

**From:** Sarah Phillips <Sarah.Phillips@WasteConnections.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 19, 2026 9:39 AM  
**To:** christopher.mcguire@dtsc.ca.gov; zanalee.zmily@dtsc.ca.gov  
**Cc:** emorofuji@ph.lacounty.gov; Matt Breuer  
**Subject:** Chiquita Canyon Landfill: Report of Leachate Leak Under 1 Gallon

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

All,

Chiquita Canyon, LLC (Chiquita) has received DTSC's June 9, 2026 email requesting that Chiquita continue to provide DTSC with reports of leaks and spills regardless of volume and regardless of whether the leachate at issue is hazardous. Chiquita understands that DTSC is requesting these reports notwithstanding South Coast AQMD's recent changes to the SOFA to require notifications only for leaks and spills exceeding one gallon. Chiquita respectfully requests that DTSC identify the statutory and/or regulatory basis for this directive.

Pending further evaluation of DTSC's authority to require notification of de minimis spills or leaks, Chiquita nevertheless provides the following courtesy notification regarding a June 16, 2026 leak of approximately 2 cups of characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A onto lined area in Grid 170.

Chiquita provides this and similar notifications without waiving any arguments, rights, or defenses, and expressly reserves all rights to challenge DTSC's directive.

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

- The leak was discovered on June 16, 2026, at approximately 10:20 a.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A leaked from a threaded pipe fitting onto liner in Grid 170. No liquid from the leak entered the stormwater channel or either stormwater basin.

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

- Tom Roe.

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

- Upon discovering the leak, the liquid was removed from the liner using absorbent wipes and cleaning solution.

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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, the leak may have resulted from movement of the pipe, which appears to have loosened the fitting. Chiquita attributes this leak to mechanical equipment failure.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 2 cups of characteristically hazardous leachate leaked onto the lined area.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, Chiquita personnel initiated cleanup of the affected area immediately upon discovery. The soiled absorbent wipes were then placed into a container for proper disposal. The pipe fitting was tightened and sealed. Cleanup was completed within approximately 5 hours.

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

- Chiquita personnel elevated the pipe to minimize movement. Chiquita will continue to inspect equipment, perform maintenance, and implement appropriate corrective actions as needed.

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

- No individuals were involved in the root cause of this leak.

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

- No individuals were involved in the root cause of this leak; however, Chiquita routinely reviews spill- and-leak prevention practices with its 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.

- No individuals were involved in the root cause of this leak.

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