

Archived: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 2:37:31 PM
From: [Sarah Phillips](#)
Sent: Fri, 25 Sep 2026 12:27:33
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 a forcemain transition fitting near well CV-24028 in Grid 178.

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 22, 2026, at approximately 9:30 a.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A leaked from a forcemain transition fitting near well CV-24028 in Grid 178. 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;

- Robert Vargas.

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

- Upon discovering the leak, the line was pinched and the forcemain fitting was tightened to 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 an inadequate seal at the transition fitting, potentially due to insufficient tightening and/or incomplete fusion during installation, which allowed leachate to leak when the vacuum was interrupted. Chiquita attributes this leak to operator error.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 0.5 gallons of characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A leaked from the transition fitting.

(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 the resulting wash water was vacuumed for proper cleanup and disposal. Cleanup commenced promptly and was completed within approximately 30 minutes.

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

- The transition fitting was replaced to prevent recurrence. Chiquita has provided additional training to personnel on transition-fitting installation and tightening to reduce the likelihood of similar leaks in the future.

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

- Chiquita personnel 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

- The Chiquita personnel involved in the leak had previously received training 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 not previously been involved in the root cause of a leachate leak or spill.

Thank you,

Sarah Phillips
Waste Connections
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