From:
To:
A303 Stonehenge

Subject: PLEASE READ THIS OBJECTION

Date: 03 April 2022 09:31:12

3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2022

**Dear Grant Schapps** 

I am writing to add my voice to the widespread public concern over your decision to re-open the decision made on the A303 around the unique archaeological site around Stonehenge.

It appears that National Highways has not made any changes to the scheme to take the 2021 World Heritage Committee decision into account. It has not acknowledged that the Secretary of State found the Scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would have a 'SIGNIFICANTLY ADVERSE' effect on the site. National Highways has not fully assessed alternative routes less damaging to the World Heritage Site e.g. a southern bypass route, which would be cheaper, or the preferred solution of a longer tunnel. Alternatives to hard engineering solutions have not been explored e.g. a package of measures to reduce road traffic, road emissions and improve access to the South West. Scheme construction costs have not been updated, nor have Natioal Highways updated carbon assessment and costs.

Other changes have occurred since the Examination closed. Concern for climate change has increased with the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report and the need to take urgent action to reduce emissions rather than increase them, as the new Stonehenge road scheme undoubtedly would. Also, the Environment Act 2021 sets new ambitions around nature recovery.

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

Yours sincerely,

Liza Catan