From:
To:
A303 Stonehenge

Subject: Objections to road widening scheme

Date: 04 April 2022 11:25:24

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to lodge my objections to the proposed changes to the A303, as part of the consultation closing today. I wish to ask for a re-examination of the Development Consent Order. I am astonished that National Highways is still persisting with a scheme that will be so damaging to a UNESCO World Heritage Site, AND which encouraged use of cars rather than alternative, more eco-friendly transport.

My specific objections are as follows:

- I understand that National Highways has failed to make any changes to the proposals in response to the 2021 announcement by the World Heritage Committee that if the scheme goes ahead, Stonehenge would be added to their List of World Heritage in Danger
- Neither have they acknowledged the Secretary of State's findings that the proposed western cutting area would have a "significantly adverse" impact
- Nor have they published updated figures on carbon costs or construction costs, nor
 fully assessed either alternative routes or alternative modes of transport these last
 omissions seem particularly extraordinary, as how can a project of such expense and
 impact be considered without showing a full and thorough analysis of ALL possible
 options and their pros and cons?
- The environmental implications have only been heightened by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report, underlining the urgent need to reduce fossil fuel emissions; and the UK Government's own targets on this are ambitious and have been criticised recently for being unlikely to succeed at the present rate of action, while the Environment Act which went into law in 2021 also sets ambitious priorities for nature recovery. It seems nonsensical in the extreme to embark on a significant road-widening project under these circumstances, and suggests a distressing lack of forethought or imagination on the part of National Highways.

Please institute a re-examination of the DCO by an independent panel, as requested by the Stonehenge Alliance campaign, before the Secretary of State redetermines an application for a substantially unchanged proposal.

Thankyou very much for your time and efforts. Best wishes,

