

Follow-up questions regarding recycling of artificial turf - MVRHS

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Mr. Huntress,

As you may be aware, in October 2020 I submitted testimony to the Martha's Vineyard Commission and Oak Bluffs Planning Board regarding recycling of artificial turf. In it I referred to several claims put forth in Huntress Associates (HAI) documents. I wanted to follow-up with some specific questions.

HAI's February 4, 2019 document, *"The Final Report from HAI for Martha's Vineyard High School Athletic Field Master Plan"* stated that an entire synthetic turf field could be recycled at a ReMatch recycling facility in Pennsylvania that was expected to be fully operational by 2019. However, according to ReMatch CEO Dennis Anderson, there was no ReMatch Turf Recycling facility actively under construction or operational in Pennsylvania at the time of the report.

Additional claims were then made in subsequent letters by HAI and Mr. Joe Fields, President of Tencate Grass / Greenfields Turf regarding a different company, Greenfields/GBN-AGR. However additional communications directly with GBN-AGR raised questions about the accuracy of the stated claims that the material can be shipped to the Netherlands for processing, that there is a GBN-AGR artificial turf recycling facility which will be online in the immediate future in the US, and that the plastic material is circularly recycled into the fibers for new fields.

The Martha's Vineyard Times has now reported on questions regarding these claims twice:

<https://www.mvtimes.com/2020/02/04/questions-raised-mvrhs-field-project/>

and

<https://www.mvtimes.com/2020/10/21/concerns-raised-feasibility-synthetic-turf-recycling/>

Several other news outlets have also recently covered the growing problems associated with the end-of-life disposal, and challenging “recycling” issues, surrounding artificial turf.

Therefore, I was interested to see in your presentation to the Martha’s Vineyard Commission on November 16, 2020 (see attached slide), a commitment to drafting a specification “that requires end of life recycling, including chain of custody certification for all products” and “100% closed loop recycling.” While specifications are one thing, real world examples are another.

Given the trouble we have had in identifying viable “100% closed loop recycling,” could you please share examples from other projects HAI has worked on that have been completely successfully recycled? Specifically, it would be helpful to see Certificates of Compliance including references to job name, site location, serial number of containers, date received at recycling plant, the location of the recycling plant, date processed into post-consumer products, as well as information about the post-consumer products.

Thank you,
Amanda Farber

