



3rd April 2022

Stonehenge Planning Inspectorate

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the proposed new dual carriageway at Stonehenge. I know the current road can become very congested at times, particularly during the holiday season, but thought and consideration **MUST** be put into what to do. Stonehenge is unique and acknowledged as a World Heritage site. Therefore, it must be preserved – and a dual carriageway will not do this. There is also a lot of underground heritage which would be lost were a dual carriageway be built over the top and I do not think that enough thought has been put into this scheme.

It is also a spiritual site and a dual carriageway there would detract from this.

As an internationally acclaimed archaeological landscape, the new dual carriageway would gouge deep cuttings into this, not only threatening the status of this World Heritage site, but would ruin it and we would lose it for all time.

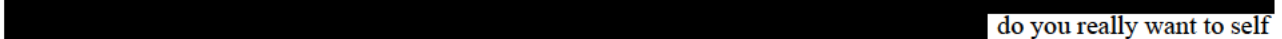
National Highways has not:-

1. Acknowledged that the Secretary of State found the Scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would be "significantly adverse"
2. Made any changes to the Scheme to take the 2021 World Heritage Committee *Decision* into account
3. Explored 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. Further, they have not updated the scheme construction costs; nor updated the carbon assessment and costs since the Examination closed.
4. Fully assessed alternative routes less damaging to the World Heritage Site – for example, a southern bypass route would be cheaper (or will you ignore this!) even if there might be some problems with it, while a longer tunnel would reduce impact on the World Heritage Site.
5. Also, the Environment Act 2021 sets new ambitions around nature recovery.

Will you please examine the Development and Consent Order?

The omission current cost estimates, UNESCO's position and new information since the Examination closed in October 2019 are, to me, compelling grounds for a re-examination by an independent panel **before** the Secretary of State redetermines an application for a DCO for that same road scheme.

I may not be a registered "Interested Party". However, I am a British subject living in the South West and as such I care about our heritage and would like to see it preserved for all time.

 do you really want to self destruct our own heritage and monuments, or will you put a lot more thought and effort into taking care of this special monument that is Stonehenge?

I trust you will take my thoughts into account.

Yours faithfully,

H.J.M. Lester (Mrs)