



---

## THE CFFO ON THE USE OF PRIME FARMLAND IN ONTARIO FOR GREEN ENERGY PROJECTS

---

**Whereas** there is a finite amount of prime agricultural land in Ontario

**Whereas** the Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario (CFFO) has called for a halt to urban development in prime agricultural land

**Whereas** the CFFO has a long-standing history of supporting very limited severance of prime agricultural land

**Whereas** the government of Ontario has put in place feed-in tariffs that encourage the development of green energy projects in order to meet its renewable energy goals

**Whereas** feed-in tariffs will impact land use decisions on the part of farmers and land owners, with the possible result of prime agricultural land being used for renewable energy projects

**Whereas** not all forms of renewable energy production have the same impact on prime agricultural land

**Whereas** Government policy should include safeguards against unintended consequences

### **Therefore be it Resolved**

**That** the regulations developed around the Green Energy Act restrict the large scale development of solar energy projects to Class 4-7 Agricultural land. Small scale projects in Class 1-3 Agricultural land should be limited to one acre in size.

**That** solar projects in prime agricultural areas be allowed on roof tops of new and existing buildings

**That** wind energy projects on class 1, 2, and 3 farmland be restricted in size to 10 megawatts in size.

**That** bio-digesters built as an addition to an existing operation be allowed on any class of farmland. However, 50% of the material used in the digester on an annual basis needs to be from agricultural waste.

*Adopted by CFFO Provincial Council  
October 28, 2009*