed. Ultimately, that maintenance was not conducted, which SCS stated in a follow-up notification submitted on March 6. SCS has revisited its protocols and notification procedures for downtime that begins after normal operating hours.

- Flare 4 installation. In response to feedback from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“US EPA”) and South Coast AQMD, we have adjusted our plans for additional flaring capacity. We now plan to install Flare 4 and a TOx station that is similar in concept to a flare station. This will provide a more long-term base for the TOxs, which will continue to process the low-methane reaction gas, and allow us to construct Flare 4 without downtime for other flares in the station. These measures together will allow us to maintain our high level of gas capture and destruction throughout the project.

Operational Updates

- Ambient environment impact on the Landfill. All landfills exist in a state of equilibrium with ambient barometric pressure. Changes in barometric pressure do not affect infrastructure such as pumps. Additionally, pumps are installed at liquid depth in sumps or landfill gas wells, eliminating potential issues related to changes in the outside atmosphere.
- Leachate extraction and disposal.
 - Because pumps are offline, liquid is being removed from the Landfill at a lower rate.
 - Pumping capacity is dictated by disposal capacity. Chiquita is continuously evaluating on-site tank capacity and off-site disposal capacity and is turning pumps back on as soon as it is able.
 - To minimize potential seepage due to pumps being temporarily offline, we have carefully selected which pumps to maintain on. We have maintained all pumps in operation in perimeter sumps (over 50) and have prioritized additional pumps in wells.
 - Due to the significant loss of disposal capacity at our largest and most reliable disposal outlet, Chiquita has begun sending treated leachate that is confirmed to be decharacterized (i.e. nonhazardous) to a licensed facility in Mexico. We are not sending hazardous leachate to Mexico.
- Data on pump performance in wells. Chiquita provides a dewatering pump installation update every Friday pursuant to SOFA Condition No. 65, which is posted on Chiquita’s website (<https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/stipulated-order-for-abatement/>). The monthly SOFA Condition 8 reports submitted to South Coast AQMD and the monthly Milestone 1A-3&5 reports submitted to the LEA include various information regarding pumps onsite and are also posted on Chiquita’s website.
- West slope project. Chiquita has been discussing with its regulators, including the US EPA, its plans to construct a soil buttress on the west side of the Landfill, adjacent to the prior “west slope toe drain project” to support infrastructure located on the west side of the Landfill in light of the recent reported seeps of landfill leachate.
- Emergency response plan. A 2016 Emergency Response Plan is included in Chiquita’s Joint Technical Document. It is not specific to the reaction area. We also have a West Slope

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Contingency Secondary Containment Plan, an Off-Site Migration Prevention Plan, and an Elevated Temperature Landfill Event (“ETLF”) Operations Health and Safety Plan (“HASP”).

Spill/Leak Data

- Preventative maintenance. Chiquita’s employees and contractors are continually monitoring site infrastructure and performing preventative maintenance that is identified as part of such regular monitoring. In addition, Chiquita’s employees and contractors continually check for spills, leaks, and seeps, and dedicated inspections for spills, leaks, and seeps are performed on a daily basis.

Air Quality Monitoring Data

- Monitoring stations. Much of the downtime of the Micro-GC air monitoring stations is the result of power issues. Line-power is being installed at MS-02, MS-08, and MS-12, which will improve consistency and lead to less downtime. SCS has a readily deployable back-up Micro-GC and air quality monitor unit that it can put into use if it has been determined that a monitoring network instrument has failed.
- “Chronic vs Acute” reference exposure levels for benzene. According to SCS, reference exposure level (“REL”) is an exposure concentration at or below which a chemical is not expected to cause adverse health effects over specified durations, as established by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (“OEHHA”). OEHHA has stated that the RELs are “not the threshold where population health effects would first be seen. However, levels of exposure above the REL have an increasing but undefined probability of resulting in an adverse health impact, particularly in sensitive individuals” (OEHHA, 2015). Acute means short-term exposure, and the health impacts that can be caused by limited time exposure to a chemical. Acute RELs are for one-hour exposures, and are generally higher concentrations than chronic RELs. The acute REL for benzene is 8 parts per billion (“ppb”), which means an exposure to benzene at an average of 8 ppb for a full hour. Chronic means long-term exposure, and the health effects that can be caused by long-term exposure to a chemical. The chronic REL is based on continuous exposure up to a lifetime, typically expressed as an average annual exposure. The chronic REL for benzene is 1 ppb, which means an exposure to benzene at an average 1 ppb for an entire year. Note that the ambient air in Southern California as measured by the South Coast AQMD MATES V study has a benzene concentration usually around 2-3 ppb.

Implementation of the Department of Toxic Substances Control’s Imminent and Substantial Endangerment Determination Order

- Vertical barrier. The Department of Toxic Substances Control’s (“DTSC”) Order initially required installation of a vertical barrier. However, more recently, DTSC provided Chiquita an option to prepare a workplan with alternatives to the vertical barrier, which Chiquita elected to take. Chiquita met with DTSC and other agencies on January 30, 2026, to discuss

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Chiquita's proposed alternatives. We met with DTSC again on February 20, 2026, for a follow-up scoping meeting to further discuss the proposed alternatives. The alternatives workplan is due to DTSC by March 30, 2026.

- DTSC Summary of Violations. We understand that we are using appropriately rated transporters and are complying with our requirements apart from those we are actively discussing with regulators or appealing. DTSC's recent Summary of Violations alleged that Chiquita was using transporters for leachate disposal that were not registered with DTSC. On March 6, 2026, Chiquita confirmed that all of its transporters are appropriately rated and registered with DTSC. Chiquita is investigating allegations made in DTSC's recent Summary of Violations and will provide a further response to DTSC.
- Geomembrane cover. As of February 20, 2026, Chiquita has installed approximately 27.7 acres of the additional geomembrane cover. Chiquita has agreed to expand the existing cover (46 acres) by 100 acres by US EPA's deadline of December 31, 2026.

Other Questions

- Chiquita's CAC meeting comment letter. We upload the comment letters to our website (<https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/>) the Friday after the CAC meeting. Our comment letter for the March 10, 2026 CAC meeting is available on Chiquita's website [here](#).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,



Kevin Green

District Manager

Chiquita Canyon Landfill

cc: Tim Honadel, CAC
Sandra Cattell, CAC
David Thompson, CAC
Sandia Ennis, CAC
Mike Wolf, CAC
Jessica Chambers, CAC
John Perkey, Chiquita Canyon
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