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From: michael scott
Sent: 24 March 2016 15:05
To: DPD
Subject: Fwd: Solar PV Proposals

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From: michael scott
Subject: **Solar PV Proposals**
Date: 24 March 2016 14:55:36 GMT
To: planningrepresentations@middevon.gov.uk

Please find the attached comments from CPRE Mid Devon relating to the Solar PV Installations.

Michael Scott
Spokesperson for CPRE Mid Devon

24th March 2016

**Solar PV Proposals
Draft Supplementary Planning Document**

There is no government directive for local councils to identify areas suitable for development of Solar PV Proposals. Mid Devon is alone in doing this and is on their own initiative and there is no requirement in the NPPF to do so.

Mid Devon has already more than met its obligation on renewable energy installations and no more are required in this area.

Mid Devon is typified by rolling hills with deep valleys leading to rivers and streams interspersed with small copses, woodland and farms and is very largely unspoiled. Much of the area is designated of medium to high sensitivity to Solar PV installations. One such valley designated to be of med./high sensitivity has already been given planning permission for a large scale Solar PV installation (13.4 hectares); which was to have been promoted as An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with the obvious benefits to the major industry of tourism and the well being of residents.

The residents of Mid Devon have shown consistently that they do not want any more of these unsightly installations. The Planning Practice Guidance states that "the views of local communities likely to be affected should be listened to" and not ignored. This guidance has largely been ignored by the planners in Mid Devon and local residents have not been listened to. The targets set out by the Government for renewable energy installations have already been met in this area and these targets are not based on sound scientific evidence but on Politics. Both large and small developments have an accumulative fragmented effect on this beautiful area.

CPRE Mid Devon has no objection to Solar PV installations on the roofs of houses, offices and factories and subject to planning considerations would largely support them in such situations. It emphatically opposes them on farm land. Farm land is for growing food. (Amber Rudd). CPRE Mid Devon state that there are no suitable areas for further development of Solar PV installations on farm land in Mid Devon.

Michael Scott
Spokesperson for CPRE Mid Devon