



October 6, 2026

Pavlova Vitale
Jessica Lin
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013
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Re: Investigative Order No. R4-2026-0156
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Dear Ms. Vitale and Ms. Lin:

This submittal has been prepared for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (“Regional Board”), by Chiquita Canyon, LLC (“Chiquita”) as required by the Investigative Order No. R4-2026-0156 (the “Order”), issued by the Regional Board on June 12, 2026.¹ Pursuant to Items 5 and 6 of the Order, and in compliance with their respective 30-day deadline, Chiquita produces the following information regarding a storm event at the Chiquita Canyon Landfill (“the Landfill”) that occurred on September 6th, 2026, which resulted in a discharge into only the south sedimentation basin (“South Basin”). Chiquita will separately provide information pursuant to Items 8 and 9 of the Order in compliance with their respective 45-day deadline, as well as Item 10 of the Order which does not specify a deadline.

I. Post-Storm Event Assessment and Geosynthetic Cover Analysis

Item 5 of the Order requires the following:

For storms that produce a discharge into the south sedimentation basin, a post-storm event assessment and report on the effectiveness of the geosynthetic cover installed over the Reaction Area to prevent leachate from commingling with stormwater until the SET event has resolved. This report is due 30 days after the first day of the storm event that produces a discharge.

¹ Chiquita provided written comment on this Order on July 10, 2026. As of this submittal, Chiquita has not received a response to its questions or comments. Additionally, pursuant to Water Code Section 13320, Chiquita petitioned the State Water Resources Control Board for review of this Order on July 13, 2026.

The reaction area at the landfill has been covered with both 30-mil high density polyethylene and 60-mil ethylene vinyl alcohol/high density polyethylene geomembrane cover (“cover”) to reduce landfill surface emissions, prevent soil erosion (particularly from sloped areas), and mitigate against leachate commingling with stormwater runoff. At the time of this discharge event, the cover was observed to be effective at preventing leachate commingling with stormwater runoff, among its other intended purposes. For convenience, Chiquita publishes weekly cover inspection logs and other cover-integrity associated data on its website, available here: <https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/stipulated-order-for-abatement/>.

II. Post-Storm Event Operation and BMPs Assessment

Item 6 of the Order requires the following:

A report documenting implementation, operation and maintenance of BMPs and any other measures preventing leachate migration with stormwater runoff into onsite drainage channels, drain inlets, and inlets to the south and east sedimentation basins[.] This report is due 30 days after the first day of the storm event that produces a discharge.

In addition to the installation and utilization of the above-described cover, Chiquita followed protocols pursuant to its updated Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (“SWPPP”) and related best management practices to minimize and prevent leachate migration with stormwater runoff into onsite discharge channels, drain inlets, and inlets to the South Basin. Specifically, in accordance with Section 6.6 of the SWPPP, regular inspections were performed to assess the effectiveness of the cover, including identifying any leachate seeps, cover integrity concerns, or stormwater discharges into and out of the basins. If any seeps are identified, site management is immediately alerted and steps are taken to address such concerns. No seeps or cover integrity concerns were identified at the time of this discharge event.

Chiquita additionally constructs check dams in the stormwater drainage channels to capture potential seeps before they can flow to the detention basins. Chiquita also immediately contains any seeps by placing soil berms or dams, including in the concrete stormwater channel, or by diverting it back to the landfill’s leachate collection system. Any impacted concrete ditches/channels are pressure washed and the liquid and soil berms or dams are subsequently collected with a vacuum truck. Any rerouted leachate is transported in a sealed tanker truck to minimize its exposure to open air.

Chiquita also maintains records of spills and leaks in accordance with Condition 27(e) of the Stipulated Order for Abatement in Case No. 6177-4, as well as similar reports required under the Waste Discharge Requirements at the following link: <https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/stipulated-order-for-abatement/#stipulated-order-condition%2027e-leachate-leak-spill-reports>. Spills or leaks are addressed promptly in the manner discussed in Section 5.3 of the SWPPP.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt B', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Matt Breuer
Environmental Manager
Chiquita Canyon

cc: (via email)
John Perkey, Chiquita Canyon
Kevin Green, Chiquita Canyon
Sarah Phillips, Chiquita Canyon
William Haley, Chiquita Canyon
Tessa Lentz, Chiquita Canyon
Bryan Martinez, Chiquita Canyon
Majd Nima, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
Tyler Holybee, United States Environmental Protection Agency
Mark Anthony Relon, United States Environmental Protection Agency
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