

Archived: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 12:15:10 PM
From: [Sarah Phillips](#)
Email received: Sun, 13 Sep 2026 14:19:46
Sent: Sun, 13 Sep 2026 14:19:37
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 involving characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A well number CV-2343 in Grid 170 that experienced a pressurized leachate release (PLR) on August 5, 2026.

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 September 10, 2026, at approximately 12:45 p.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A leaked from a flange on a vacuum well near CV-2343 in Grid 170. Liquid from the release did not reach the stormwater channel or either stormwater basin.

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

- Gage Hayes.

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

- Upon discovery, a utility tray containing absorbent material was placed beneath the leaking flange to contain the liquid and was then properly disposed of in an appropriate container.

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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, liquid accumulated in the vacuum line, causing an increase in pressure and leachate to leak through the flange. Chiquita attributes this leak to mechanical equipment failure.

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

- Chiquita estimates that approximately one cup of characteristically hazardous leachate leaked from the flange associated with the vacuum well.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, the leaking flange was cleaned with an absorbent wipe, which was then properly disposed of in an appropriate container. Cleanup commenced and was completed immediately.

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

- The flange was replaced, and temporary fittings were installed while a new connection point for the vacuum well was completed. The new connection allows pressure to be properly dispersed. Chiquita is continuing to install new vacuum-line connections and equipment upgrades.

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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, 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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, no individuals were involved in the root cause of this leak; however, Chiquita routinely reviews spill- and leak-prevention practices with contractors, and Chiquita personnel receive regular training and reinforcement on best management practices for avoiding 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.

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, no individuals were involved in the root cause of this leak.

Thank you,

Sarah Phillips
Waste Connections
248.930.2779