



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
25-A.		Favor	Brenda Bales	The Chiquita Landfill needs to be shutdown. It is spewing and leeching toxic fumes and cases into our environment harming our lives.
			Claudia Keymolent	Please close the landfill asap, and have them find a solution to the toxic air problem as soon as possible, thank you
			Dena Zinglewicz	Please shut down this putrid smelling landfill. Our most valuable asset is our home. We've been here going on 24 years and soon our homes won't be worth the price of the lots they sit on in Val Verde. Residents can't afford to move and pay taxes and mortgages on our homes, and rent somewhere else. It will be a financial disaster for many of us. Our health has suffered and continues to worsen. We can't enjoy our yards and gardens. The inside of our homes stink as well. This landfill was supposed to be closed in 2019. It keeps getting worse for Val Verde residents and now, surrounding communities as well.
			Karla Keymolent	I'm asking that, the Chiquita Canyon Landfill gets shut down. For the sake of the health of the community in Val Verde. I'm asking the board comes up with a quick solution.
			Layrie Ogan	E
			Mellisa Juarez	This landfill is causing terrible health issues for my husband, myself and my children. We experience nosebleeds, sore throats, headaches, dry eyes and dizziness. We also can not enjoy our backyard or workout in our home gym located in our garage on days that the stench is present. It literally takes our breath away. We have to run from our car, covering our nose and mouth to get inside as quickly as possible. This is no way to live and we demand that the city shuts down this toxic landfill that continues to ruin our lives.
			Princesa Chavez	Close the landfill!!!! It is affecting our quality of life and not allowing us to use our property without the stench of the landfill. We pay property taxes and can't even enjoy our property. Shut it down! I worry about the wellbeing of my family. My kids often have to stay indoors at school because the smell and air quality is so bad.
			Rocio Galeana	
			Sharon Padgett	Please SHUT IT DOWN. We need our fresh air back !!! We can't go outside without smelling the horrible smells from the landfill. H E L P !!!
			SHEILA LARSON	THE ODOR FROM THIS LANDFILL REACHES MY HOME ON A REGULAR BASIS. IT IS FOUL. NOT BEING ABLE TO GO OUTSIDE MY HOME AND HAVING TO RUN MY FURNACE FAN AS WELL IS AFFECTING MY ENTIRE LIFE. THIS SITUATION NEEDS TO BE FIXED IMMEDIATLY. MY HEALTH IS AT RISK ! MY PROPERTY VALUE IS BEING AFFECTED AS WELL AS MY SOCAL EDISON BILL IS HUGE. THE ODOR IS DISGUSTING.



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The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
25-A.		Oppose		
		Other	Abigail S DeSesa	As a 25 year tax paying resident of Val Verde Canyon, this is insulting. This will not save me one dime. This landfill, that you stated was a good business and approved them to expand, continues to violate my private property with their disgusting gases and chemicals killing my pets and making me sick. Clearly a ploy to get votes while doing absolutely nothing for the people who are most hurt by your choices. We are paying for your giant mistake. Hope you are proud of yourself!
			Christopher G Faber	This is an area of particular interest to me. Several times per week I am accosted by a foul odor when going outside of my home. While I enjoy fresh air I must keep all window closed to avoid the stench entering my home. This has impacted my quality of life. While I cannot be sure these issues are related, I and my family have experienced respiratory problems and headaches. I do not believe enough is being done to resolve the problems at the landfill and ask that immediate steps be taken to lessen the impact to the community.
			Elizabeth Jeffords	Stop the landfill from Gassing us! Whatever it takes to make me whole again. The air is unfit. Please Help.
			Jo E Faber	As a life long resident of SCV and the past 22 years in Castaic I can say for certain the odors have increased significantly over the past 5 years. I attended the recent meeting at COC and am concerned that there has been no testing of water. The air quality is getting worse and the smell affects my evening walks. Its embarrassing to have friends over when it smells outside. It's unsettling. My property value will certainly be affected. The landfill is the most logical problem. As far as I know steps to remediate these issues have not been taken. We ask for a fair and subjective review of the landfill and its negligence as relates to the ongoing issues in Hasley Hills and Castaic.



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25-A.		Other	Susan M Evans	<p>Now that it is time to vote, you are coming up with ways to make it look like you are helping us.</p> <p>We have lost a year or more of our lives because of the dump that you allowed to expand. Little Val Verde tried to tell you what would happen if you expanded it, but you didn't listen.</p> <p>How is this tax whatever going to help me, whose property taxes are paid in full already. We are on a fixed income and don't have extra funds to play this game you have created with the dump.</p> <p>Now it is more than just Val Verde, it is a large majority of the Castaic area; you are jumping in to claim to help us. Attorneys are coming out of the woodwork to get clients. Shame on you all!</p> <p>This little town has suffered enough and we have fought long and hard to stop what is happening now.</p> <p>Where were you a year ago when this started. NO WHERE TO BE FOUND. If I remember correctly you were suggesting it was all in our minds. Then more areas of Castaic start complaining and you made it out to look like you are helping us with an electricity reimbursement program (which I have not seen a dime yet) and the promise of new doors and window and replacement of swamp coolers to HVAC systems. When will that happen? When we are dead from the dump toxins?</p> <p>Everyone was Johnny o the spot to help Porter Ranch, but not us, We were yelling from the top of our lungs about the dump toxins and we were ignored for the more affluent neighborhood.</p> <p>While Val Verde is 100 years old and some of our residents have lived here for their entire lives, you are discriminating against this low income racially diverse small town. How dare you!</p>
		Item Total	15	

Katheryn Barger right her wrong.

I'm a resident of Hasley Hills and have been bedridden with debilitating headaches, nausea, vertigo, and ear pressure for over a year straight.

I have voiced my concern, frustration and need for immediate help to the BOS office many times and I've yet to see anything come of it.

I am sick, my pets are sick. We are prisoners in our own home and terrified of what's to come.

Doctors don't know what to diagnose or to prescribe. They've never seen my conditions before and can only offer sympathy and well wishes. No prescribed medication has helped. It's evident the medical professionals are aware there is a local health issue but have no clue as to how to treat it.

I've only received insincere sympathy from the BOS office and La County entities, tons of excuses and too many pointing of fingers in another direction.

It's been a cat and mouse game since I made the connection btwn my sudden illnesses and the Chiquita Canyon Landfill.

Since receiving their letter on my door step in August 2023, I have been painfully made aware that my basic human right to live and breathe in my own home was being denied.

The letter admitted to a Toxic Leak and verified my home address qualified for a free air purifier issued by the landfill.

The letter demanded a full address, name and phone number for registration. I found this to be intrusive and with a possible hidden agenda. Why had they not delivered the air purifier with the letter?

Earlier that morning (before seeing the letter) for the first time ever, I smelled it. I abruptly woke just before sunrise to the most foul chemically induced odor I've ever experienced in my life. We had slept every night with the bedroom windows wide open since purchasing our forever home and this day, the smell was so strong that I instinctively knew to get up and close the windows and patio door immediately.

While my family slept peacefully, I worried about what it could be but later shrugged it off as a one off event.

That day I learned of an entity called SCAQMD. Neighbors from all over had posted a phone number to call in the odor complaint. I was in shock!

The next day I drove all the way to West La just to get to the closest Dyson store.

I purchased a carbon air filter unit which cost me over \$1300.00.

The largest size they had only covered half my house.

Days later, barely able to breathe and certainly not well enough to drive to work, I crawled my way out of the house and headed down the hill to the fire station for the “free” air filter.

I was disappointed they were so tiny and only were meant for 300 sqft of enclosed space.

I have an open concept home @3400 sqft of living space. Why and how would I decide whose bedroom or bathroom would get it?

I asked for additional units and was denied.

“One per household”, is what I was told.

I placed my name on a list for the notification of the second wave.

Never received another notification from the landfill.

I did call the landfill myself several times and always got an out of state message taker. Never a call back.

Recently, through the advice of other community members, I decided to call the landfill again. I was extremely ill, I couldn't sleep and was at my wits end. I demanded a call back this time and I believe because I was in tears and had nothing to lose, I did get that call back.

I had a lengthy conversation with a woman named Nicole who stated she had no knowledge of anyone getting sick from the landfill, no employees were sick, and she repeatedly stressed “we are doing all things we were told to do”. The conversation wasn't going anywhere and actually taking a turn for the worse. It became evident to me that she had been coached into what and what not to say. I ended that call and vowed never to waste my time in calling back again.

Fast forward to today, I am reflecting on everything I've done or could've done.

I recycle, I reuse, I don't support fast fashion, I even compost!

I've been composting way before the city mandate and the issue of those hideous bins!

I am reflecting on the hundreds of hours of my precious life spent curled up in bed in tears thinking what have I done to deserve this?

“I just need to rest”, “tomorrow I will feel better”,

“I overdid it today in the garden”, “why did I think I could cut my own grass?”

“I shouldn't have eaten that salad, that must be why I have stomach pains and diarrhea every day?”

Every day for the past 2 years or more??! I've lost track of the last time I felt well.

The last time I smiled, laughed, was genuinely happy. I'm in a prison. It's very beautiful inside, but a prison nonetheless.

I've spent thousands of dollars on tests, medical professionals and medical bills, lotions and holistic approaches, herbs, home remedies, otc allergy meds, food eliminations, strict diets and insane limitations. My skin is inflamed. My blood is dirty.

Most days, I feel like I need to be on respirator, in a wheelchair, and a calming bath all at once.

It's criminal to find out I have been being poisoned by the landfill the entire time I thought I was "resting" at my home.

Not even during the mandatory lock down of the pandemic did I feel so trapped. My husband and I spent our entire life's savings to buy this home. I love it and the day we viewed it I told my husband, "If we buy this house, I will never ever ask you for anything ever again, not even a vacation!". Boy did I put my money where my mouth was. The irony.

I've never had any intention of leaving it until I found out about this landfill. Everything and everyone I love is inside my home already.

Now, leaving is the only thing I can think of.

I am forced to leave my home every single day just to breathe.

I must pack up my family including my pups and for a minimum of (5) hours a day, I have to ensure we are out of the immediate area.

Otherwise, we suffer from great physical consequences. My symptoms include: vomiting, coughing, burning eyes, blurred vision, excruciating ear pressure, nausea, bloody nose, skin irritation, hair loss, muscle weakness, disorientation, ringing in ears, swelling, weight gain, tremors, internal vibrations, teeth grinding, jaw locking, misalignment of jaw, sensation of being on a rocking boat, diarrhea, stomach cramping, chest pain, heart palpitations, trouble breathing, etc. I could go on forever.

My dogs suffer daily as well. I've seen the tremors so bad that their entire body lifts off the floor. The vertigo so bad they randomly walk sideways. There is also the obvious, not being able to be dogs! Their time outside is limited to 2 minutes per day. They are randomly vomiting out of nowhere and constantly have stomach issues no matter what they eat. In fact the vomiting is just clear liquid. They have difficulty breathing at night especially and the sneezing which is constant (day and night) is quite scary to observe. The violent sneezing is gives whip lash and averages between 5-8 in a row. My dogs weigh a combination of 11 lbs. combined; I have to rush to secure their necks during the sneezing attacks. They are 12 and 13 years old and lived with us for the same. Each day I fear may be the last. Every 52 days equals a full year in a dog's life. How many more years are you robbing from us? The vet that they've been going to since they were pups can't figure it out and all we get are expensive rounds of antibiotics that do not work.

I've run out places to go.

I've run out of money to get there.

I am suffering now from the anxiety of having to come back home every day.

I want my bed and the comforts of everything that makes my house a beautiful home BUT, I want it without the toxic air that hovers over it!

Katheryn Barger's office has received hundreds if not thousands of health reports and complaints from local residents over the years and she has done nothing about it. I know for a fact there are dozens just from me!

What alarms me the most about her is finding out that instead of shutting this landfill down when it was contracted to close, she approved for the expansion of it. She has done nothing to prevent unsuspecting young families from moving into this mess either.

This whole disaster could have been avoided if she and the other powers that be just obeyed the law.

There is no way Los Angeles County approved the expansion of the landfill or the massive amount of new building permits surrounding the landfill without her signature.

We now have an environmental disaster, and many people are now stuck with million dollar mortgages an astronomical property tax bill for a property they can't even be in.

You can't put a price on your health.

Our Health is our wealth and putting us in the middle of a known toxic environment, she is an accomplice of crime. Whether I paid \$200.00 or \$2million for my property, I deserve to be able to breathe in it!

Never In my wildest dreams would I have imagined I'd have to decide between my health, safety, well-being and the American dream.

Close the landfill. No more need for data checks or updates. We have enough sick people and those reports trump any other data reports you could doctor and water down. Chiquita will not take immediate action to fix the issues if they are operating at full capacity. Close it down at least temporarily until my headaches, nausea, tinnitus, tremors, fatigue and sicknesses stop!!!! Stop abusing your constituents and stop abusing our rights to breathe!

I need to get back to living my life, I need to get back to my work and I need to sleep peacefully in my own home.

-Elizabeth Jeffords