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Secretary of State for Transport
Local Authority Orders
Floor 4 West, Citygate
Gallowgate
Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 4WH

25 September 2009

Dear Sir

**THE EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (BEXHILL TO HASTINGS LINK ROAD)
SIDE ROADS ORDER 2009 and COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS 2009**

I write to object to the above Orders. I have known the Bexhill and St Leonards area for many years. I consider that the Combe Haven valley and its setting is one of the great features of this part of East Sussex. I object to the Bexhill-Hastings Link Road on the following grounds.

1. The Combe Haven valley is remarkably unspoilt despite closeness of two major towns, and should not be damaged by a road through it.
2. The longer-term land-use changes that the proposed road will bring would be so harmful as to constitute a second reason for not building the proposed road.
3. The proposed road would create pressure for further road building to its east and west. The damage such sections of new road would do was acknowledged when the previous proposal, the A259 Bexhill and Hastings Western and Eastern Bypasses, was cancelled in 2001.
4. The land-use proposals on the south side of Combe Haven are damaging in the form proposed. Without the BHLR the employment proposals in the Rother Local Plan would be located elsewhere to the benefit of Hastings, and the new housing proposed at North Bexhill would be limited to the land on the plateau; not stretch downhill into Combe Haven.
5. The particular alignment proposed for the BHLR, around the northern side of the floor of Combe Haven, was found too damaging in 1990 when promoted by East Sussex County Council as the route for the Trunk Road Bypass during public consultation on alternative routes. Specifically it was found harmful to farming and landscape and rejected by the Secretary of State for Transport of the time.
6. The BHLR will not reduce traffic on the section of coast road most affected by problems – Glynde Gap. Other solutions are available to address the problems of that length of road.
7. Alternative road links which would be more beneficial to traffic on the most environmentally damaging section of A259 in Hastings should be chosen instead.

Please can you acknowledge this letter of objection and send me the notice of the Public Inquiry. Please pass my letter to the Public Inquiry.

Yours faithfully

M A SULLIVAN