| From: | |
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| To: | transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk |
| Cc: | A303 Stonehenge |
| Subject: | A303 dualing response to invitation for comments |
| Date: | 27 September 2022 22:26:21 |

FAO the Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP Secretary of State for Transport

I would like to record my continued opposition to the A303 dualling between Amesbury and Berwick Down, through the World Heritage Site at Stonehenge on the grounds of its truly shocking impact on the fabric of one of the great sacred landscapes in human history.

The landscape at Stonehenge has been formed as a result of some 3000 years of active use as a sacred site, followed by 2000 years of agriculture, with about 100 years accommodating two paved roads, one of which has recently been removed. The current problem of traffic congestion has arisen in the last 50 years and could well be gone within the next 50. The present dualling scheme involves an unprecedented level of excavation and earth-moving to gouge an enormous 'portal' gouged deep and wide into the fabric of this landscape, as well as boring a tunnel through it. It is a grotesquely disproportionate response to what is nothing more than a blip in this landscape's history. The scheme cannot meet any definition of conservation.

I have read the report of the UNESCO Advisory Mission and note its principal finding, that the scheme would have an adverse impact on the OUV of the WHS and that a southern bypass should be further explored. There is still no sign that you have given proper consideration to alternatives.

I trust that the views of the High Court, UNESCO and the Examining Authority appointed by government in 2019, all of which rejected the present scheme, will finally be respected and that the tunnel scheme will be abandoned.

If you are determined to proceed, I trust any new scheme will be subject to another formal and independent public examination.

Yours sincerely

David Lambert, MA, IHBC, FRSA

