

Combe Parish Council's main concerns:

1. The potential loss of good quality agricultural land raises grave concerns for domestic food production and food security.
2. The British Energy Security Strategy indicates that greenfield sites should be avoided and that only lower quality agricultural land should be used for solar panels. Yet all the affected land seems to be provisionally classified as Grade 3 (good quality) in the scoping report, except for a small area around Farmoor.
3. What reassurances can be given that the developer, or any subsequent owner of these sites, will undertake the costly removal of contaminants so that the land can revert to agricultural use?
4. There are far better, environmentally sensitive, alternatives to large scale ground mounted solar panels available, including the use of modern solar panels on domestic and industrial roof tops, brownfield sites, carparks etc.
5. Where is the evidence that biodiversity will be enhanced, as claimed in the scoping report?
6. The scoping report acknowledges that Combe lies in a 'zone of theoretical visibility'. The highly prized views in and around Combe (see Combe's Village Design Statement) will thus be compromised.