

Archived: Friday, August 21, 2026 9:24:18 AM
From: [Sarah Phillips](#)
Sent: Sun, 16 Aug 2026 00:58:11
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,

Consistent with reports provided under 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 approximately 0.5 gallons of characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A from an air release valve (ARV) in Grid 241.

This report is not compelled by Condition 27(e), as the leak is estimated at less than 1 gallon. Chiquita nevertheless provides this courtesy report in the interest of transparency and given ongoing reporting requests from other regulators.

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

- The leak was discovered on August 14, 2026, at approximately 1:55 p.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A leaked through a pinole in a weld connecting the force main line to the ARV located in Grid 241. 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;

- Cage Johnson.

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

- Upon discovering the leak, the valve on the force main line associated with the ARV was promptly closed to stop the flow of liquid. The ARV and associated piping were then cleared.

(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 pinhole in the weld connecting the ARV to the force main line, which allowed liquid to leak from the system. Chiquita attributes this leak to mechanical equipment failure.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 0.5 gallons of characteristically hazardous leachate leaked.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, the affected soil was removed and placed into a container for proper disposal. Cleanup commenced immediately and was completed within approximately 10 minutes.

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

- Chiquita is working with its contractors to reevaluate the methods used to test ARVs before placing them into service, with the goal of minimizing the potential for similar leaks. Chiquita expects to update the testing method and return this ARV to service by August 17, 2026.

(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,

Sarah Phillips
Waste Connections
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