

**BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD OF THE  
SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**In The Matter Of**

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT,

Petitioner,

vs.

CHIQUITA CANYON, LLC a Delaware  
Corporation,  
[Facility ID No. 119219]

Respondent.

**Case No. 6177-4**

**DECLARATION OF NEAL BOLTON,  
P.E.**

Health and Safety Code § 41700, and  
District Rules 402, 431.1, 3002, 203, 1150

Hearing Date: June 4 and 17, 2025

Hearing Time: 9:30 A.M.

Place: Hearing Board  
South Coast Air Quality  
Management District,  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

I, Neal Bolton, declare as follows:

1. I am of sufficient age and am competent to testify in this proceeding. I make this declaration based upon personal knowledge and am competent to testify to the facts set forth herein.

**Background and Experience**

2. As discussed in detail in my prior declarations in Case No. 6177-4, I have owned and managed the landfill consulting company Blue Ridge Services Montana, Inc., since 1988 (then called Blue Ridge Services) (“Blue Ridge”). I am a registered civil engineer in California with more than 46 years of experience in heavy construction, landfill operations, and solid waste management. With respect to odor issues, I began working with Chiquita Canyon, LLC (“Chiquita”) in 2020, related to a series of notices of violation issued to Chiquita by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (“South Coast AQMD”). Since then, I have continued to work with Chiquita on various components of landfill operations, including odor mitigation and leachate management.

3. I serve on the Reaction Committee as the subject matter expert on landfill design and operational best management practices.

4. This declaration is made for the status and modification hearing being held on June 4 and 17, 2025 on the Stipulated Order for Abatement in Case No. 6177-4 with the South Coast AQMD, most recently modified on April 16, 2025 (“Modified Stipulated Order”).

**Compliance with the April Modified Stipulated Order**

5. The Modified Stipulated Order contains 101 conditions, many with multiple subparts, requiring Chiquita to take a wide range of actions designed to slow and stop the landfill reaction, and mitigate any impacts.

6. The chart attached hereto as **Attachment 1** lists conditions that I have been involved with at Chiquita, their requirements, and the current status of compliance.

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

///

1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that the foregoing is true and  
2 correct to my personal knowledge.

3 Executed on this 30th day of May 2025, in Victor, Montana.

4  
5 

6 \_\_\_\_\_  
7 Neal Bolton  
8 President  
9 Blue Ridge Services, Inc.  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD OF THE  
SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**In The Matter Of**

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT,

Petitioner,

vs.

CHIQUITA CANYON, LLC a Delaware  
Corporation,  
[Facility ID No. 119219]

Respondent.

**Case No. 6177-4**

**ATTACHMENT 1 TO DECLARATION  
OF NEAL BOLTON, P.E.**

Health and Safety Code § 41700, and  
District Rules 402, 431.1, 3002, 203, 1150

Hearing Date: June 4 and 17, 2025

Hearing Time: 9:30 A.M.

Place: Hearing Board  
South Coast Air Quality  
Management District,  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

**STIPULATED ORDER CONDITIONS CHART**

Condition No.	Summary of Requirement(s)	Status
<b>1</b>	Conduct odor surveillance using a trained third-party contractor in communities surrounding the Chiquita Canyon Landfill.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>1(f)</b>	Modify landfill operations as needed based on odor surveillance results.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>2</b>	Maintain Odor Surveillance Logs and make them available for inspection.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>2</b>	Maintain written records of odor surveillance notifications received and any actions taken in response thereto.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>12(g)(iv)</b>	Submit an expert report on landfill best management practices and alternative methods to minimize the release of fugitive surface gas and minimize odors from fugitive surface gas.	Completed; submitted by November 6, 2023 and posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website ( <a href="https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/">https://chiquitacanyon.com/odor-mitigation/</a> ).
<b>12(g)(vii)</b>	Develop a model to estimate the rate of liquid generation in the Landfill and the total quantity of liquid existing within the landfill waste mass at any given	Completed; submitted by June 25, 2024 and posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.

Condition No.	Summary of Requirement(s)	Status
	time and prepare a report summarizing the model and results of modeling.	
<b>12(g)(vii)</b>	Update the liquid model and submit reports summarizing the updated model and results of modeling on a semi-annual basis.	Compliance ongoing; most recently submitted on January 7, 2025 and posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.
<b>24</b>	Operate and maintain the Landfill to prevent standing leachate and the pooling or ponding of leachate exposed to the atmosphere throughout the facility.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>25</b>	Mitigate odors and the dispersion and exposure of leachate when encountering pressurized leachate. After the pressure equalizes, remove saturated soil or add sufficient dry soil to cover the impacted area.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>26</b>	Submit an expert report on the feasibility of temporary containment measures for the purposes of controlling leachate and possible discharges of pressurized leachate when drilling.	Completed; submitted on March 12, 2024 and posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.
<b>27(b)</b>	Conduct, document, and maintain records of leachate seep inspections twice each calendar day.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>27(c)</b>	On a weekly basis, compile and report the details of the inspection logs from that calendar week as well as any ongoing leachate seepage and pooling at the Landfill.	Compliance ongoing; submitted weekly each Tuesday and posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website; see Section Q of Condition 8 reports, which are posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.
<b>27(e)</b>	Report any leachate leak or spill separately from leachate seeps within 48 hours of discovering the leak or spill.	Compliance ongoing; see reports posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.
<b>27(f)</b>	Develop and submit for review and approval Standard Operating Procedures ("SOP") for leachate tank operations in accordance with industry standards and best management practices, to prevent leachate tank overflow, failure, and spillage in the tank farm areas.	Completed; submitted by September 23, 2024; revised on October 14, 2024 (resubmitted on October 18, 2024).
<b>27(f)</b>	Implement the SOPs within 7 days of South Coast AQMD approval.	Completed.

Condition No.	Summary of Requirement(s)	Status
27(f)	Conduct daily inspections of leachate tanks, tank connections, ports, valves, tank hoses, and any other equipment associated with leachate tank filling/emptying operations, to determine equipment condition material integrity.	Compliance ongoing.
27(g)	Do not overfill leachate collection/storage tanks or liquid treatment tanks.	Compliance ongoing.
29	Ensure proper landfill leachate and landfill condensate capacity to accumulate onsite and/or dispose of collected liquids/leachate at an appropriate facility or facilities. Comply with the Leachate Management Plan (“LMP”) approved by Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) and submitted to South Coast AQMD.	Compliance ongoing.
30	Visually inspect the landfill cover and geosynthetic cover(s) in and around the Reaction Area each operating day and promptly repair any cover issues identified.	Compliance ongoing.
30	Maintain a log demonstrating that any damage to the landfill cover or geosynthetic cover has been addressed.	Compliance ongoing; see Section L of Condition 8 reports, which are posted on Chiquita’s Odor Mitigation website.
31	Install a geosynthetic cover over portions of Module 2B/3/4 Phase 2, Module 2B/3, and Module 4.	Completed.
31	Submit the completed design for the cover, including associated landfill gas extraction infrastructure to be installed underneath the cover.	Completed; submitted on September 12, 2023 and posted on Chiquita’s Odor Mitigation website.
31	Notify South Coast AQMD on the progress of procuring and installing the geosynthetic cover.	Completed; submitted on October 31, 2023 and posted on Chiquita’s Odor Mitigation website.
31	Include updates on the procurement and installation of the geosynthetic cover in the Condition 8 monthly reports.	Completed; see Section O of Condition 8 reports, which are posted on Chiquita’s Odor Mitigation website.
32, 32(a)	Submit an expert report determining odor and emission transport of odors from the Landfill and identifying	Completed; submitted on December 1, 2023 and posted on Chiquita’s Odor Mitigation website.

Condition No.	Summary of Requirement(s)	Status
	effective techniques used to remedy potential odor impacts on the nearby community.	
<b>32(b), 32(c)</b>	If the Reaction Committee recommends additional air modeling, provide a proposal for additional modeling.  Revise the air modeling study proposal according to the comments received by email on March 28, 2024, and re-submit the revised proposal for approval.	Completed; submitted proposal on January 15, 2024; revisions submitted on May 8, 2024 and May 16, 2024. Each of these proposals are posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.
<b>32(c)</b>	Submit a final written report on the additional modeling.	Completed; submitted by September 2, 2024 and posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.
<b>42</b>	Pending approval of Chiquita's Rule 1150 Landfill Excavation Plan, comply with the enumerated list of requirements for all excavation, as defined in Rule 1150(a)(5).	Compliance ongoing.
<b>43</b>	Do not expose more of the working face than is operationally necessary on any working day and additionally during Unfavorable Wind Conditions, maintain the fresh trash-related odor mitigation measures outlined in the Stipulated Order for Abatement in Case No. 6177-1.	No longer applicable since there are no longer active operations.
<b>45</b>	Install, maintain in good working order, and operate 1,000 feet or more of Semi-Permanent Vapor Odor Control in the Reaction Area.	Compliance ongoing; installed by September 20, 2023.
<b>46, 47</b>	Operate and maintain in good working order a landfill perimeter odor control misting system on permanent fencing on the west and northwest of the property.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>48</b>	Notify South Coast AQMD of any substantial operational changes designed or anticipated to reduce odors, within seven days of implementing such changes.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>51</b>	Permit South Coast AQMD personnel to conduct all inspections deemed necessary by South Coast AQMD	Compliance ongoing.

Condition No.	Summary of Requirement(s)	Status
	Compliance staff, including collecting samples.	
<b>51</b>	Provide South Coast AQMD with any updates to the Health and Safety Plan within 1 business day of going into effect.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>51(a)</b>	To the extent Chiquita's Health and Safety Plan requires 5-gas monitors for regulatory staff to conduct an on-site inspection, maintain onsite at least two 5-gas monitors for regulatory personnel to use.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>64</b>	Follow the direction of the EPA to prepare an LMP in accordance with the Unilateral Administrative Order. Submit the final plan submitted to EPA to South Coast AQMD.	Completed; submitted on March 28, 2024.
<b>64</b>	Submit any updates to the final LMP to South Coast AQMD within 24 hours of submittal to EPA.	Compliance ongoing; most recently submitted on January 11, 2025.
<b>78</b>	Install 60-mil geosynthetic liner beneath any new tank or tank farm installed onsite.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>78</b>	Install 60-mil geosynthetic liner beneath existing tanks and tank farms by September 30, 2025.	In progress.
<b>78</b>	Once the 60-mil geosynthetic liner is installed, inspect it at least twice-daily; record inspection and maintenance records.	Compliance ongoing.
<b>84</b>	Submit an expert report evaluating the installation of windbreaks and/or wind flow disrupters along the western and northern borders of the facility, and/or ridgeline.	Completed; submitted by November 15, 2024 and posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.
<b>85</b>	While conducting excavation work related to the west slope excavation project and the toe drain termination project, operate landfill perimeter odor control misters along the project areas, operate a Semi-Permanent Vapor Odor Control system along the project areas, and submit weekly reports on the excavation activities.	Completed. All reports are posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.



Condition No.	Summary of Requirement(s)	Status
93	Install hydrostatic liquid level transmitters on all tanks capable of having such transmitters installed in them by June 30, 2025.	In progress.
93	Install hydrostatic liquid level transmitters on any new tanks capable of having such transmitters installed in them.	Compliance ongoing.
93	Monitor tank level information and communicate to necessary personnel before and during tank filling operations.	Compliance ongoing.
97	Visually inspect all connection points, seams, and seals of the geosynthetic cover at least once every 7 calendar days, and promptly repair any cover issues identified.	Compliance ongoing.
97	Maintain and submit inspection and repair logs.	Completed; see Section Z of Condition 8 reports, which are posted on Chiquita's Odor Mitigation website.