

Archived: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 2:37:38 PM
From: [Sarah Phillips](#)
Sent: Fri, 25 Sep 2026 12:33:17
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,

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 spill of approximately 0.25 cups of treated non-hazardous leachate associated with tank numbers LCM-11 through LCM-15, Groups A, B, North Perimeter, and East Perimeter, and manifest number CCL000241-CW, from a pressure release valve on a third-party tanker-truck trailer located in Grid 247, Tank Farm 7.

This report is not compelled by Condition 27(e), as the spill 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 spill occurred on September 23, 2026, at approximately 3:45 a.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Treated non-hazardous leachate associated with tank numbers LCM-11 through LCM-15, Groups A, B, North Perimeter, and East Perimeter, and manifest number CCL000241-CW, spilled from a third-party tanker-truck trailer located in Grid 247, Tank Farm 7. 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;

- Matt Ruiz.

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

Upon discovering the spill, the pump connected to the tanker truck was immediately shut off 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, it appears that the third-party driver left the trailer brakes engaged during loading, causing the suspension gauge to provide an inaccurate indication of the trailer's load level. As a result, loading continued beyond the intended stopping point, resulting in a spill. Chiquita attributes

this spill to third-party driver error.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 0.25 cups of treated non-hazardous leachate spilled from the third-party tanker-truck trailer.

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

- In addition to the immediate response measures discussed above, absorbent was promptly applied to the affected area. The soiled absorbent material was then 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 will discuss the event with the third-party driver and reinforce the importance of disengaging the trailer brakes before loading begins so that the suspension gauge accurately reflects the trailer's load level.

(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 not previously been involved in the root cause of other leachate leaks or spills.

Thank you,

Sarah Phillips
Waste Connections
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