California Environmental Protection Agency

Gavin Newsom
California Governor

Yana Garcia
Secretary for Environmental Protection

Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Zoe Heller
CalRecycle Director

September 16, 2024

Via Email:kgork@ph.lacounty.gov

Karen Gork
Chief Environmental Health Specialist
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
5050 Commerce Drive
Baldwin Park, California 91706

Subject: Chiquita Canyon Landfill (19-AA-0052)
East Side Soil Barrier Conceptual Submittal dated September 6, 2024
Technical Review

Dear Ms. Gork:

CalRecycle staff is providing this letter in response to your request for technical assistance in reviewing the subject document.

The following comments are provided to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health [Local Enforcement Agency (LEA)] as assistance to support the program in carrying out its responsibilities on permitted disposal sites. The final determination as to the comments to be provided to the responsible party is within the sole purview of the LEA, acting within the parameters of its discretion, in accordance with its vested authority under its certification as defined in Title 14, California Code of Regulations (14 CCR), Division 7, 27 CCR, Division 2, Subdivision 1 (Section 20005 et seq.), and Division 30 of the Public Resources Code.

The CCL submitted a proposal on September 10, 2024, to place waste in the area identified as the East Fill Area using the same operational design for the reaction barrier system utilized in the current fill area located in Cell 8A. This barrier consists of a soil cap five feet in depth along the interim slope between the cells.

CalRecycle recommends that the LEA consider the following requirements for the placement of waste in the proposed area:

1. Current evidence suggests the reaction is at shallower depths (i.e., less than 35 feet below ground surface). Therefore, in addition to barrier layers proposed on the top deck and interim slope areas, the East Fill Area should be required to have an

additional protective measure to prevent a shallow reaction from impacting the new fill area. The CCL shall construct a 4-foot-wide soil-filled trench 40 feet below the ground surface from the toe of the slope on Cell 2 PH 2A to the approximate point shown in Figure 1 in Attachment 1 of this letter. The soil shall be placed and compacted in lifts to achieve a permeability of less than or equal to 1 x 10^{-5} cm/s.

2. We recommend logging and documenting the excavated trash's physical properties. If the excavated waste shows no signs of being affected by the reaction, it may be placed in the East Fill Area. If it does show signs of being affected by the reaction, the LEA shall be notified and shall approve the proposed location and method of its disposal.

3. The soil trench barrier shown in Figure 1 may need to be extended across the top deck and down the southeast slide slope should a shallow reaction exceed the Second Sentinel Line Monitoring Network.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at (916) 341-6356 or by email at Todd.Thalhamer@Calrecycle.ca.gov if you have comments or questions.

Sincerely,



Todd Thalhamer, P.E.
Senior Waste Management Engineer
Engineering Support Branch

Attachment

Cc Via Email:

Shikari Nakagawa-Ota, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (sota@ph.lacounty.gov)
Jenny Newman, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Jenny.Newman@waterboards.ca.gov)
Douglas Cross, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (dcross@waterboards.ca.gov)

Attachment 1



Figure 1. Additional trench barrier location requirement for East Fill Area.