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 25, 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)
Notification Criteria for Temperature Monitoring Probes

Dear Ms. Gork:

CalRecycle staff is providing this letter to follow up on your request for technical assistance in reviewing the weekly temperature monitoring probe (TMP) data at the Chiquita Canyon Landfill.

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.

Discussion

Temperature is the primary factor in determining whether the reaction area is decreasing, stabilizing, or expanding in an area. Certain components of landfill gas can also be used if no or limited temperature data are available. Increasing carbon monoxide (CO) and hydrogen (H2) levels and decreasing methane (CH4) levels are key indicators of the reaction/smolder activity. These gases and the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), such as benzene, can be used to validate the presence of a reaction in an area when temperatures increase quickly.

Recommendation

CalRecycle recommends that the LEA consider the criteria in Table 1. If one of the criteria is met, the LEA should be notified as indicated.

Table 1. TMP Notification Criteria

Temperature Increase	*Time of Temperature Increase*	*Notification Requirement*
Greater Than 20°F	24 Hours or Less	Notify LEA by Email Within 48 hours
Greater Than 10°F	7 Days or Less	Weekly Report
Greater Than 20°F	14 Days or Less	Weekly Report
Greater Than 30°F	21 Days or Less	Weekly Report

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:

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