



CHIQUITA CANYON

A Waste Connections Company

May 28, 2026

Via E-Mail

Bob Lewis

Chair of Chiquita Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee

President of Castaic Area Town Council

cclcac9@yahoo.com; castaictowncouncil@gmail.com

Re: Chiquita Canyon, LLC Responses to Questions Asked During May Community Advisory Committee, Castaic Area Town Council, and Chiquita Canyon Landfill Community Meetings

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Below please find Chiquita Canyon, LLC's ("Chiquita") responses to questions left open during the Chiquita Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee ("CAC") meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, the Castaic Area Town Council ("CATC") meeting on Wednesday, May 20, and Chiquita's community meeting on Thursday, May 21. 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 on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website (<https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/>).

West Toe Buttress

- Chiquita's slope stability expert visited the Landfill on March 31 and confirmed that the bulging near the West Toe Buttress is not indicative of slope instability and would be seismically stable. The bulge does not create or otherwise indicate an imminent danger of slope failure.

Stormwater and Groundwater Reporting

- Maintenance of East Basin. Over the past month, Chiquita continued to truck the stormwater from the East Basin offsite for disposal. Stormwater pumping from the East Basin ended because water levels were so low that continued pumping would create a safety hazard for personnel. The remaining water will evaporate in the coming months and is expected to completely dry soon. Additionally, regular groundwater sampling indicates that there are no impacts to groundwater.
- Off-site well. There is a single off-site groundwater monitoring well (FP-01) on the adjacent property to the south.

Flares and Thermal Oxidizers

- In response to feedback from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (“South Coast AQMD”), Chiquita is planning to install a new flare (Flare 4) and a TOx station that is similar in concept to a flare station. Flare 4 will have more capacity than Flare 1. Depending on the final timeline for the permitting process, Flare 4 will likely come online in the summer or fall of this year. Chiquita is adding TOx capacity for redundancy during the Flare 4 installation. After Flare 4 is installed, Chiquita will take offline some of the TOxs that will no longer be necessary. Flare 1 will remain standing and can continue to be used if necessary.

Operational Updates

- Leachate Management. Chiquita continues to extract leachate, treat it onsite, and send it offsite for disposal. Extraction has slowed because of limitations on disposal facilities and will continue at a slower rate until additional disposal outlets are found. Liquids from the landfill need additional off-site disposal locations, and the contingency plan in place is to continue to find such outlets.
- Disposal Facilities Contacted. Over the past 2.5 years, Chiquita has worked to contact every disposal facility it is aware of, over 650, in consultation with its regulators. Chiquita has provided this information to our regulators. However, some disposal outlets contacted required Chiquita to sign non-disclosure agreements (“NDAs”), preventing Chiquita’s disclosure of the names of these outlets while we negotiate whether they can accept our liquids, and at what rate and price. This is standard business practice. The disposal outlets that Chiquita utilizes are also regularly reported in the monthly Condition 8 report, which is available on Chiquita’s website here: <https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/stipulated-order-for-abatement/>.
- Process for Onboarding New Disposal Facilities. Determining whether a facility can accept Chiquita’s leachate is a multi-step process requiring a significant amount of due diligence. Chiquita works with potential new disposal facilities to determine what their requirements are, and whether the facility has the necessary approvals, operations, and capacity to receive Chiquita’s leachate based on representative sampling results. During this stage, Chiquita gathers information from the facility about what it expects to be able to accept and what criteria the leachate would need to meet. Each disposal facility is subject to its own unique set of conditions, such as the type of waste it accepts, methods of disposal, methods of treatment, capacity limitations, permit restrictions, and other operational constraints which dictate whether the facility is able to accept or reject Chiquita’s leachate. It can be more difficult to gather this type of information from some facilities than from others. Once Chiquita receives the necessary compliance information from the facility, Chiquita must submit a lengthy application to EPA to review for Off-Site exemption per our Unilateral Administrative Order. This process may take several days to several weeks, depending on the EPA region’s review. If EPA approves the facility, Chiquita then communicates with the facility to determine whether on a given day that facility can accept a certain amount of leachate. The amount of leachate that can be accepted by a given facility varies based on operational factors (e.g., maintenance),

permit terms, weather, and myriad other circumstances. This constantly changing nature of the actual amount each facility can accept is to be expected due to standard operational variation. What a given facility can accept is controlled by the owner and operator of that facility.

- Leachate Tank Storage Capacity. Chiquita has storage capacity for over four million gallons of liquids.

Spills, Leaks, and Pressurized Leachate Releases (“PLRs”)

- Spills and leaks are required to be reported to South Coast AQMD under Stipulated Order for Abatement (“SOFA”) Condition 27(e). Chiquita has also been reporting PLRs under this condition. Recent PLRs have occurred during necessary maintenance of wells under positive pressure. Such maintenance is performed in a controlled manner, which includes careful planning, and prompt cleanup of any liquids. As requested, Chiquita prepares each month a summary of all leachate spills and leaks. Chiquita has included PLRs on this list. The summary is available on Chiquita’s [website](#) under the “Odor and Maintenance Logs” heading’s “Stipulated Order Condition 27(e) (leachate leak/spill reports)” dropdown.

Other Questions

- Continued Progress and EPA Involvement. Chiquita believes the reaction is stable, controlled, and decelerating. Chiquita has been receiving support from EPA on unified actions to continue to manage the reaction and performance of associated projects. Elevated Temperature Landfill (“ETLF”) events have a life cycle, and we have undertaken massive infrastructure installations since 2023 to get the reaction to a stable, controlled, and decelerating state. This infrastructure will continue to limit heat accumulation inside the waste mass and offsite impacts throughout the life cycle of the ETLF event.
- Cooling Centers/Cool Zones. Chiquita will provide cooling centers to help the community as required by the EPA during portions of the West Toe Buttruss progress where there may be excavation into waste. Chiquita is evaluating options to make the cooling centers more community-friendly, including coordinating with the host facility, as contractual provisions largely govern operational guidelines.
- Personal Protective Equipment (“PPE”). Information about PPE used onsite is included in the ETLF Operations Health and Safety Plan, which is available [here](#), at page 31, as well as the West Slope Toe Drain Health and Safety Plan, available [here](#), at page 2.

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

Chiquita Canyon, LLC Responses to Questions Asked During May Community Meetings

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Sincerely,



Kevin Green

District Manager

Chiquita Canyon Landfill



William (Bill) Haley

Senior Project Engineer

Chiquita Canyon Landfill

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