Dear Sir or Madam,

I write in response to the National Highways submissions to the Secretary of State for Transport as input to his new decision on the Stonehenge road scheme.

The submissions are complex, lengthy and difficult for the layperson to absorb. However I should like to make some general points as follows:

- 1. Any new Stonehenge road scheme would increase emissions, both during construction and once in use. This is at a time when climate change is an increasing concern, and as stipulated by the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, emissions need to be decreased as rapidly as possible.
- 2. The Environment Act 2021 sets new ambitions around nature recovery which, again, a new road scheme would act against rather than support.
- 3. National Highways has not updated the carbon assessment or costs for the scheme.
- 4. National Highways has not acknowledged that the Secretary of State found the Scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would be "significantly adverse".
- 5. National Highways has not updated the construction costs of the scheme, despite the rapid inflation which is now taking place.
- 6. National Highways does not appear to have fully assessed alternative routes less damaging to the World Heritage Site, for instance a southern bypass route or a longer tunnel.

I trust you will be able to take my concerns into account.

Yours faithfully,

Dr S C O'Hare

