From:
To:
A303 Stoneheng

Subject: Objection to proposed National Highways development of A303

Date: 02 April 2022 11:56:47

Dear Sir/Madam,

I trust that my objection to this 'revised' proposal will be added to the number presented to the Secretary of State for Transport, Grant Shapps.

I do not see that the latest presentation of the scheme has addressed the Secretary of State's comment that the western cutting area would be 'significantly adverse'. It would also seem that there has been no real assessment of alternative routes that would be less damaging to this World Heritage Site. Furthermore, the Heritage Committee Decision of 2021 that Stonehenge is on the World Heritage in Danger list, does not seem to have been taken into account in this 'updated' scheme.

Has National Highways really explored alternatives to the hard engineering solution? It would seem not. Where is the evidence of safe-guarding and enhancing Stonehenge? Where are the plans to reduce road traffic (and, thus, emissions) and improve access to the South West? Where is an update to construction costs? Not to mention the costs of the impact of carbon emissions on this designated World Heritage Site.

Since the examination closed (2019), concern for climate change has significantly increased. The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report shows this, so the country needs to take urgent action to reduce emissions, not increase them as any new Stonehenge road scheme would. Besides which, the 2021 Environment Act sets new ambitions around nature recovery. Surely this applies significantly to Salisbury Plain?

For all of the above reasons, I earnestly request that the Development Consent Order is re-examined by an independent panel, untarnished by the examination held in October 2019 (since when new information has come to light), before The Secretary of State consents to an application that is, in effect, the same one that was presented at that time

Yours faithfully,

Emily Saner