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July 26, 2023

Mr. Steve Cassulo
Waste Connections, Inc.
District Manager
Chiquita Canyon Landfill
29201 Henry Mayo Dr.
Castaic, CA 91384

RE: PUBLIC HEALTH NOTICE ISSUED TO WASTE CONNECTION, INC. REGARDING THE IMPACT OF NOXIOUS ODORS FROM THE CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL ON THE HEALTH OF NEARBY RESIDENTS.

Dear Mr. Cassulo:

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health ("Public Health") issues the following Public Health notice to Waste Connection, Inc. regarding the persistent foul-smelling odors emanating from the Chiquita Canyon Landfill ("Chiquita Canyon") that are impacting the health of nearby residents.

Since April of 2023, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has received over 600 hundred odor complaints from persons who live near Chiquita Canyon. SCAQMD has investigated these odor complaints and issued 18 Notices of Violation to Chiquita Canyon. SCAQMD reports that in the last week it received approximately two dozen odor complaints per day. In addition, Public Health has received complaints from nearby residents regarding noxious, sometimes chemical-like, odors emanating from Chiquita Canyon that make them nauseous, produce vomiting, and gives them eye and throat irritation and headaches. From preliminary information received by Public Health, it appears that there is an ongoing chemical reaction occurring underground within one of the cells within the landfill that may be the source of these odors. Public Health understands that Chiquita Canyon will provide the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works with a report that will provide information on the source and potential mitigation of these odors on July 27, 2023.

As the odors currently being emitted from Chiquita Canyon into the surrounding neighborhoods of Val Verde, Live Oak and Hasley Canyon are both pervasive and lengthy in duration, this situation meets the definition of a public nuisance under Civil Code section 3479 and section 11.02.190 of the Los Angeles County Code. As the emission of noxious odors from Chiquita Canyon may be a result of a long-term issue within the landfill, rapid action must be taken to minimize or eliminate the odors in order to protect the health and safety of the nearby residents.

Mr. Steve Cassulo

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Accordingly, Public Health requests that Waste Connections, Inc. take the following actions to mitigate the health impacts of the nuisance and remedy the cause of the nuisance:

- 1) Provide SCAQMD, Chiquita Canyon's Technical Advisory Committee, Public Health, and County Departments of Public Work and Regional Planning a summary of recommendations from the Subject Matter Expert (Consultant) evaluating the potential source and cause of odors and impact to surrounding community.
- 2) Provide Chiquita Canyon's July 27, 2023, report to Public Health.
- 3) Hire a consultant to work with Chiquita Canyon's Technical Advisory Committee to evaluate the long and short-term health and environmental impacts of the current odor problem.

Public Health requests a written response by August 1, 2023, on the items listed above.

Please copy SCAQMD on all future Waste Connections, Inc. correspondence to Public Health. If you should have any questions, please contact Dr. Nichole Quick at (213) 351-7366 or via email at nquick@ph.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,



Muntu Davis, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer