From:
To:
A303 Stonehenge

Subject: Redetermination of A303 Stonehenge scheme

Date: 10 March 2022 15:59:08

Dear Secretary of State for Transport

It is with deep concern that I am writing to you with my thoughts on the proposed Stonehenge road/tunnel scheme.

I am at a loss as to why the significance and importance of this very unique monument does not seem to be properly considered and addressed. We must consider the surrounding ancient landscape of which Stonehenge is an obvious part of. Adding to the existing road in any form will obliterate much undiscovered knowledge of the site and not only rob future generations of the chance to make these discoveries but to admire it in its present setting.

A tunnel would not make a significant difference to traffic jams unless the rest of the A303 is widened further west. It would be a false exercise at the expense of the Stonehenge landscape which we cannot allow to happen. May I suggest a detour - an alternative route away from this site, heading south:

- 1) come off the Amesbury Bypass onto the A345 toward Salisbury;
- 2) from High Post to Upper Woodford, widen road where necessary;
- 3) build a road to connect to the A360 (or widen existing one).

Why does the Government have to encourage busier road traffic when it should be investing in less polluting forms of transportation? Surely this question is more relevant than ever in light of our changing climate and imposing economic problems. We also cannot keep bowing down to road users with what would be relatively short-term measures of traffic calming. Or is the answer to build and widen many more existing roads only for them to fill up as well? Such short-sightedness. What about the traffic jams in Lyndhurst? Build a dual carriageway through the New Forest? Unthinkable? Well so should building a tunnel near Stonehenge.

My opinion of Government decisions and its loss of focus on issues that really matter is waning.

Please don't let this be another nail in the coffin for a Government that really needs to resolve matters like Stonehenge by thinking laterally and outside of the box.

Yours faithfully

Belinda LOPEZ

Dorset