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7	BEFORE THE HEARING BOARD OF THE			
8	SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT			
9	In The Matter Of	Case No. 6177-1		
10	SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT,	REVISED [PROPOSED] FINDINGS AND		
11	Petitioner,	DECISION FOR A STIPULATED ORDER FOR ABATEMENT		
12 13	vs.	District Rule 402 and Health and Safety Code		
14	CHIQUITA CANYON, LLC a Delaware Corporation,	§ 41700		
15	[Facility ID No. 119219]	Hearing Date: December 9, 2020, and		
16	Respondent.	December 16, 2020 Time: 9:00 am		
17		Place: Hearing Board South Coast Air Quality		
18		Management District 21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765		
19	This Petition for a Stipulated Order for Abatement was heard on December 9, 2020,			
20	1	ons of California Health and Safety Code Section		
21	40823 and South Coast AQMD Rule 812, and co	·		
22	December 16, 2020. The following members of t	he Hearing Board were present: Julie Prussack,		
23	Chair; Mohan Balagopalan, Vice Chair; Hon. I	Nate Holden; Allan Bernstein, DPM, MBA, and		
24	Cynthia Verdugo-Peralta on December 9, 2020, and all members were also present on December 9.			
25	16, 2020, except for the Hon. Nate Holden, for whom alternate member Micah Ali was present			
Petitioner South Coast Air Quality Management District ("South Coast AQMD") was				
<ul><li>27</li><li>28</li></ul>	represented by Mary Reichert, Sr. Deputy District Counsel, and Kathryn Roberts, Deputy District			
	Chiquita Canyon, LLC [Facility ID No. 1	19219] – [Proposed] Findings and Decision		

- 1. South Coast AQMD is a body corporate and politic established and existing pursuant to Health and Safety Code §§ 40000, *et seq.* and §§ 40400, *et seq.*, and is the sole and exclusive local agency with the responsibility for comprehensive air pollution control in the South Coast Basin.
- 2. Respondent operates a landfill/solid waste disposal facility known as Chiquita Canyon Landfill ("CCL") located at 29201 Henry Mayo Dr., Castaic, California, 91384, South Coast AQMD Facility ID No. 119219. Respondent operates within the South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction and is subject to the South Coast AQMD's rules.
- 3. South Coast AQMD Rule 402 and California Health and Safety Code ("H&S Code") Section 41700 prohibit the discharge, from any source whatsoever, such quantities of air contaminants or other material which causes injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or the public, or which cause, or have the natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property.
- 4. Respondent operates a landfill/solid waste disposal site with a footprint of approximately 400 acres pursuant to a Conditional Use Permit issued by the County of Los Angeles. Chiquita Canyon Landfill was first approved for waste disposal in 1967. The property has been in use as a landfill since 1972. The property has continued as a landfill under a series of Conditional Use Permits from Los Angeles County. Chiquita was most recently granted a renewed Conditional Use Permit in 2017 to allow continued operations. Under its current use permit, CCL is allowed to accept an average of 6,616 tons per day (TPD) of solid waste between the hours of 4:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Saturday. CCL may also accept green waste and beneficial reuse materials. CCL may accept a maximum of 2,800,000 tons per year of solid waste and beneficial reuse material combined. Beginning around April 2020, CCL moved operations for solid waste disposal to a new cell of the landfill, known as Cell 6, located in the southwest corner

continued to receive complaints of trash odors. In the month of October, South Coast AQMD

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11.

Since September 22, 2020, the date of the last NOV, South Coast AQMD has

1	received more than 50 complaints alleging CCL as the source of an odor nuisance. While the	
2	number of complaints in November dropped significantly, South Coast AQMD Inspectors continue	
3	to investigate and have confirmed CCL as the source of the odors on several occasions.	
4	12. This Stipulated Order for Abatement represents a compromise between the Parties	
5	and does not serve as an admission of liability or guilt as to any of the violations alleged herein.	
6	South Coast AQMD Rule 806(b) and H&S Code § 42451(b) permit the Hearing Board to issue a	
7	stipulated order for abatement upon the terms and conditions set forth in the stipulated Proposed	
8	Findings and Decision without making findings regarding: (a) whether Respondent is in violation	
9	of H&S Code § 41700, or any South Coast AQMD rule or regulation; (b) whether the order will	
10	not constitute a taking of property without due process of law; and (c) whether the order results in	
11	closing an otherwise lawful business, such closing would not be without a corresponding benefit in	
12	reducing air contaminants. The Hearing Board does not make any of finding whether Respondent	
13	is or was in violation of H&S Code 41700 or South Coast AQMD Rule 402.	
14	CONCLUSIONS	
15	13. The Order set forth hereinafter is likely to mitigate conditions that could contribute	
16	to potential odors and potential nuisance.	
17	14. The issuance of a Stipulated Order for Abatement upon a fully noticed hearing	
18	would not constitute a taking of property without due process of law.	
19	15. The Stipulated Order for Abatement is not intended to be nor does it act as a	
20	variance.	
21	<u>ORDER</u>	
22	THEREFORE, subject to the aforesaid statements and good cause appearing, the Hearing	
23	Board hereby orders Respondent to comply with the following conditions and increments of	
24	progress:	
25	Odor Monitoring	
26	1. Respondent shall conduct odor surveillance in the communities surrounding the	
27	Chiquita Canyon Landfill (the "Landfill") as follows:	
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- a. Respondent shall conduct community odor surveillance at least twice on each operating day, once between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., and once between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Respondent shall ensure that there is a minimum of 3 hours between the conclusion of the first daily odor surveillance and beginning of the second daily odor surveillance.
- Respondent shall conduct each odor surveillance at each of the following
   Surveillance Locations:

Stop	Description
1.	Intersection of Henry Mayo Drive and Chiquito Canyon Road
2.	Intersection of Chiquito Canyon Road and driveway leading to the LA County Fire's Del Valle Regional Training Center
3.	Intersection of Chiquito Canyon Road and Lincoln Avenue
4.	Intersection of Lincoln Avenue and Jackson Street
5.	Intersection of Lincoln Avenue and Harding Avenue
6.	Intersection of Buchanan Way and Chiquito Canyon Road
7.	Intersection of Chiquito Canyon Road and San Martinez Road
8.	Intersection of Central Avenue and Lincoln Avenue
9.	Intersection of San Martinez Road and Morningside Drive
10.	Intersection of Lexington Drive and Morningside Drive
11.	Intersection of Val Verde Road and Trellis Road
12.	Intersection of Hunstock Street and Del Valle Road
13.	Intersection of Del Valle Road and Silver Street
14.	Intersection of Del Valle Road and Hasley Canyon Road
15.	Intersection of Hasley Canyon Road and Gibraltar Lane
16.	Intersection of Hasley Canyon Road and Commerce Center Drive
17.	Intersection of Commerce Center Drive and Witherspoon Parkway
18.	Intersection of Franklin Parkway and driveway leading to the United States Postal Service
19.	Intersection of Henry Mayo Drive and Cambridge View Drive, leading into the Valencia Travel Village RV Resort
20.	Intersection of Henry Mayo Drive and Wolcott Way

- c. The employee conducting the odor surveillance shall not have visited the working face or other areas where exposed trash exists at the Landfill prior to conducting an odor surveillance that day.
- d. Odor surveillance shall be conducted by proceeding to each Surveillance
   Location and making an assessment of each parameter listed in Condition 1.e.

Assessment of each parameter shall be made while standing in ambient air and shall not be made from within a vehicle.

e. Respondent shall record odor surveillance results in an "Odor Surveillance Log." The Odor Surveillance Log shall contain, but not be limited to: (1) the date and time; (2) stop number; (3) the wind speed and direction; (4) a narrative description of any odor detected (including the type of odor, such as trash, landfill gas, chemical, odor neutralizer, as applicable); (5) current weather conditions; and (6) an assessment of the strength of any odor detected using the scale below:

0	No odor detected
1	Very light odor detected
2	Light odor detected
3	Moderate odor
4	Strong odor
5	Very strong odor

- f. Using the scale in Condition 1.e., if an odor strength of 3 or greater is detected that is of the type that may occur at a landfill at any five (5) or more Surveillance Locations during any single odor surveillance conducted by Respondent, Respondent shall immediately stop accepting waste in Cell 6.

  Respondent shall not accept waste in Cell 6 either until the close of that operating day or until a subsequent odor surveillance, conducted at least one hour later than the prior surveillance, determines that odors have been reduced to below the threshold of five (5) Surveillance Locations assessed at 3 or higher.
- 2. Respondent shall submit each month's Odor Surveillance Log to South Coast AQMD, along with all records maintained relating to receipt and resolution of any odor complaints pursuant to Condition 128 of Respondent's Conditional Use Permit (No. 2004-00052-(5)), by the 7<sup>th</sup> of the following month (attn: Larry Israel <u>lisrael@aqmd.gov</u>).

# **Operational Adjustments**

3. Respondent shall direct 50% of incoming waste to permitted areas other than Cell 6 and ensure that the working face of Cell 6 is no larger than 50% of the maximum working face size

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6. Respondent shall visually inspect tarp covers at least once each operating day. Respondent shall record and maintain a "Tarp Cover Inspection Log." The Tarp Cover Inspection Log shall contain, but not be limited to: (1) the date and time of inspection; (2) a narrative description of any damage or defects observed on the tarp covers from the inspection; and (3) the

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corrective actions taken (repairs, reinforcement, replacement, etc.). Respondent shall submit each month's log to South Coast AQMD (attn: Larry Israel lisrael@aqmd.gov) by the 7th of the following month.

- 7. Respondent shall implement permanent repairs, reinforcement, and/or replacement of any observed damage or defects on the tarp covers from the daily inspection within 24-48 hours of identifying the damage or defect.
- 8. Respondent shall use fans equipped with an unscented odor control neutralizer that is prepared per manufacturer specifications and recommendations. The odor neutralizer shall be pumped into a misting nozzle to deliver the odor neutralizer around the fan face for dispersion as needed. Respondent shall position these fans around the working face of the Landfill in such a manner as to dilute and neutralize odors that could potentially travel in the direction of receptors.
- 9. Respondent shall, within 15 days of this Stipulated Order, submit to the South Coast AQMD (and any other applicable agency or regulator) a permit application (with expedited processing requested and paid) for each Tier 4 engine to be used to power odor dispersion and misting fans ("orchard fans") along with a Title V Permit Revision application as necessary. Once valid permits have been issued by South Coast AQMD and any other responsible agency or regulator, Respondent shall construct and deploy the fans as soon as reasonably possible, but in no case longer than 90 days after receiving the permits, and shall use the orchard fans so as to further dilute odors that could potentially travel in the direction of receptors.

### **Landfill Gas Collection System**

10. Respondent shall continue to retain a consultant with competency in the management, inspection, operation, and maintenance of landfill gas collection systems. Such consultant shall regularly inspect, evaluate, make recommendations on any necessary improvements to efficacy of the landfill gas collection system, and implement such improvements, which may include, but not be limited to, maintenance and/or replacement of landfill gas collection

wells and associated landfill gas collection equipment and improved parameter monitoring of the landfill gas collection system.

- a. Respondent shall report the results of the consultant's inspection, evaluation, recommendations, and implemented improvements to the landfill gas collection system and shall submit such report to South Coast AQMD (attn: Larry Israel <a href="lisrael@aqmd.gov">lisrael@aqmd.gov</a> and Harry Moon <a href="mailto:hmoon@aqmd.gov">hmoon@aqmd.gov</a>) by the 7<sup>th</sup> of the following month.
- 11. Respondent shall expand its landfill gas collection system as necessary and appropriate, and/or when recommended by Respondent's landfill gas collection system consultant, to new areas of the Landfill when the new areas begin to receive solid waste material.
- 12. Respondent shall submit to the South Coast AQMD a permit application (with expedited processing requested and paid) for modifications to the landfill gas collection system as needed along with a Title V Permit Revision application. Modifications requiring permit changes shall only be made after valid permits have been issued by South Coast AQMD.

#### **Landfill Cover**

- 13. Within 5 days of the date of this Order Respondent shall request authorization (including requesting and paying for expedited processing, if available) from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and the Local Enforcement Agency to begin using an alternative daily cover that does not need to be removed, such as Enviro-Cover, on the working face. Respondent shall commence using such cover within 30 days after receiving approval for use of such material. Once Respondent has commenced using such alternative daily cover material, it shall cease using tarps as alternative daily cover at Cell 6.
- 14. Respondent shall visually inspect Landfill intermediate cover on a weekly basis. Respondent shall record and maintain an "Intermediate Inspection Log." The Intermediate Inspection Log shall contain but not be limited to, (1) the date and time of inspection; (2) a

narrative description of any damage to the intermediate cover observed during the inspection; and (3) the corrective actions taken (repairs, reinforcement, replacement, etc.). Respondent shall submit each month's log to South Coast AQMD (attn: Larry Israel <u>lisrael@aqmd.gov</u>) by the 7<sup>th</sup> of the following month.

15. Respondent shall promptly implement permanent repairs, reinforcement, and/or replacement of any observed damage or defects on the intermediate cover from the weekly inspection. Repairs shall begin not later than 48 hours from discovery, shall conclude as soon as reasonably possible, and shall be performed in accordance with all applicable regulations.

## **Community Outreach**

- 16. Respondent shall create, maintain and regularly update a dedicated section of its webpage with a highly visible link on its homepage (the "odor mitigation section") for presenting information discussing odor mitigation at Chiquita Canyon Landfill. Such section shall be implemented by January 6, 2021, and meet the following requirements:
  - a. The odor mitigation section shall be accessible via a direct hyperlink included on the homepage of Chiquita Canyon Landfill's website (https://chiquitacanyon.com), via a clickable link with text stating "Click HERE for Odor Mitigation Information;"
  - b. The odor mitigation section shall display prominently at the top of the page a notification that complaints of any odors believed to be caused by Chiquita Canyon Landfill can be made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District via telephone at 1 (800) CUT-SMOG or 1 (800) 288-7664 or online on South Coast AQMD's website (which shall hyperlink to the following: <a href="http://www3.aqmd.gov/webappl/complaintsystemonline/NewComplaint.aspx">http://www3.aqmd.gov/webappl/complaintsystemonline/NewComplaint.aspx</a>);
  - c. The odor mitigation section shall display prominently at the top of the page a
    notification that complaints may also be submitted to Chiquita Canyon Landfill
    (24-Hour Hotline at (661) 253-5155);

- d. The odor mitigation section shall include an "Updates on Implementing Mitigation Measures" section which shall provide a narrative description of current status of implementation of the conditions in this Stipulated Order, including, without limitation, Consultant Retention, fan engine permitting, and use of Enviro-Cover;
- e. The odor mitigation section shall include an "Odor and Maintenance Logs" section which shall include via hyperlink any logs created pursuant to this Order, as well as any reports or logs relating to odor or odor mitigation required by Respondent's Conditional Use Permit to be submitted to any government agency, preceded by a brief narrative description (e.g. "Odor Surveillance Logs for the Month of January can be found here");
- f. The odor mitigation section shall include a "Reports and Orders" section which shall include via hyperlink, preceded by a brief narrative description:
  - This Stipulated Order and any approved modifications to this Stipulated
     Order
  - ii. The Report created pursuant to Condition # 18
  - iii. Safety Data Sheets for odor neutralizer used at the facility and the amount of such odor neutralizer used, including both the concentrated and as-diluted volume employed at the Landfill per month
  - iv. Any reports relating to odor or odor mitigation required by Respondent's Conditional Use Permit (No. 2004-00052-(5)) to be submitted to any government agency, including any responses or discussion of remedial actions to odor violations or complaints required by any government agency
- g. The odor mitigation section shall include a "Air Monitoring and Health Impacts Section" which shall include a brief narrative describing the current status of air quality monitoring required under Condition 68 of Respondent's Conditional Use Permit (No. 2004-00052-(5)). The "Air Monitoring and Health Impacts

Section" shall also include, via hyperlink, preceded by a brief narrative

i. Any consultant reports submitted to the Community Advisory

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description:

location of the meeting. All meetings held in person shall adhere to all applicable public health guidelines, and shall take place within the Val Verde community.

#### **Consultant Retention**

- 18. Respondent shall retain a consultant to assess the following aspects of the Landfill's operations. Upon completion of the assessment of operations, the consultant shall propose adjustments or modifications to landfill systems or operations that the consultant reasonably believes, based on its professional judgment, could reduce the potential emission of odors from the Landfill and related community impacts. The consultant shall include an assessment of the feasibility and limitations of any proposed operational adjustment or modification. The consultant shall document its proposals in a final report to be submitted to the South Coast AQMD (attn: Mary Reichert <a href="mailto:mreichert@aqmd.gov">mreichert@aqmd.gov</a> and Kathryn Roberts <a href="mailto:kroberts@aqmd.gov">kroberts@aqmd.gov</a>) on or before February 22, 2021. The consultant shall conduct the following assessments or studies:
  - a. A study in the community of Val Verde based on available meteorological data to determine prevailing wind patterns in the community and related meteorological conditions. This study shall include an assessment of prevailing wind direction and speeds throughout the course of the past five calendar years.
  - b. Onsite study to characterize wind patterns and related meteorological conditions at each of the locations identified for future landfill cell development. Study shall include an assessment of potential ridgeline and vegetative barriers between current and future landfill cell locations and the surrounding residential community.
  - Analysis of verified complaint trends throughout the course of the past five calendar years.
  - d. Onsite assessment for odiferous waste streams and waste stream combinations that includes a profiling of known waste streams, and a characterization of the total mix and any notable interactions between waste streams.
  - e. Onsite assessment of when odorous wastes are received at the Landfill.
  - f. Onsite assessment of fill sequencing and timing.

1	Abatement or other administrative or legal relief. The Findings of Fact are based on eviden	
2	presented by Petitioner and Respondent as of the date of this Order.	
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4	BOARD MEMBER:	
5		
6	DATED:	
7	SO STIPULATED:	
8	December 15, 2020	
10	Kathryn Roberts,	
11	Deputy District Counsel II  Attorneys for Petitioner South Coast AQMD	
12		
13	SO STIPULATED:	
14	December 15, 2020	
15	Jacob P. Duginski, Esq. Beveridge & Diamond P.C.	
16	Attorneys for Respondent Chiquita Canyon, LLC	
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	-15- Chiquita Canyon, LLC [Facility ID No. 119219] – [Proposed] Findings and Decision	