

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: Stonehenge A303 Road Development Plan - Redetermination Consultation
Date: 04 April 2022 15:44:58

Dear Secretary of State for Transport,

STONEHENGE A303 ROAD DEVELOPMENT PLAN - REDETERMINATION CONSULTATION

I write to comment on several points about National Highway's response the Matters that you wish to consider.

1. World Heritage Site Listing

The Examining Authority appointed by the Planning Inspectorate, considered the plan over 6 months, and concluded that "...the effects of the Proposed Development on WHS OUV and the historic environment as a whole would be significantly adverse. Irreversible harm would occur, affecting the criteria for which the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated World Heritage Site was inscribed on the World Heritage List."

The scheme goes against the advice of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee, and in 2021 they confirmed that if the development were to go ahead, the property warrants the inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

National Highways in their responses on matters has not acknowledged these points, or taken account of it.

2. Transport and Climate Change

To be investing in large road developments at this time of climate crisis is wrong, given the government's stated commitment to Net Zero by 2050, and the objectives of the Environment Act 2021. Transport experts have examined the outcome of the development and say that it merely pushes the traffic problems further down the line, and only a short distance; it will not solve the congestion problems that exist in this area.

National Highways have not fully assessed alternative routes that would impact the site less, nor has it updated the carbon impact.

3. Costs

National Highways have not updated their construction costs.

Conclusion

The arguments against this wide-reaching and destructive development are many and the plan has met wide opposition from all areas of interest, from heritage and archaeological as well as general public concern for this most cherished ancient site. Hundreds of thousands have signed a petition against the plan, from both here in the UK and across the world.

I believe that the claimed economic, environmental and so-called protective benefits of the development do not stand up to examination.

To carry out such a large scale development in this sensitive and

hugely important World Heritage Site would be gross mismanagement of our national historical heritage. The people of the UK are immensely proud of Stonehenge as part of our own ancient history, and as a site of world importance. It is of incalculable value as an archaeological and historical site (over the whole of its WHS extent, many parts of which are yet to be excavated).

I urge you to set up an independent panel to review the plan before re-determining the DCO, and move to ensure the protected future of this world class heritage site, to which the UK has a huge responsibility as custodian.

Yours sincerely,

Lindsay Wakeman

