Archived: Thursday, October 29, 2026 11:59:38 AM
From: Tessa.Lenz@WasteConnections.com
Sent: Thu, 29 Oct 2026 15:34:47
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 characteristically non-hazardous leachate associated with Group C from Tank D1 onto liner in Grid 94.

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

- The leak was discovered on October 1, 2026, at approximately 6:15 a.m. Chiquita acknowledges that this report is being submitted after the applicable reporting deadline and is taking steps to further improve its internal leak and spill reporting process.

(2) area designation inspected;

- Characteristically non-hazardous leachate associated with Group C leaked from Tank D1 onto liner in Grid 94. Liquid from the leak did not reach either stormwater basin.

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

- Alex Rodriguez.

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

- Upon discovering the leak, incoming flow to Tank D1 was immediately stopped, and the leachate was redirected to Tank D2.

(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 inadvertently closed a defoamer valve while performing work associated with the deployment of the geosynthetic cover. As a result, the leachate entering Tank D1 began to foam, causing a mixture of foam and liquid to leak onto the liner. Chiquita attributes this leak to third-party contractor operator error.

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

- Chiquita conservatively estimates that approximately 50 gallons of characteristically non-hazardous leachate liquid and foam leaked from Tank D1 onto the liner.

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

- In addition to the measures discussed above, a vacuum truck was used to collect the leaked liquid and foam. The exterior of Tank D1 and the affected area of the liner were then pressure washed while simultaneously applying vacuum to collect the wash water. Cleanup was completed within approximately 5 hours.

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

- Chiquita discussed the circumstances of the valve closure with the third-party contractor and removed the associated valve handles to reduce the potential for inadvertent valve closures during future contractor activities. Chiquita will continue to inspect equipment, perform maintenance, and implement additional corrective actions as needed to reduce the likelihood of similar leaks.

(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 third-party contractors; however, Chiquita routinely discusses spill- and leak-prevention practices with contractors, and Chiquita personnel have received training on applicable operations to 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.

- Chiquita has not determined whether the third-party contractor involved in the event had previously been involved in the root cause of another leachate leak or spill.

Best Regards,

Tessa Lenz
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