

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: The A303 Stonehenge road widening scheme
Date: 04 April 2022 12:27:56

Sirs,

The proposed new dual carriageway would cut deep into an internationally acclaimed archaeological landscape, threatening the very status of the World Heritage Site. I am aware that the Stonehenge Alliance, and its expert advisers, are preparing a full technical reply to the National Highways' response to the Secretary of State for Transport on the five matters he wishes to consider (ie. Alternatives, Policy, Carbon, Environmental Information and Any Other Matters). I am responding as a member of the public.

I understand that National Highways has not:-

- made any changes to the Scheme to take the 2021 World Heritage Committee Decision into account, despite acknowledging that the Secretary of State found the Scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would be "significantly adverse";
- only looked at hard engineering solutions for safeguarding and enhancing the World Heritage Site but has not explored alternatives such as measures to reduce road traffic, road emissions and improve access to the South West;
- fully assessed alternative routes less damaging to the World Heritage Site e.g., a southern bypass route would be cheaper even if there might be some problems with it, while a longer tunnel would reduce impact on the World Heritage Site;
- updated the scheme construction costs;
- updated the carbon assessment and costs.

Since the Examination closed concern for climate change has increased with the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report and the need to take urgent action to reduce emissions, not increase them as any new Stonehenge road scheme would. Also, the Environment Act 2021 sets new ambitions around nature recovery.

I am not alone in thinking that the omission of a carbon assessment and current construction cost estimates, UNESCO's position and new information since the Examination closed in October 2019 are compelling grounds for a re-examination by an independent panel BEFORE the Secretary of State redetermines an application for a DCO for the very same road scheme.

Regards.

Alan Falconer

