

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [A303 Stonehenge](#)  
**Subject:** A303 Stonehenge road scheme  
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I am writing because I have been informed that the Secretary of State for Transport intends to make a new decision on the scheme to dig a tunnel in the Stonehenge World Heritage Site, and has invited comments on the issues raised by this proposed scheme.

Stonehenge is one of the world's most important historic sites, and UNESCO's World Heritage Committee said last year that 'the approved A303 improvement scheme is a potential threat to the property, which – if implemented – could have deleterious effects on its inherent characteristics, notably to its integrity', and that if consent is given for the scheme to go ahead, 'the property warrants the inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger.'

It would be highly irresponsible to endanger a historic site of worldwide importance like this; but National Highways does not appear to have made any changes in response to what the World Heritage has said. They have not looked at any alternatives to large-scale engineering works - reducing traffic and emissions, and so on; and they have not considered alternative, less damaging solutions such as a bypass, skirting the Site well to the south, or a longer tunnel, where the entrances are dug OUTSIDE the Site.

This is despite the fact - which they have also not acknowledged - that the Secretary of State found that the impact of the present scheme on the Site would be 'significantly adverse'.

In the light of the above, and, I am told, a failure to update the carbon assessment and construction costs of the scheme, my comment would be that the Development Consent Order, allowing this scheme to go ahead, should be re-examined by an independent panel before the Secretary of State looks at it again.

Andy Murkin

