From:
To:
A303 Stonehenge

Subject: Stonehenge World Heritage Site / Comments

Date: 31 March 2022 04:24:28

Dear Secretary of State for Transport,

The Stonehenge World Heritage Site has great significance as a sacred site to the constituency served by the Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center in California, USA, and, as you are aware, to people from all over the world. Even those of us who don't live in the UK need to know it is being safeguarded and preserved in its integrity.

We are extremely concerned about the proposed road scheme, A303. This dual carriageway would gouge deep cuts into the landscape, thus threatening Stonehenge, and its associated sacred sites. The road would likely disturb archaeological sites and other sacred material.

The plan for this road would result in the World Heritage Committee demoting Stonehenge from the World Heritage List to the World Heritage List of Sites in Danger.

We understand that this is not inevitable, if action is taken to adopt an alternative route. It seems a southern bypass road would be less expensive and would reduce the impact on the World Heritage Site. Even if this alternative might have some problems, a longer tunnel with better engineering would reduce the impact on Stonehenge.

Other alternatives should also be explored such as, reducing road traffic, road emissions and improved access to the South West. Such measures would help address concern about climate change as expressed in the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Additionally, the Environmental Act 2021, establishes clear statutory targets for the recovery of the natural world. A303 as it now stands does not adequately take into account the road scheme's impact on air quality, biodiversity, water and waste. The Environmental Act of 2021 includes new targets to reverse the decline of species abundance by 2030 and A303 does not consider this adequately.

We implore you to act boldly and comprehensively on issues raised in the Environmental Act of 2021 and to ideas expressed in the latest

Intergovernmental Plan on Climate Change. The A303 road plan does not do so! Please consider and act upon alternative road plans!

Sincerely,
Michelle Berditschevsky
Michelle Berditschevsky, Founder/Environmental Consultant