


From: 
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: Considerations on the review of the road widening scheme of the A303 near Stonehenge
Date: 03 April 2022 22:19:16

Dear Sirs,

I humbly suggest a few comments on the road widening scheme of the A303 near Stonehenge.

These matters have not been addressed by National Highways

After the last examination on the road widening, the nature of the World Heritage Committee decision has not been fully considered. This unique site may well be added to the World Heritage in Danger list if the scheme goes ahead as it is. Stonehenge is of considerable historical significance; many consider it is also spiritually of great import on a worldwide scale, which Druids and others acknowledge. Any road widening will impact upon the sites of archaeological interest in the area, known and as yet unknown which lie beneath the surface, but others also fear danger to the more subtle wealth of the area. Its listing as being in danger by UNESCO would be a great fall from grace for this country and would cause outrage to historians and people of faith. People across the world are aghast that the government is considering putting this precious heritage site in such danger on so many levels.

I am sure measures can be taken in the locality to reduce emissions and the volume of traffic. I have travelled that road a few times and indeed it is slow and narrow to pass along, even if the sighting of Stonehenge is rather wonderful. Alternatives to the proposed scheme could be considered, like a bypass to the south which might be cheaper, a longer tunnel might reduce the impact on the site but again might disturb too much of historical archaeology.

The Secretary of State found the scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would be 'significantly adverse', well I agree, as stated here.

National Highways has also not updated the scheme construction costs, nor the carbon assessment and costs. Many things have changed in the past couple of years, including increased awareness of climate change and how urgent it is now, and thus it is vital to reduce emissions and not increase them as any Stonehenge road widening scheme would. Now fuel costs are going to come into the calculations, both for travellers and construction workers.

The recovery of nature is urgent in the bid to repair the damage humans do to the environment as cited in the Environment Act 2021, and as urged by COP 26 held last year in Glasgow. Time is really running out where the need is to restore nature and reduce the impact of man and technology. The less disturbance the better.

Please could there be a re-examination of Development Consent Order. New information since the examination closed in October 2019, UNESCO's position and the omission on current cost estimates are very compelling grounds for a re-examination by an independent panel before the secretary of state re-determines an application for a Development Consent Order for the same road scheme.

With many thanks for your consideration,

Judith Bruni,

