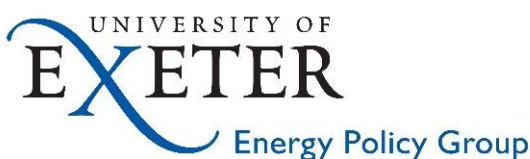


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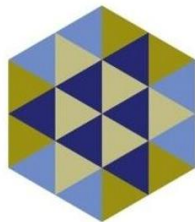
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Dear Secretary of State

Don't take power away from the people

We are deeply concerned by plans to effectively end support for renewables through the Feed in Tariff and call on you to urgently reconsider these proposals.

If the current proposals are implemented, analysis based on your Department's figures shows more than 20,000 people could lose their jobs in pioneering renewable energy companies. Your own analysis shows nearly a million fewer homeowners, social housing providers, businesses, community groups, local authorities and farmers will be able to join the "solar revolution" you called for just four months ago.

While we accept that subsidies for technologies cannot go on indefinitely, it is absolutely essential that changes to Government policy are taken with appropriate consultation with stakeholders in order to retain investor confidence and to allow for a smooth, stable transition towards grid-parity.

78% of the British public want Government to enable investment in local renewables. The published proposals do the opposite.

It is vital to engage society meaningfully in making the shift to a low carbon system. As your own consultation recently said, "a key objective of the FIT scheme is to give people a direct stake in moving to a low carbon economy." The impressive momentum achieved by diverse communities to date must be accelerated, not curtailed, particularly as we head towards the crucial climate talks in Paris.

We urge you to meet with us and discuss how your concerns about value for money can be addressed by supporting a thriving local renewables industry in the UK.