Archived: Tuesday, November 10, 2026 10:14:45 AM
From: Tessa.Lenz@WasteConnections.com
Sent: Fri, 6 Nov 2026 16:25:58
To: bchen@aqmd.gov
Cc: Sarah Phillips
Subject: Chiquita Canyon Landfill - Case No. 6177-4: Pressurized Leachate Release (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 an anticipated and actively managed pressurized leachate release (PLR) involving characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A from well number CV-2558 located in Grid 148.

(1) the date and time of the leak or spill;
- The PLR occurred on November 4, 2026, at approximately 8:30 a.m. and ended at approximately 9:15 a.m.

(2) area designation inspected;
- The PLR involved characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A from well number CV-2558 located in Grid 148. Liquid from the PLR remained in the containment and did not reach the stormwater channel or either stormwater basin.

(3) the name of the person that discovered the leak or spill;
- Chris Fear.

(4) written acknowledgement that they did, or did not, take corrective action with rationale for these actions;
- Because the potential for a PLR was foreseeable during the well work, Chiquita personnel proactively implemented preventative measures before commencing the work to minimize the likelihood and potential extent of a PLR. Chiquita also placed containment measures at the well site before commencing the work, including installing a containment berm around the well casing with an accompanying boot to contain any released liquid. After the PLR occurred, Chiquita personnel promptly installed a new wellhead, isolated it with a knife gate valve, and closed the knife gate valve to stop the flow of leachate. Chiquita personnel used a vacuum truck to capture released liquid.

(5) a root cause analysis on why and how the leak or spill occurred;
- There is no attributable error for this event. The potential for a PLR was anticipated and was proactively managed as part of necessary work to upgrade the well infrastructure.

(6) the estimated quantity of the leak or spill;
- Chiquita conservatively estimates that well CV-2558 released approximately 5 gallons of characteristically hazardous leachate associated with Group A during the PLR.

(7) corrective actions to clean and/or remove the leak or spill;
- In addition to the measures discussed above, Chiquita personnel removed soil that had come into contact with leachate during the repair process and placed it into a container for proper disposal. The additional leachate came into contact with the soil when the containment boot was pulled back and cut to access a deeper section of the well casing to perform necessary repairs. The liner was pressure washed while applying vacuum to ensure the collection of all wash water. Cleanup commenced immediately following the repairs and was

completed shortly thereafter, approximately two hours after the PLR.

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

- Chiquita personnel replaced, bolted, and fully sealed the wellhead with a knife gate valve, providing a more secure mechanical barrier and allowing the well to be isolated in a controlled manner, thereby reducing the potential for a future release. Chiquita will continue to preemptively replace infrastructure at risk until the infrastructure upgrades are complete, inspect equipment, perform maintenance, and implement appropriate corrective actions as needed.

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

- Chiquita personnel were involved in the well work associated with this PLR; however, the PLR was an anticipated consequence of the well-infrastructure upgrade rather than from personnel error.

(10) whether any individuals involved in the root cause had previously received training on applicable operations to avoid leaks or spills; and

- The Chiquita personnel involved in the event had previously received training on applicable operational procedures to help prevent leaks and spills and to minimize both the likelihood and potential extent of a PLR. The occurrence of a PLR that was anticipated as a potential outcome of the work does not, by itself, indicate a failure to exercise reasonable care, particularly where preventative and containment measures were implemented in advance to minimize the risk, duration, and extent of the release.

(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.

- As noted above, although Chiquita personnel were involved in the planned well work associated with this PLR, the PLR was an anticipated consequence of the well-infrastructure upgrade rather than from personnel error.

Best Regards,

Tessa Lenz
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