

Re: Follow-up questions regarding recycling of artificial turf - MVRHS

Amanda Farber <amandafarber@hotmail.com>

Mon 1/4/2021 1:08 PM

To: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>

Cc: Oak Bluffs Planning Board <planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov>; Lucy Morrison <morrison@mvcommission.org>

Good Afternoon and Happy New Year,

I wanted to follow-up because I saw the document dated December 28, 2020 with responses to questions to the Commission. (<https://www.mvcommission.org/sites/default/files/docs/HAI-MVRHS-MVC%20Staff%20Q%26A%20122820.pdf>)

I noted that for Question 20 regarding end of life disposal, the answer did not include any real world examples from other Huntress Associate projects with chain of custody / certificates of compliance of 100% closed loop recycling (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). Is it possible for the Commission to ask for this information prior to the hearing?

Thank you,
Amanda Farber

From: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>

Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 5:06 PM

To: Amanda Farber <amandafarber@hotmail.com>; Chris Huntress <chris@huntressassociates.com>

Cc: boneill@vineyardconservation.org <boneill@vineyardconservation.org>; lucas@mvtimes.com <lucas@mvtimes.com>; islandclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com

<islandclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com>; thefieldfund@gmail.com <thefieldfund@gmail.com>;

ewellhopkins@mac.com <ewellhopkins@mac.com>; planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov

<planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov>; Lucy Morrison <morrison@mvcommission.org>

Subject: Re: Follow-up questions regarding recycling of artificial turf - MVRHS

Hi Amanda,

We received your letter dated 12/1 and have added it to the record. Just for background, public comment is generally not taken at the LUPC meetings, which are meant for commissioners to discuss the project and help the applicant prepare for the public hearing, at which there will be time for public comments. The question of recycling has been raised by MVC staff and commissioners, and we are working with the applicant to provide additional information ahead of the public hearing. I hope this is helpful.

Thanks,

Alex

Alex Elvin
Development of Regional Impact (DRI) Coordinator
Martha's Vineyard Commission
The Olde Stone Building
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Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
(413) 884-3289

From: Amanda Farber <amandafarber@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 4:07 PM

To: Chris Huntress

Cc: boneill@vineyardconservation.org; lucas@mvtimes.com; islandclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com; thefieldfund@gmail.com; ewellhopkins@mac.com; Alex Elvin; planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov; Lucy Morrison

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Thank you. I was under the impression that my questions were part of the public record as they were follow-up to my testimony and your most recent presentation, and I had included all of the relevant public officials on the email. To clarify, I would like to ensure that my questions are included in the next LUPC meeting. Mr. Turner and Mr. Hopkins please let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks again,
Amanda Farber

From: Chris Huntress <chris@huntressassociates.com>

Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 3:46 PM

To: Amanda Farber <amandafarber@hotmail.com>

Cc: boneill@vineyardconservation.org <boneill@vineyardconservation.org>; lucas@mvtimes.com <lucas@mvtimes.com>; islandclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com <islandclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com>; thefieldfund@gmail.com <thefieldfund@gmail.com>; ewellhopkins@mac.com <ewellhopkins@mac.com>; elvin@mvcommission.org <elvin@mvcommission.org>; planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov <planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov>; morrison@mvcommission.org <morrison@mvcommission.org>

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Ms. Farber, My request to have you redirect your questions to the MVC and OB Planning Board were intended to allow your questions and our reply to become part of the permanent public record. I am not refusing to answer the question, I am asking that you respect the process of the MVC and OB Planning Board review. I am happy to review your questions once they have been forwarded by the proper permitting authorities. Thanks.

Chris
Christian C. Huntress, RLA
President

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From: Amanda Farber <amandafarber@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:41 PM
To: Chris Huntress <chris@huntressassociates.com>
Cc: boneill@vineyardconservation.org; lucas@mvtimes.com; islandclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com; thefieldfund@gmail.com; ewellhopkins@mac.com; elvin@mvcommission.org; planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov; morrison@mvcommission.org
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Mr. Huntress,

Thank you for your response. I don't believe that it is appropriate to ask the commission or planning board to answer straightforward questions regarding your projects or claims in your presentation. As the industry professional, I would expect you to have that information.

Thank you,
Amanda Farber

From: Chris Huntress <chris@huntressassociates.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 1:38 PM
To: Amanda Farber <amandafarber@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: Follow-up questions regarding recycling of artificial turf - MVRHS

Ms. Farber, your questions should be directed to the permitting authorities at the MVC and/or Oak Bluffs Planning Board.
Thank you for your interest.

Chris
Christian C. Huntress, RLA
President

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From: Amanda Farber <amandafarber@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 1:32 PM
To: Chris Huntress <chris@huntressassociates.com>
Cc: boneill@vineyardconservation.org; lucas@mvtimes.com; islandclimateactionnetwork@gmail.com; thefieldfund@gmail.com; ewellhopkins@mac.com; elvin@mvcommission.org; planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov; morrison@mvcommission.org
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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