



Minerals Plan Examination Comments from CPRE Somerset August 2014

Matter 11: Safeguarding Minerals and Minerals Facilities

2. Bearing in mind that economic viability will change over time, why are the minerals (apart from coal) identified in the chapter on “Other Minerals” (clays, gypsum, barytes, iron, lead, salt) not proposed to be safeguarded?

IN ADDITION, ARE OIL AND GAS SITES TO BE SAFEGUARDED?

3. Why is coal treated differently to these “Other Minerals” by being safeguarded?

IS IT COAL BED METHANE PRODUCTION OR IS IT LAND STABILITY THAT ARE THE REASON FOR SAFEGUARDING?

6. Would a suitable alternative be a buffer beyond the MSA resource?

NO. THE MSA IS A BUFFER.

14. Does reference to “temporary planning permission” within the “Exemption list” need further clarification as to what would be considered to be “temporary”. Often wind farms or solar panel farms are considered temporary despite being given planning permission for in the order of 25 to 30 years. Is it envisaged that such a long timescales will be classed as “temporary”? If so, is this appropriate?

NO NOT ‘TEMPORARY’. TWENTY-FIVE YEARS IS A GENERATION

19. Overall, are the MSAs for minerals and facilities the most suitable in location and extent?

OVERALL THE MSA PROVISIONS ARE NOT APPROPRIATE. MAP 9 IS TOO SMALL SCALE TO BE READABLE FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION; THE CURRENT MINERALS PLAN SHOWS MSAs ROUND EACH QUARRY.