From:
To:
A303 Stonehenge

Subject: Application for the construction of a new two-lane dual carriage way for the A30

Date: 24 September 2022 17:45:40

Dear Ms Trevelyan

I am writing in response to your request for comments on the application by National Highways for an Order granting Development Consent for the construction of a new two-lane dual carriage way for the A303 between Amesbury and Berwick Down in Wiltshire.

I have read the report by the UNESCO/the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM on their Advisory Mission. I note that they found that the scheme would "adversely and irreversibly impact on the integrity of the WHS. I agree with this.

I also note that National Highways has simply reiterated many of the arguments it has raised previously to justify the scheme.

These plans have been found unacceptable to UNESCO and to many other specialists, as well as ordinary people who value the historic landscape around Stonehenge with its incomparable archaeological value. Future generations, too, would be appalled if road widening is allowed at the expense of England's most iconic World Heritage Site.

I continue to object to these proposals and hope that the scheme will be abandoned. The congestion on the A303 could be best dealt with by concerted plans to reduce road traffic which is of course necessary also because of the climate emergency. Road widening is an outdated approach to traffic congestion.

Should the Transport Secretary intend to proceed with the scheme, I trust that there will be another formal public Examination so that all of the new information submitted by National Highways and others since 2020 may be fully and openly discussed, and taken into account and advised upon by the Government's independent Planning Inspectorate.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Finch