

Archived: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 11:37:03 AM
From: Tessa.Lenz@WasteConnections.com
Sent: Wed, 7 Oct 2026 16:04:45
To: bchen@aqmd.gov
Cc: [Sarah Phillips](#)
Subject: Chiquita Canyon Landfill – Case No. 6177-4: Leak 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 leak of treated non-hazardous leachate associated with Groups A and B, the North Perimeter, and the East Perimeter from tank numbers SW-01, SW-02, and SW-03 located in Grid 247, Tank Farm 7.

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

- The leak was discovered on October 5, 2026, at approximately 6:45 p.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Treated non-hazardous leachate associated with Groups A, B, the North Perimeter, and the East Perimeter leaked from tank numbers SW-01, SW-02, and SW-03 in Grid 247, Tank Farm 7. 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;

- Mitch Espinosa.

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

- Upon discovering the leak, the pump transferring liquid to the tanks was immediately shut off to stop the flow of liquid. Absorbent material was then used to create a berm to contain the 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 a clog in a newly installed HDPE transfer line, which restricted the flow of liquid between the connected tanks and prevented the liquid levels from equalizing. Chiquita attributes this leak to mechanical equipment failure.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 300 gallons of treated non-hazardous leachate associated with Groups A and B, the North Perimeter, and the East Perimeter leaked.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, the soiled absorbent was promptly placed into a container

for proper disposal. A vacuum truck was then used to remove all standing liquid. Cleanup commenced immediately and was completed within approximately 9 hours.

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

- Chiquita will continue to pressure test transfer lines and verify proper liquid flow to minimize the potential for similar leaks or spills.

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

- 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

- No individuals were involved in the root cause of this leak; however, Chiquita routinely reviews spill- and-leak prevention practices with its contractors, and Chiquita personnel have been trained on applicable operations to avoid 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.

- No individuals were involved in the root cause of the leak.

Best Regards,

Tessa Lenz

Environmental Manager

Chiquita Canyon Landfill

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