

Archived: Friday, August 21, 2026 9:24:11 AM
From: [Sarah Phillips](#)
Sent: Sun, 16 Aug 2026 00:53:55
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 non-hazardous leachate from LCM tank number 1, located near the front office of the landfill.

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

- The leak was discovered on August 14, 2026, at approximately 3:35 a.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically non-hazardous leachate leaked from LCM tank number 1, which is located near the front office of the landfill. 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;

- Alex Rodriguez.

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

- Upon discovering the leak, the liquid remaining in the LCM tank was promptly pumped into a trailer to stop the flow of liquid and facilitate corrective action.

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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, it appears the knife gate valve associated with LCM tank number 1 was closed, preventing liquid from flowing to the equalizing tanks and causing a leak from the LCM tank system. Chiquita has been unable to determine whether this leak is attributable to mechanical equipment failure or operator error.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 100 gallons of characteristically non-hazardous leachate leaked.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, the affected area was pressure washed and vacuumed to ensure the proper collection of all wash water, and material was placed into a container for proper disposal. Cleanup commenced immediately and was completed within approximately 4 hours.

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

- Chiquita will secure the valve in the open position so that only authorized personnel are able to close it. Chiquita will also reinforce proper equipment inspection procedures with tank farm personnel to minimize the potential for future spills or leaks.

(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.

thank you,
Saran Phillips
Waste Connections
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