From:
A303 Stonehend

Subject: Redetermination of A303 Stonehenge scheme

Date: 02 April 2022 20:13:27

Dear Sir,

I would like to make the following comments on the National Highways response on the A303 Stonehenge road widening scheme.

National Highways have NOT:

- 1. Made any changes to the Scheme to take the 2021 World Heritage Committee Decision into account
- 2. Acknowledged that the Secretary of State found the Scheme's impact on the proposed western cutting area would be "significantly adverse".
- 3. Fully assessed alternative routes less damaging to the World Heritage Site (e.g. a southern bypass route that would be cheaper even if there might be some problems with it, or a longer tunnel to reduce the impact on the World Heritage Site).
- 4. Explored 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).
- 5. Updated the scheme construction costs.
- 6. Updated the carbon assessment and costs.

There are other changes since the Examination closed. The 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, not increase them as any new Stonehenge road scheme will do. The Environment Act 2021 sets new ambitions around nature recovery.

In my opinion the omission on 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 faithfully,

