

Interactive comment on “Effect of fouling on removal of trace organic compounds by nanofiltration” by S. Hajibabania et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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General comments

The manuscript is well organized and properly describes the main experimental findings and relates them to mechanisms of removal/passage, even though removal is a function by membrane fouling. The experimental matrix of fouling and selection of compounds was almost complete and increased the overall quality of the paper even though only one membrane (NF-270) was used as NF membrane. It is a good paper that deserves publication after minor corrections which are presented below.

Specific comments

1. Review and identify some misspelling in the text.

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2. Pg. 3, the understanding of organic micropollutants removal by NF membranes cannot be generalized in some general paragraphs. It is important that the authors include in the narrative the name and type of the membranes used in previous studies. This will improve the understanding of different findings. The authors are aware of this fact, since they refer to this in the last paragraph.

3. Pg. 4. Can the authors replace Dow chemicals by Dow-Filmtec? How long the membrane was rinsed with MQ water?

4. Pg. 6. The classification of trace organic compounds is not reflected in Table 2.

5. Pg. 9, can the authors join sub sections 3.1.3 and 3.1.4 to 3.1.2?

6. The quality of the figures looks distorted. Was this problem due to the editing process of the journal or was related to the source of the figures? If the latter, the figures need to be improved.

Interactive comment on Drink. Water Eng. Sci. Discuss., 4, 117, 2011.

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