

Archived: Friday, August 28, 2026 9:42:52 AM
From: [Sarah Phillips](#)
Sent: Thu, 27 Aug 2026 23:46:19
To: bchen@aqmd.gov
Cc: [Matt Breuer](#)
Subject: Chiquita Canyon Landfill – Case No. 6177-4: Spill 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 spill of treated non-hazardous leachate associated with tank numbers L13-1 through L13-5 from a third-party tanker trailer in Grid 93.

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

- The spill occurred on August 25, 2026, at approximately 7:40 p.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Treated non-hazardous leachate associated with tank numbers L13-1 through L13-5 spilled from a third-party tanker trailer in Grid 93. Liquid from the spill did not reach the stormwater channel or either stormwater basin.

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

- Charles Santoya.

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

- The spilled leachate largely dried after contacting the ground; absorbent was promptly applied to the affected area to contain and recover any remaining liquid.

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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, the spill occurred while a third-party driver was maneuvering their tanker trailer. As the trailer turned, its air lines contacted and became caught on its scrubber drain valve, inadvertently opening the valve and allowing liquid to spill. Chiquita attributes this spill to third-party driver error.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 3 to 4 gallons of treated non-hazardous leachate spilled.

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

- In addition to the immediate response measures discussed above, the soiled absorbent material was removed and placed into a container for proper disposal. The affected area was then pressure washed while using vacuum to ensure the collection of all wash water. Cleanup commenced immediately and was completed within approximately 1 hour.

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

- Chiquita discussed the event with the third-party driver and reinforced the need for the third party to reorient the trailer's scrubber drain valves so they are less susceptible to inadvertent contact while tanker trailers are being maneuvered. Chiquita will also use best efforts to verify that scrubber drain valves on third-party tanker trailers are properly orientated to minimize the potential for similar spills.

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

- A third-party tanker-truck driver was involved in the root cause of this spill.

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

- Chiquita does not provide training to third-party drivers; however, Chiquita routinely reviews spill- and leak-prevention practices with drivers, and Chiquita personnel have been trained on applicable operational procedures to help prevent 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.

- It is Chiquita's understanding that this individual has previously been involved in the root cause of two other leachate leaks or spills.

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