From:
To: A303 Stonehenge

**Subject:** Redetermination of A303 Stonehenge scheme

**Date:** 09 March 2022 12:41:33

Dear Secretary of State for Transport and Planning Inspecorate,

Stonehenge has been on this site for an estimated 5,000 years. It is, unsurprisingly, a World Heritage Site and is known throughout the world as a site of particular interest and a place to visit when in the UK. It is unique.

The whole of the Salisbury Plain has similar signs of stone age human activity and their many archaeological digs in progress. The full understanding of Stonehenge and its interaction with other sites of archaeological exploration is still lacking. There are such sites, some known and others yet to be discovered, very close to Stonehenge. In recent years the A303 road has come to our attention due to traffic congestion in the approach roads. The "recent years" are but a tiny amount in terms of the existence of Stonehenge. Cars are a convenient form of transport but, in my view, are too highly considered in our country, and the car lobby is too powerful.

The proposed development at Stonehenge, whichever one is considered, will endanger other nearby archaeological sites, including those yet to be discovered, and so limit our understanding of this precious, worldwide renowned monument. Digging underneath and near to Stonehenge must be prohibited for all the future. The thousands of years that it has existed stretch back in time to an ill-understood part of human history. Cars, on the other hand, have been around for about 120 years, and will, quite probably, exist in their present form for only another 30 years. Traffic congestion is one of the faults of our mechanised society, and it is self-limiting: diminishing space on all our roads will discourage further cars to arrive. It is not the ability to drive along roads that we are talking about, it is merely the time it may or may not take that is at stake. The impatient nature of our society.

I believe that the A303 should not be developed at all at this site: a few cars waiting 20 minutes or so should not be the loudest voice. The area must be left alone. I am a frequent user of this road and the hold up is rarely very bad and gives those sitting in their cars a time to reflect on the powerful message that Stonehenge gives out.

Yours sincerely,

Nigel Sellwood.