Archived: Thursday, October 29, 2026 11:59:48 AM
From: Tessa.Lenz@WasteConnections.com
Sent: Thu, 29 Oct 2026 15:12:53
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,

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 2 cups of characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A, well number CV-2348, from a 6-inch PVC blind flange in Grid 212.

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 October 26, 2026, at approximately 1:35 p.m.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A, well number CV-2348, leaked from a 6-inch PVC blind flange in Grid 212. No liquid from the leak entered either stormwater basin.

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

- Derek Biasi.

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

- Upon discovering the leak, the vacuum port was fully opened to allow the leachate to enter the vacuum system, relieving pressure on the flange and helping contain the leak.

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

- Based on Chiquita's current knowledge, it appears that a third-party contractor overtightened the 6-inch PVC blind flange during installation, causing it to crack and allowing leachate to leak from the flange. Chiquita attributes this leak to third-party operator error.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 2 cups of characteristically hazardous leachate leaked.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, the affected soil was removed and placed into a container for proper disposal. Cleanup commenced immediately and was completed within approximately 20 minutes.

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

- The cracked 6-inch PVC blind flange was replaced with a steel blind flange. To further reduce the potential for recurrence, Chiquita will discuss proper equipment installation requirements with the third-party contractor and the use of paint markers to help identify work performed by individual contractor personnel.

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

- A third-party contractor was 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

- Chiquita does not provide training to contractors; 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.

- Chiquita has been unable to determine whether this individual has previously been involved in the root cause of a leachate leak or spill.

Best Regards,

Tessa Lenz
Environmental Manager
Chiquita Canyon Landfill
Cell: (661) 812-2661
Waste Connections | 29201 Henry Mayo Dr. | Castaic, CA 91384
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