

Archived: Friday, August 14, 2026 9:09:53 AM
From: [Sarah Phillips](#)
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2026 4:28:00 PM
To: bchen@aqmd.gov
Cc: [Matt Breuer](#)
Subject: Chiquita Canyon Landfill – Case No. 6177-4: Leak Report (Condition 27(e))
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

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 leak of characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Groups A, B, North Perimeter, and East Perimeter from an 8-inch valve associated with tank number U13-07 located in Upper Tank Farm 13, Grid 234 that was installed by a third-party contractor.

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

- The leak was discovered on August 7, 2026, at approximately 10:40 p.m. Chiquita recognizes this report is being submitted outside the applicable reporting timeframe and is strengthening its internal reporting procedures to help prevent recurrence.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Groups A, B, North Perimeter, and East Perimeter leaked from an 8-inch valve associated with tank number U13-07 in Upper Tank Farm 13, Grid 234. Liquid from the leak did not reach the stormwater channel or either stormwater basin.

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

- Alister Gumbs.

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

- Upon discovering the leak, Chiquita personnel instructed the third-party contractor to open the clean- out valve attached to the 8-inch HDPE pipe to relieve pressure on the affected valve and stop the flow of liquid.

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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, the leak appears to have resulted from a compromised 8-inch valve associated with tank number U13-07 that was installed by a third-party contractor. Chiquita attributes this leak to mechanical equipment failure.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 40 gallons of characteristically hazardous leachate leaked from the recently installed valve.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, absorbent was promptly applied to the affected area. The soiled absorbent was 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;

- The 8-inch valve was replaced, and the flange bolts were tightened. Hydrotesting is underway to evaluate the effectiveness of the replacement valve and tightened bolts.

(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 the leak.

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