

4 February 2020

Mr. Adam Turner, Director
Martha's Vineyard Commission
PO Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Dear Mr. Turner,

I am writing to highlight Tencate Grass's commitment to recycling synthetic turf and to also explain why our newest product, Ironturf™ by Greenfields, can be considered a cradle-to-cradle recyclable product.

First, in May 2019 Tencate Grass announced our participation in a joint venture agreement with GBN, a leading European recycling company, to build a facility dedicated to completely recycling used synthetic turf from all sources. Construction of this facility began at the port of Amsterdam in the Netherlands last summer. Being located at the port enables us to receive turf from virtually any location in the world. This facility has the capacity to recycle 1,000 athletic fields per year and will be fully operational in April, 2020. Our recycling process will be monitored and certified by Kiwa, a third-party leader in that field in Europe.

For perspective, a typical 85,000 sq ft athletic field and the accompanying infill materials can be shipped to Amsterdam quite easily. So, we will have the capability to completely recycle any synthetic turf, from any source, anywhere in the world, this spring.

This is a link to a video that describes the recycling process: <https://youtu.be/rEmkXYLL0xg>

Second, we are very excited about the product that has been specified for your project, Ironturf™, by Greenfields. Our woven Ironturf™ is unique in that it is not only recyclable, as is other synthetic turf, but it affords us the opportunity to achieve a cradle-to-cradle certification where other turf products cannot reach this standard. Stated simply, our woven Ironturf™ is made of components that are all part of the polyolefin family and can therefore be re-pelletized and put back into the exact same production stream to create the fibers for new synthetic turf fields.

The Ironturf™ woven product is unique because it is mechanically bound together (think of a Persian rug), while all other turf products are tufted through a polyester backing material and then coated with polyurethane (think of a bathmat) creating a chemical bond. Since the woven Ironturf™ does not rely on a coating for its structural integrity, it requires no polyurethane coating and contains no polyester backing so the woven product, when recycled, produces a homogenous resin that can be used in making fibers for new synthetic turf fields. At present, only our woven turf can meet the demands of cradle to cradle certification. While tufted turf may be recycled and converted into resin pellets that can then be used in other

products (like plastic lumber, plastic injection molded pallets, etc.), the recycled resin from traditional tufted turf cannot be used in homogeneous products like the fibers used in producing new synthetic turf. To be clear, we have not yet achieved that cradle-to-cradle certification because none of our woven fields are close to end of life and we have not yet had the need to recycle one, but our aim is to achieve that certification.

Separately, not only does the woven product have the chemical makeup to achieve cradle-to-cradle recyclability certification, it is demonstrably stronger and is more durable than standard tufted synthetic turf (again the construction is the key and the aforementioned analogy between the Persian Rug and bathmat is applicable).

We can guarantee that ANY synthetic turf field that is installed at Martha's Vineyard can be recycled through our process at our new joint venture plant in the Netherlands and we are willing to provide chain-of-custody documentation at the time of removal. Furthermore, we are in the planning stages for a similar recycling facility in the US and we are confident that our US-based recycling facility will be on-line within the next 24 months.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Best Regards,



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Cc: Chris Huntress



North America

October 15, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Adam Turner
Martha's Vineyard Commission
PO Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Dear Mr. Turner,

We understand there has been some recent communication by others questioning the ability and commitment by TenCate Grass regarding recycling of our Ironturf™ Ultragreen at end of life. If you recall, I sent you a letter on February 4, 2020 outlining our commitment to recycling the turf installed at MVRHS, and why our newest product, Ironturf™ by Greenfields, can be considered a cradle to-cradle recyclable product. I have attached my original letter here for your reference and can proudly reiterate our commitment to recycle the Ironturf™ product should it be installed at MVRHS.

The following are several points that I would like to reiterate as you review the project:

The GBN facility, which opened in July of 2020, is now fully operational. Here is a recent video of the entire actual process: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dduzslZy7cQ>

1. The facility has the capacity to recycle 1,000 athletic fields per year and the recycling process is being monitored and certified by Kiwa, a third-party leader in that field in Europe.
2. Our woven Ironturf™ is unique in that it is not only recyclable, but it affords us the opportunity to achieve a cradle-to-cradle certification where other turf products cannot reach this standard. Stated simply, our woven Ironturf™ is made of components that are all part of the polyolefin family and can therefore be re-pelletized and put back into the exact same production stream to create the fibers for new synthetic turf fields.
3. Moreover, we can guarantee that ANY synthetic turf field installed at Martha's Vineyard Regional High School can be recycled through our process at our new joint venture plant in the Netherlands and are willing to provide chain-of-custody documentation at the time of removal. Furthermore, we are in the planning stages for a similar recycling facility in the US and are confident that our US-based recycling facility will be on-line within the next 24 months, which is likely a decade prior to when your turf will need recycling.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Best Regards,

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