

Chiquita Canyon Landfill

Community Meeting

March 21, 2024

Castaic, California



Today's meeting



Provide information



Constructive dialogue



Share the air space



Shared understanding

Who We Are:

Local, State, and Federal Environmental Agencies
Collaborating to Address Issues at Chiquita Canyon Landfill



Meeting Agenda

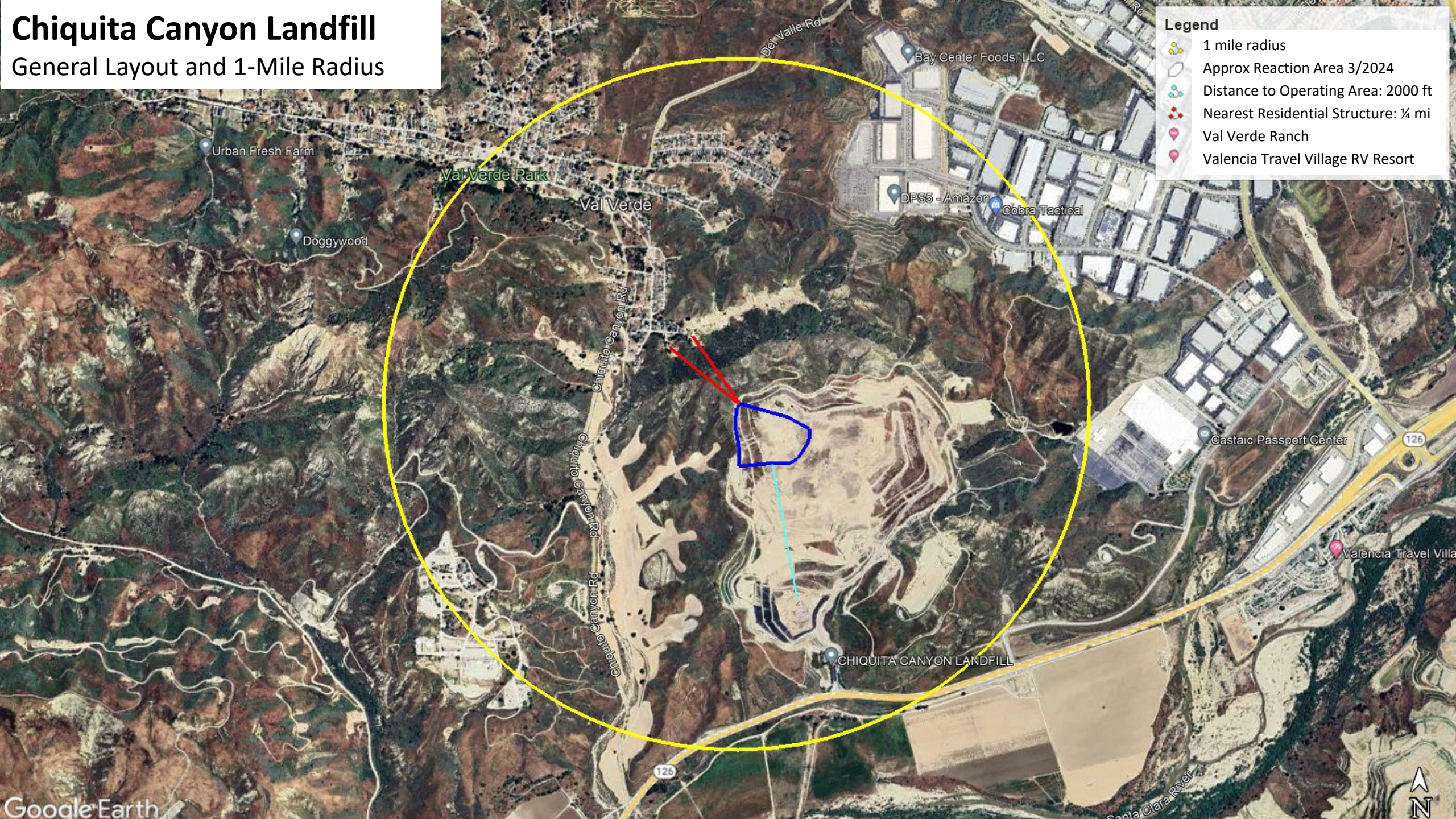
1. Overview of subsurface reaction occurring at Chiquita Canyon Landfill
2. Key agency actions taken to date to address the reaction and its consequences
3. Overview of current focus – enhancing coordination by adding Local, State, and Federal On-Scene Coordinators to stabilize site conditions
4. Opportunity for questions

What is happening?

- Subsurface reaction occurring deep within an inactive portion of Chiquita Canyon Landfill
- Consequences:
 - Odors significantly impacting surrounding community
 - Increased leachate production and associated management problems
 - Some leachate has elevated levels of benzene
- Timeframe for reaction and community impacts
 - Implementation of appropriate mitigation measures should reduce odor impacts long before the reaction is over
 - But the reaction itself will likely continue underground for years
 - Agencies and the facility are focused on immediately mitigating impacts to the community and containing the reaction

Chiquita Canyon Landfill

General Layout and 1-Mile Radius



Legend

- 1 mile radius
- Approx Reaction Area 3/2024
- Distance to Operating Area: 2000 ft
- Nearest Residential Structure: ¼ mi
- Val Verde Ranch
- Valencia Travel Village RV Resort

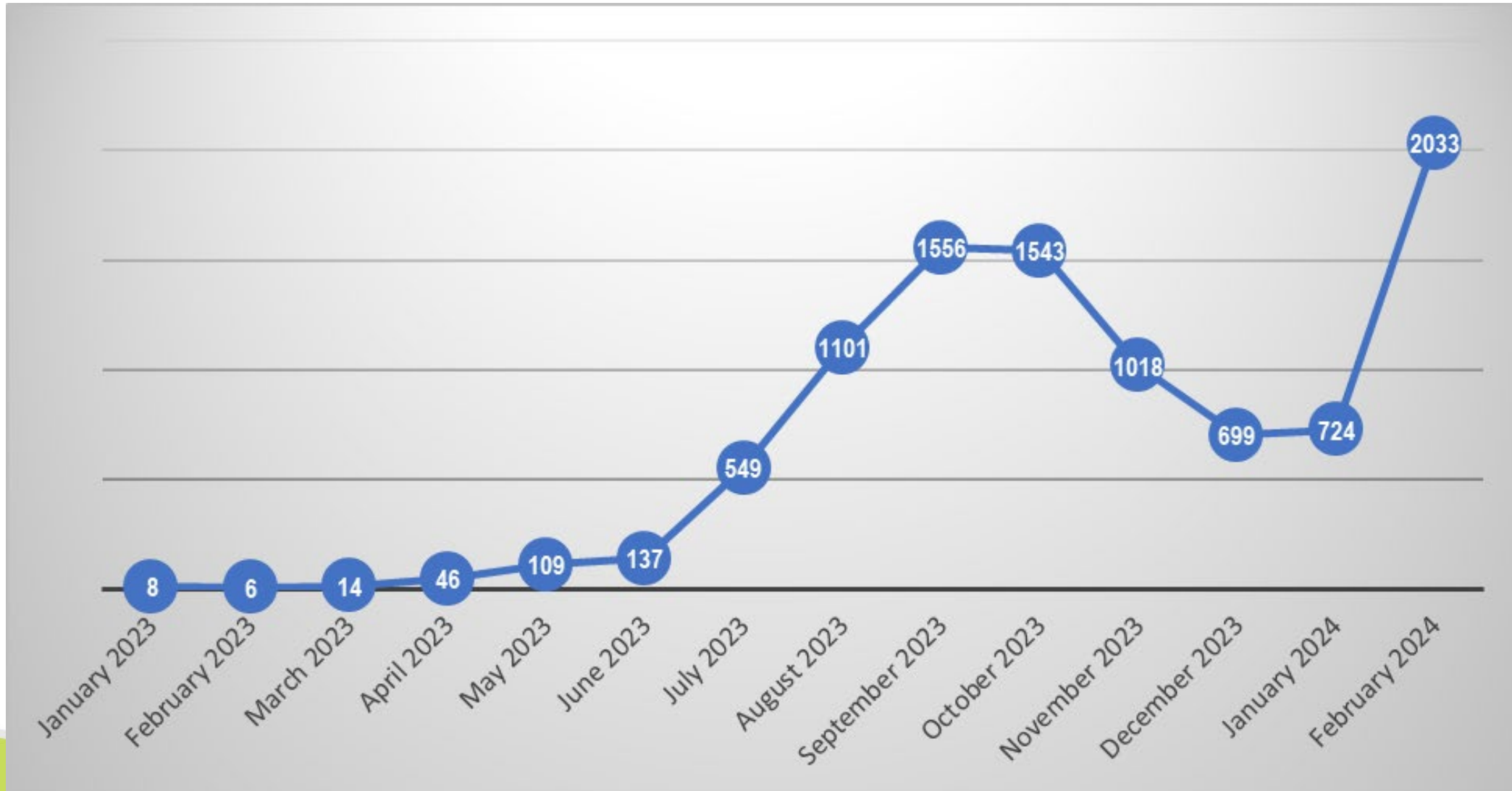
The reaction area and the working face of the landfill are 2,000 feet apart.

Nearest residence
~1300 feet from
reaction area.

Chiquita Canyon Landfill

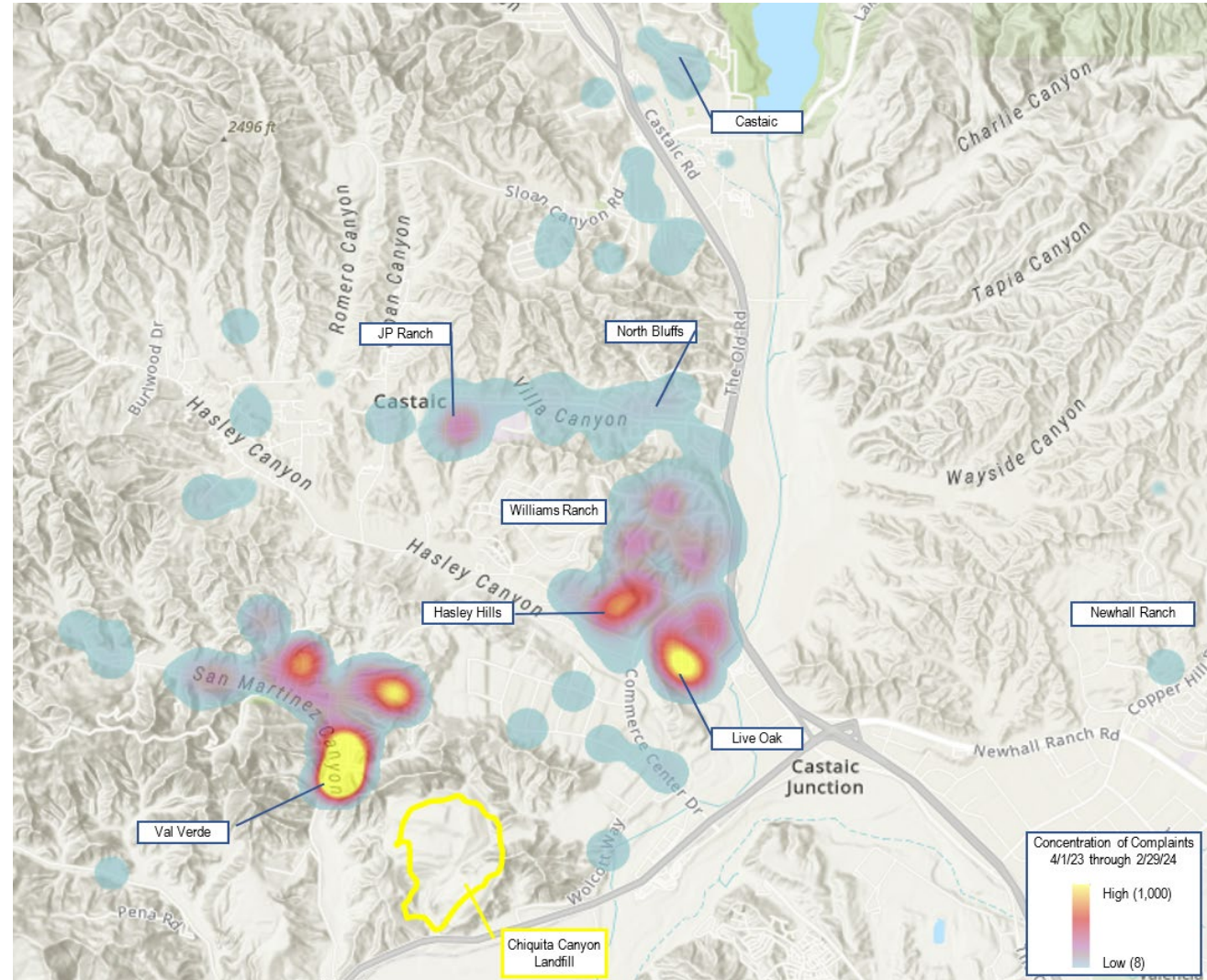


Agency Actions: Community Complaints



Agency Actions: Complaints (Cont.)

- Heat Map of Chiquita Canyon Landfill Odor Complaints
- April 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024
- ~9,200 Odor Complaints
- Map reflects only complaints for which sufficient address information was provided



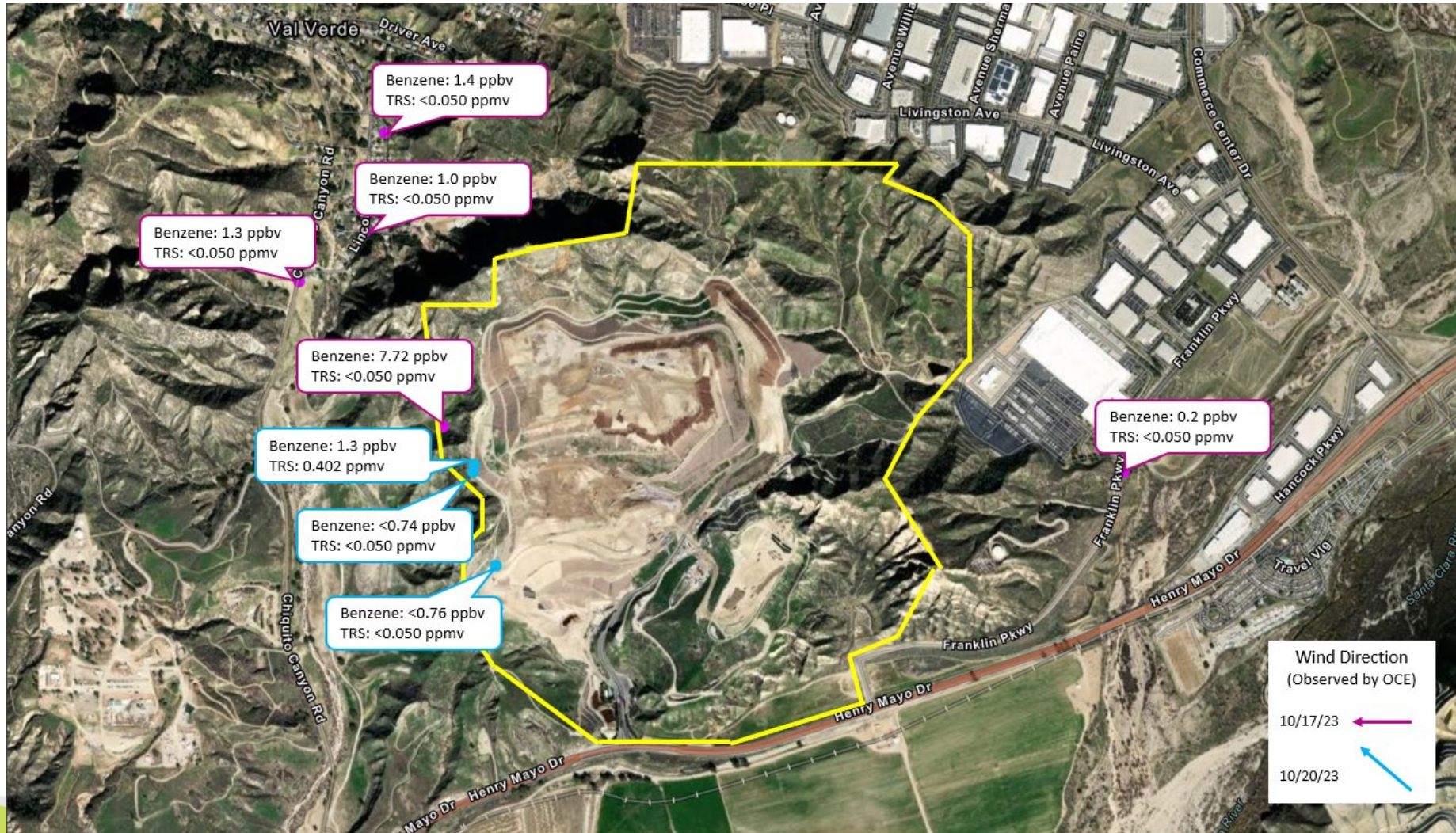
Agency Actions: Air Monitoring



In October 2023, mobile monitoring survey conducted for multiple compounds, including Dimethyl Sulfide

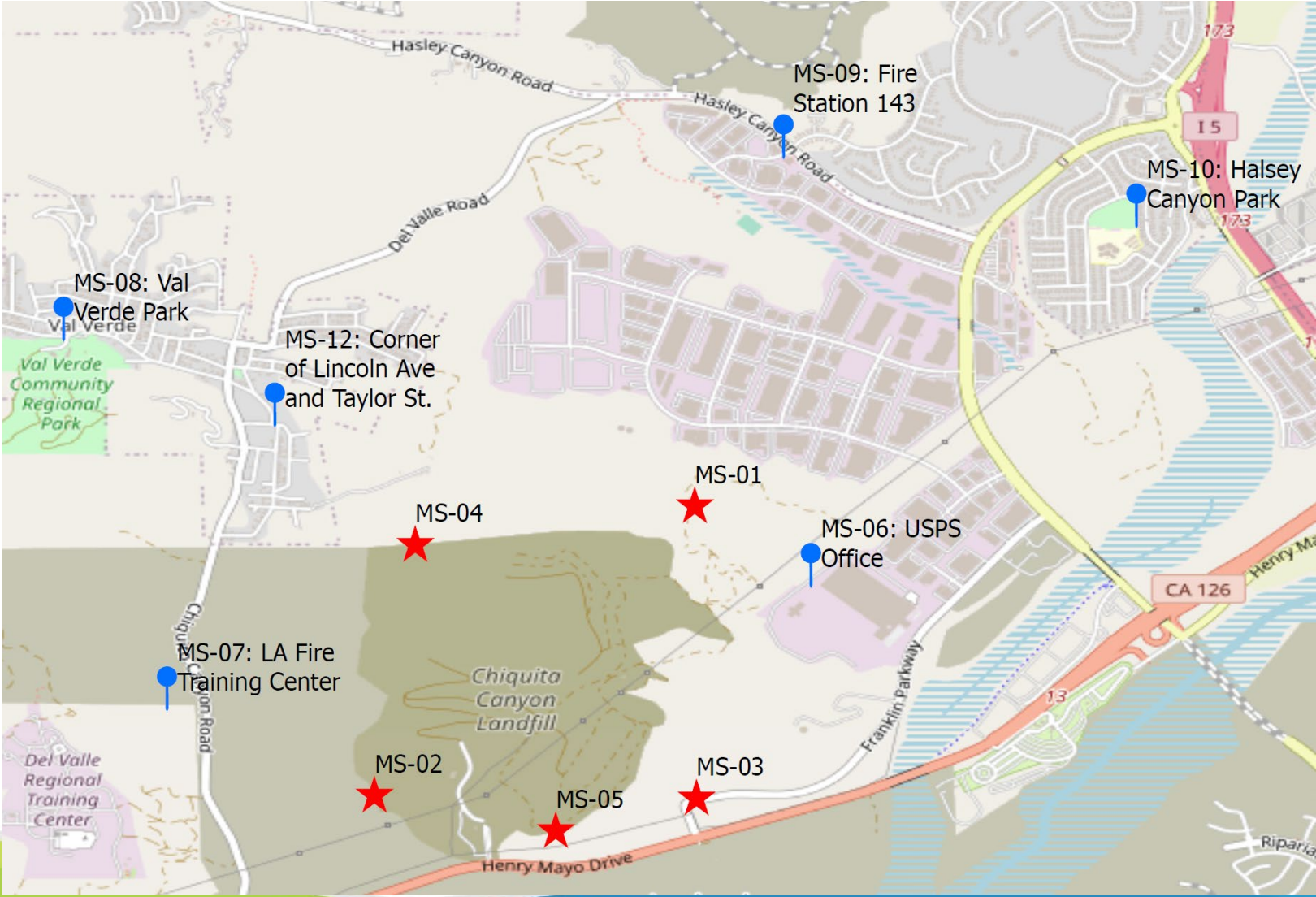


Agency Actions: Air Monitoring (Cont.)



TRS: Total Reduced Sulfur

Agency Actions: Monitoring Oversight



~ 3 miles southeast of Chiquita Canyon Landfill

Agency Actions: Temperature Probes

Purpose: To monitor the location of the reaction to establish whether it is expanding or moving.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 16 out of 20 probes have been installed• Installation was delayed due to rain, the saturation of well bores with liquid, and a drilling rig needing repairs.	Current status of the probe installation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drilling should be completed	Due: March 21, 2024
Complete installation of all temperature monitoring probes	Due: April 4, 2024

Agency Actions: Geomembrane Cover

Purpose: To reduce fugitive landfill gas emissions.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An estimated 5 acres has been installed • Delays caused by rain events, drainage improvements work, and health and safety training 	<p>Current status of the cover</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete installation of geomembrane cover, including the covering of the final portion of the reaction area located at the northern slope 	<p>Due: April 26, 2024</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The landfill is to provide a final report 	<p>Due: May 3, 2024</p>

Agency Actions: Hazardous Waste Management

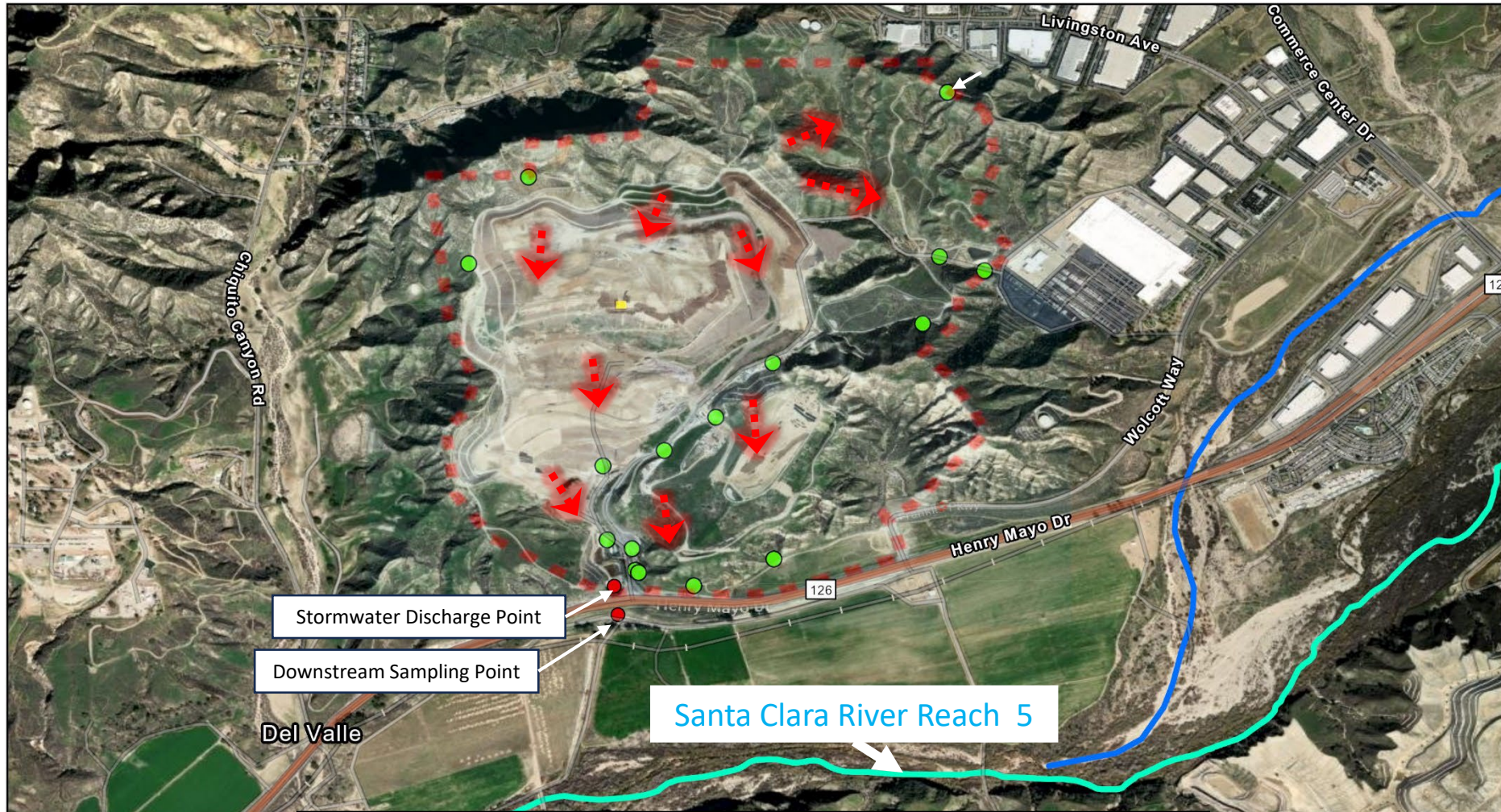
- Some leachate contains high levels of benzene
- Chiquita was not managing hazardous waste leachate properly by:
 - Failing to properly characterize waste
 - Sending to a facility not permitted to treat hazardous waste
- DTSC notified the operator of five violations on February 15, 2024
- On-site treatment occurring



Agency Actions: Protecting Water Quality



- Groundwater
 - Issued Notice of Violation on November 22, 2023 for failure to maintain leachate collection system or report leachate seep
 - Reviewing data from monitoring wells to ensure leachate doesn't impact groundwater quality
 - Identifying need for additional groundwater wells to better detect potential leachate release
- Surface Water
 - Conducting inspections and working with enforcement program to ensure leachate doesn't discharge to surface water
 - Collecting samples and directing landfill to collect samples of stormwater discharges from site
 - Investigating complaints of unauthorized discharges and taking follow up action as necessary
- Investigative Order
 - Issued on March 20, 2024 directing landfill to install three new groundwater monitoring wells and sample any and all discharges into or out of south sedimentation basin



Stormwater Discharge Point

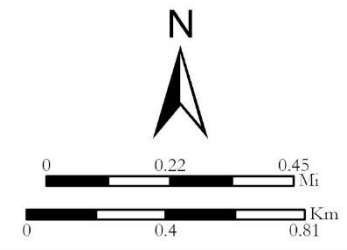
Downstream Sampling Point

Santa Clara River Reach 5



Map Legend:

- Green dots = Groundwater wells
- Red dots = Surface water sampling points
- Red Arrows = Flow of groundwater
- Blue Line = Tributary of Santa Clara River
- Red Dotted Line = Landfill boundary
- Green Line = Santa Clara River Reach 5





Agency Actions: US EPA Order

- Imminent and Substantial Endangerment Order issued on Feb. 21
- Objectives:
 1. Remedy off-site impacts (odors, emissions, leachate or other waste streams)
 2. Contain and reduce the subsurface reaction
- Requirements:
 - Immediately store, transport and dispose of leachate hazardous waste properly
 - Create and implement plans to address:
 - * leachate management * soil reaction break/barrier * install cover
 - * landfill slope stability * collection of temperature data * air monitoring
 - * prevent contamination of surface or groundwater
- Penalties for non-compliance with the Order

Current Focus: On-Scene Coordinators to Stabilize Site Conditions

- LA County, CalEPA, and USEPA have established a new Multi-Agency Coordination Group to stabilize the situation at the landfill
 - Experienced Local, State, and Federal On-Scene Coordinators
 - Daily engagement with landfill operator and its incident management team
 - Continuous coordination among Local, State, and Federal agencies
- Preliminary Objectives Include (subject to modification as conditions evolve):
 - Establish additional source, perimeter and community air monitoring
 - Characterize and manage leachate production, storage, treatment, and disposal
 - Ensure the stability of the impacted landfill cells and monitor changes in surface conditions
 - Ensure the community and stakeholders remain informed



Questions?