

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: request for comments on the A303 proposed works near Stonehenge
Date: 03 April 2022 12:31:46

Grant Shapps, M.P.
Minister of State for Transport

Dear Mr. Shapps,

I am somewhat amazed as well as horrified that the tunnel scheme on the A303 near Stonehenge is still being considered. How selfish and short-sighted can our society become? This is a landscape of worldwide importance and renown, and our understanding of the monument is not only incomplete but has evolved significantly in recent years, through a better understanding of how it related to other sites in the local area. This means that the whole area is of potentially great significance and it is highly likely that priceless information would be destroyed by the excavation involved in the planned development. This is quite apart from its huge, deleterious impact upon the character of the area - utterly different from the (literally and figuratively) superficial nature of a relatively narrow road.

This project is being considered in the context of the realisation that our means of transporting goods is going to have to change and become much more environmentally responsible. To risk damage to a priceless environment as a way of easing current occasional congestion seems to me such an absurdly irresponsible action that no one could entertain it. I have used the A303 myself regularly when travelling to or from Europe from my Cornish home (itself a listed building) and I have never encountered significant congestion, often none at all. I can well imagine that even in as little as 15 years time we might be moving goods a lot more by airship for example, not to mention cleaner existing alternatives such as rail. I am not at all convinced of the necessity of the development, and certainly not of the existing proposal.

You have asked for alternative solutions, including those not involving changes to the infrastructure around the monument, and instead National Highways have submitted an essentially unchanged proposal.

Given the many negative assessments already made of this scheme by informed and expert bodies, I feel very strongly that the whole question should be re-examined, by an independent panel taking serious account of all submissions and a more imaginative and responsible attitude to alternatives.

You have a responsibility to future generations and to the world community. Please exercise it.

Yours,
David Edwards

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