

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [A303 Sparkford to Ilchester](#)  
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Written Representation from Friends of the Earth

IP reference number 20015281

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Further to our relevant representation, we remain concerned that the examination of this project is flawed because the cumulative impacts of the schemes on the A303-A358 corridor as a whole are not presented or appraised.

Scrutiny of the application documents shows that two other projects are assumed to go ahead in addition to the A303 Sparkford – Ilchester. These are: A303 Stonehenge and A358 Southfields – Taunton.

However Highways England's summary of the A303 corridor as a whole lists a total of 8 schemes.

<http://assets.highwaysengland.co.uk/roads/road-projects/A303-A358/A303+Creating+an+Expressway+to+the+South+West+01-10-2018.pdf> , figure 1

The remaining 5 schemes are stated to be “Expected to be included in a future road investment period”.

Our concern therefore remains that the traffic forecasts for 2038, on which the environmental statement for A303 Sparkford – Ilchester are predicated, do not reflect the reality of what may occur if the stated policy ambition is realised.

We consider that the corridor dualling project as a whole should have been subject of a Strategic Environmental Assessment under The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The A303, A358 and A30 corridor feasibility study reports however do not indicate that this was done, nor do they state any reason for the decision not to carry out such an assessment.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a303-a358-and-a30-corridor-feasibility-study-technical-report>

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