

Transcript of an interview given by the Minister for Energy and Climate Change - Rt Hon Greg Barker in April 2013

"The Solar Industry is very fortunate - it enjoys very high public support levels, I think its 82% in a technical satisfaction survey.



However, that could all slip away if there are too many irresponsible large-scale developments and by irresponsible I mean developments on prime agricultural land that also impact on visual amenity. Here in Cornwall there is a very good example where you need to be more responsible.

So it's really important that the industry drives forward to an ambitious level of employment focusing on on-site generation, brown field, degraded soil industrial sites. There are lots of opportunities, the Bentley site for example, which has just had a 3 megawatts I think it is on the roof, down here in Cornwall they are on an old tin mine, a very large deployment on a very appropriate site and where they are on farmland they need to take appropriate mitigation measures.

I think if we do that, responsibly, then actually we can take that public support with us and we mustn't underestimate how important that public support for renewable technologies is."