

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: A303 Stonehenge road widening scheme
Date: 03 April 2022 10:21:24

Dear Grant Shapps,

I was disappointed to say the least to see National Highways' response to the five matters you wished for it to consider in the above scheme. In addition, both the latest IPCC report on climate change and the Environment Act 2021 have set this scheme in a very different context.

It seems to me that for the National Highways response to have credence, it needs to make changes to the Scheme to take the 2021 World Heritage Committee [Decision](#) into account, to acknowledge that the Secretary of State found the Scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would be "significantly adverse", to fully assess 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; to explore alternatives to hard engineering solutions in the context of safeguarding and enhancing the World Heritage Site – e.g. a package of measures to reduce road traffic, road emissions and improve access to the South West; and to update both the scheme construction costs and the carbon assessment and costs. So until these things are done I would urge you to shelve the current plan.

Any responses and/or revised plans need, too, to be clear as to how the latest data on the need for carbon reduction and 'net zero' are being considered, and how the latest requirements for nature recovery as set out in the 2021 Environment Act are being fulfilled.

In the absence of these changes, I don't see how the Secretary of State can realistically redetermine an application for a DCO for this scheme. And the obvious way to bring about these changes is for there to be a re-examination by an independent panel, which I would urge you put in place.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours,

Gary Grief

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