

**Archived:** Friday, May 15, 2026 9:42:51 AM  
**From:** [Matt Breuer](#)  
**Sent:** Fri, 8 May 2026 15:33:01  
**To:** [Baitong Chen](#)  
**Cc:** [Sarah Phillips](#)  
**Subject:** Chiquita Canyon Landfill – Case No. 6177-4: Spill Report (Condition 27(e))  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Sensitivity:** None

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[EXTERNAL SENDER: Use caution with links/attachments]

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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 characteristically hazardous leachate associated with tank number U13-30 in Tank Farm 13 located in Grid 234.

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

- The spill was discovered on May 6, 2026, at approximately 10:00 a.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically hazardous leachate associated with tank number U13-30 spilled in Grid 234. Liquid from the spill did not reach the stormwater channel or either stormwater basin.

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

- Thomas Tilk.

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

- Upon discovering the spill, personnel closed the feed valve, isolated the affected tank, and redirected flow to other tanks.

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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, it appears that third-party operators did not adequately monitor tank levels during a period of increased operational activity and workload, which delayed identification of rising tank levels, causing leachate to spill. Chiquita attributes this spill to third-party operator error.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 10 gallons of characteristically hazardous leachate spilled.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, absorbent material was applied to the affected area. The soiled absorbent and affected material were then removed and placed into a container for proper disposal. Cleanup commenced immediately and was completed within approximately 20 minutes.

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

- Chiquita discussed the event with the third-party operator. In response, the operator recalculated incoming flow and adjusted the upper-tier valve configuration to redistribute flow and equalize tank levels. The operator is also increasing the frequency of tank-level monitoring by requiring operators to check and document tank levels every 30 minutes.

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

- Third-party operators 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

- Chiquita does not provide training to third-party contractors; however, Chiquita routinely reviews spill- and leak-prevention practices with contractors, and Chiquita personnel have been trained on 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 the best of Chiquita's knowledge, no individuals involved in the root cause of this spill have previously been involved in the root cause of a leachate leak or spill.

**Matt Breuer, PE**

Region Environmental Manager

Waste Connections - Western Region

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