

# Chiquita Canyon Landfill: Community Exposure Mitigation Plan

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# INTRODUCTION

## Site Description

The Chiquita Canyon Landfill (the “Landfill”) is approximately 639 acres with 400 acres permitted for waste disposal. It is located in northeastern Los Angeles County in the unincorporated community of Castaic, California, approximately 3 miles west of Interstate 5 on State Route 126 in the Santa Clarita Valley. The Landfill stopped accepting public waste on January 1, 2025.

The constructed landfill consists of three modules (2B/3/4, 4, and 5), six cells (2 PH 2A, 2 PH 2B, 1/2A, 6, 8A and 8B), and six canyon fills (Primary Canyon, Canyon A, Canyon B, Canyon C Cell 1, Canyon C Cell 2 PH1, and Canyon D). The Primary Canyon (approximately 55 acres) operated from 1970 to 1987, and Canyon B (approximately 15 acres) operated from 1987 to 1988. The “Main Canyon” is comprised of Canyons A, C, and D, and Cells 1 through 6 and 8. The Primary Canyon and Canyon B are separate from the Main Canyon and not impacted by the elevated temperature landfill (“ETLF”) event.

## Purpose

Chiquita Canyon, LLC (“Chiquita”) developed the Community Exposure Mitigation Plan (“Plan”) in response to Los Angeles County Department of Public Health’s (“LACPH”) directive dated April 14, 2026. The purpose of this Plan is to identify existing and planned measures intended to mitigate potential community impacts and to establish a framework for communication, monitoring, coordination, and response in the unlikely event of a catastrophic slope failure scenario. This plan is not being developed in response to any identified traditional slope failure conditions and is intended to serve solely as a contingency planning document in the event additional protective measures are warranted.

This Plan aligns with existing Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) directed work plans, monitoring programs, contingency plans, and public health coordination efforts. It is intended to consolidate community-facing measures currently in place and describe additional actions that may be implemented, as appropriate, based on site conditions, monitoring results, and coordination with applicable federal, state, and local agencies.

## EXISTING FRAMEWORKS

Community protection measures associated with the ETLF event at the Landfill have been developed through an extensive multi-agency response effort involving federal, state, and local agencies. Existing response activities include continuous air monitoring, public health review of monitoring data, public communications, contingency planning, emergency preparedness, and implementation of engineering controls intended to minimize the potential for off-site impacts.

Significant community protection efforts are integrated into the existing EPA-coordinated response framework and include participation by public health, environmental, emergency response, and regulatory agencies.

This Plan builds upon those existing programs and identifies how they will be applied in the unlikely event of catastrophic slope failure.

## PROTECTIVE MEASURES

A catastrophic slope failure scenario is highly unlikely. Nevertheless, in the event conditions indicating a catastrophic slope failure are observed, Chiquita will immediately coordinate with EPA and applicable emergency response agencies to deploy the following response measures to nearby and affected residents.

### Temporary Relocation

If offsite monitoring data and agency recommendations necessitate temporary relocation of residents, Chiquita will work with the responding agencies to identify affected areas. Relocation will be determined by the applicable emergency agencies on a case-by-case basis, taking the totality of circumstances into account, including proximity to the Landfill and relevant monitoring data.

### Transportation

Chiquita will also collaborate with responding agencies to evaluate whether certain residents may need transportation assistance to reach a temporary accommodation. Such assistance will be prioritized for individuals with mobility limitations, elderly residents, and households without available transportation.

### Shelter in Place Procedures

When conditions do not warrant temporary relocation and emergency responders determine shelter-in-place measures are appropriate, Chiquita will assist the responding agencies to the extent it is able, in communicating shelter-in-place recommendations to affected addresses and by posting notice on [chiquitacanyon.com](http://chiquitacanyon.com) with instructions regarding remaining indoors, limiting outdoor activity, closing doors and windows, and other protective measures deemed appropriate based on actual conditions.

### Distribution of Personal Protective Equipment

If offsite monitoring data or agency recommendations indicate that personal protective equipment (“PPE”) would provide an appropriate interim protective measure, Chiquita will assist responding agencies in the procurement and distribution of such equipment to affected residents. Depending on conditions, PPE may include respiratory protection, disposable protective equipment, or other materials recommended by responding agencies.

### Emergency Agency Coordination

Specific points of contact for agency personnel are provided in Table 2 below, in the event of a catastrophic event. The LACPH, certified by the California Department of Resource Recovery and Recycling (“CalRecycle”) to act as the Local Enforcement Agency, will be notified in the event of an emergency related to the landfill with potential offsite impacts.

**Table 2: Emergency Organizations and Contact Information**

Emergency	Organizations	Telephone
Explosive/Chemical Mitigation	DTSC's Emergency Response Unit (ERU)	916.255.6504 800.260.3972
	California Office of Emergency Services (OES)	800.852.7550
	Los Angeles County Fire Department	661.257.4144 (Day) / 911
Hazardous Waste Release	EPA Region 9 Emergency Response Section	800.300.2193
	South Coast Air Quality Management District	800.572.6306
	California Regional Water Quality Control Board	213.620.2246
	Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	888.700.9995
	National Response Center (NRC)	800.424.8802
	Clean Harbors Environmental Services	800.645.8265
	Los Angeles County Fire Department (Health HAZMAT)	323.890.4317 (Day) / 911
Release in Waterway	National Response Center (NRC)	800.424.8802
	California Regional Water Quality Control Board	213.576.6600
	California Fish and Wildlife	888.334.2258
Security	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office	661.255.1121 (Day) / 911
	California Highway Patrol (CHP)	661.600.1600

Emergency	Organizations	Telephone
	Security (Excalibur Security)	310.919.8780
State and Local Services	Henry Mayo Newhall Hospital	661.253.8000
	First Care Occupational Clinic	661.295.2500
	Regional Planning Committee	661.253.0111
	California Emergency Management Agency (Cal-EMA)	800.852.7550

## COMMUNICATION AND NOTIFICATIONS

In the unlikely event of catastrophic slope failure, public notice will be provided regarding site conditions, response actions, and available community resources. A notification will be posted on [chiquitacanyon.com](http://chiquitacanyon.com), as well as emergency alert systems and media communications as determined by coordinating agencies.

## MONITORING PROGRAMS

### Existing Community Monitoring Programs

Chiquita currently maintains a community monitoring program consisting of fixed monitoring stations located both onsite and within the surrounding community.

The monitoring network includes fixed monitoring stations located within the Val Verde and Castaic communities as well as stations located onsite and along the landfill perimeter. The monitoring network is intended to provide continuous evaluation of ambient air conditions and identify potential changes in conditions that may warrant additional investigation or response.

### West Toe Buttress Project Slope Stability Monitoring

In response to EPA’s Additional Work Letter (West Toe Improvements) dated March 17, 2026, Chiquita began implementation of the West Toe Buttress Project to install a soil buttress on the western toe of the Chiquita Canyon Landfill. The West Toe Buttress Project is intended to proactively support continued slope stability, improve leachate and stormwater management, protect landfill gas infrastructure, and support continued safe operation of the Landfill.

Slope conditions will be monitored throughout excavation activities related to the West Toe Buttress Project through a combination of field observations and instrument-based monitoring. Monitoring

activities will be focused on identifying slope movement, bulging, seepage, settlement, deformation, or other conditions that could indicate changing slope conditions.

In addition to field observations, Chiquita is implementing continuous slope movement monitoring technology intended to provide real-time detection of potential movement within excavation areas. Monitoring information will be reviewed regularly throughout the West Toe Buttress Project construction activities. If monitoring identifies conditions indicating instability, excavation activities in the affected area will be suspended and appropriate corrective measures will be evaluated and implemented before work resumes.