

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A303 Stonehenge](#)
Subject: Re-examination of Development Consent Order
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FAO Secretary of State for Transport

I am relieved to hear that you have asked for the A303 scheme to be re considered, any alternative proposal should be looked at as an absolute priority.

Inexplicably, National Highways have not even attempted to make any changes to the scheme despite the decisions and comments made by the World Heritage Committee nor the comments made by yourself regarding the proposed western cutting area and the significantly adverse impact it would have on the area.

Why are they refusing to look at an alternative route, instead of jeopardising an irreplaceable and much revered unique national monument?

A southern bypass has been costed to be cheaper, it may be more complicated to complete but this shouldn't steer the project. The proposal of a longer tunnel would reduce any impact in this unique World Heritage Site and should therefore be looked upon favourably.

Alternative engineering solutions must be looked at to minimise any irreversible destruction to the site and surrounding area. An alternative design would enhance the area due to the reduction of traffic, thus cutting carbon emissions, and improve access to the South West. There surely must be an updated scheme to take into consideration the impact on emissions and carbon reduction and also any new costs.

Since Climate Change is constantly in the headlines and any new scheme must surely look at how to reduce its impact on the environment. Habitats are disappearing at an alarming rate and our wildlife is suffering to the point of extinction. The new Environment Act 2021 has taken into account the impact we are making to our planet, now is the time to act and help nature recover before it is too late, nature is powerful when it is given the opportunity and we need to allow it to do its thing. Any reduction in emissions would contribute, therefore a new design for the scheme should be pushed intently and recommendations from world climate experts considered and made a reality.

Stonehenge is important to the world, it is a UNESCO World Heritage site, the World Heritage Committee is there to protect these precious sites and they have to be listened to. Once construction starts we cannot put it back, it will be lost forever.

A great deal of archaeological work has been carried out at Stonehenge and the local area over the last few decades. A great deal of new information has been gathered regarding the construction of the site and the original location of the stones, and also details about the various peoples living there and their cultures. There is much more in the locale of Stonehenge to be discovered which will be lost forever should this brutal and cavalier proposal go ahead.

As a nation, we should be investing in protecting this amazing site, and reducing road transport generally. All and any plans have to be considered carefully, and thoroughly, the slightest impact on the site and its surrounding landscape must be scrutinised seriously and minimised to the greatest degree. Anything less would be unforgivably reckless and irresponsible.

Judy McSorley

