

I will concentrate my remarks on the ecology. But I preface this by saying that overall two things are striking.

1. There has been a remarkable lack of professionalism by Rampion in dealing with all issues that affect this proposed route to the National Grid.
2. There was a serious lack of consultation by Rampion with the people of Cowfold at the early important stage.

The Ecology

Windfarms contribute to green energy and to combatting manmade climate change. But this must not be at the expense of the preservation of the best of our much depleted nature. Therefore, in choosing routes for the cable, Rampion must choose the least environmentally damaging option.

The highly professional survey by [REDACTED] demonstrates the damage to nature that will follow the creation of the proposed route. The cable and construction process will destroy indefinitely one of the remaining very special areas (mainly around Cratemans Farm and beyond.) This area is important for trees, hedgerows, wildlife, flowers and rare birds such as Nightingales. A former chairman of the Countrywide Commission that it is very rare to have such good conditions for nature so near to London. Rampion has not handled this issue seriously or professionally.