From:
To:
A303 Stonehenge
Subject:
Stonehenge road scheme
Date:
28 March 2022 12:31:19

Dear Planning Inspectorate,

I write regarding the Secretary of State for Transport's intent to make a new decision on the Stonehenge road scheme, for which he has asked National Highways for responses about five matters he wishes to consider: Alternatives, Policy, Carbon, Environmental Information and Any Other Matters

Overall, I note that since the Examination closed, concern for climate change has increased with the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, which indicates the need to take urgent action to reduce emissions, not increase them - as any new Stonehenge road scheme would.

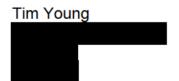
Specifically, I note that National Highways has not made any changes to the Scheme to take the 2021 World Heritage Committee Decision_into account. Its response has not updated the scheme, neither its construction costs nor the carbon assessment and costs. Tellingly, the NH has not acknowledged that the Secretary of State found the Scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would be "significantly adverse".

A proper, full response to the Secretary of State would have fully assessed alternative routes that would be less damaging to the World Heritage Site, for example a southern bypass route that would be cheaper (even if there might be some problems with it), while a longer tunnel would reduce impact on the World Heritage Site.

A full response would have also explored possible alternatives to hard engineering solutions in the context of safeguarding and enhancing the World Heritage Site, for example a package of measures to reduce road traffic, road emissions and improve access to the South West

I hope you will take these comments into account and reject the scheme..

Yours sincerely,



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