



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 14, 2024

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Chiquita Canyon Landfill Required to Take Further Actions to Address Odors

DIAMOND BAR – On November 13th, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) Hearing Board issued an Order for Abatement that will require Chiquita Canyon Landfill to take stricter actions to reduce odors that have been impacting the community for nearly two years. New and modified requirements include expanding air monitoring, reducing equipment downtime, increasing community access to air quality data, and reducing spills, leaks, and the potential for equipment failures.

The Order requires Chiquita Canyon Landfill to comply with the following:

- **Equipment that combusts and controls landfill gas must be connected to permanent utility power and supported by emergency backup power; downtime must not be conducted** for three or more units at any one time except in rare cases.
- **Maintain equipment and improve procedures to avoid equipment breakdown that could result in increased emissions.**
- **Leachate collection/storage tanks or liquid treatment tanks must not be overfilled.**
- **Provide a webpage that will allow the public to access and download historical data** reflecting all analytical results for the 24-hour time-integrated canister samples, continuous hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) and methane monitoring data, and the hourly dimethyl sulfide (DMS) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) results for all air monitoring stations.
- **Submit a complete permit modification application** to South Coast AQMD, by January 31, 2025, to increase the landfill's liquid storage capacity, including tanks and equipment and another application for each hazardous and non-hazardous liquid treatment system.

South Coast AQMD has received more than 25,000 complaints about odors from the landfill from nearby residents since January 2023. Since September 2024, South Coast AQMD has issued 42 Notices of Violation (NOVs) against Chiquita Canyon for public nuisance in violation of the agency's Rule 402 and California Health & Safety Code Section 41700.

The Chiquita Canyon Landfill is a landfill/solid waste disposal facility located at 29201 Henry Mayo Dr., in Castaic, California. Foul odors from Chiquita Canyon have continued to significantly impact the public

since early 2023. In August, South Coast AQMD's Hearing Board issued an Order for Abatement that required Chiquita Canyon Landfill to take significant action to address odors, providing the community immediate relief. The Order consisted of more than a dozen conditions that will improve leachate collection, require preventative maintenance and inspections, mitigate odors associated with excavation activities, and require additional air monitoring. The Order for Abatement was first issued by the Hearing Board in September 2023 and modified in January, April, and August 2024.

The Order was issued by the South Coast AQMD Hearing Board. The Hearing Board is an independent panel that hears all sides of a case, weighs the evidence, and reaches a decision. The public was given the opportunity to testify, and evidence was received.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) and [Instagram](#).

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