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Drinking Water Engineering and Science Discussions

Interactive comment on "Effect of biostimulation on biodegradation of dissolved organic carbon in biological granular activated carbon filters" by K. Tihomirova et al.

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The manuscript discusses the effect of LOC on organic matter removal in biofilters and provides the relative DOC removal upon addition of LOC in figure 2. however, the amount of LOC added was significant (20-25% of the total DOC). While the removal of DOC does appear to increase upon the addition of LOC, it is difficult to ascertain how significant this is from the relative reduction shown in Fig 2. Could the final DOC values be shown as well in another graph, as this will demonstrate the significant additional DOC removal obtained using this approach. My estimate from the numbers appears to indicate that you get an additional 0.5 mg/L DOC removed for an addition of 1.2-1.8

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mg/L LOC. Additionally there is significant variation in the feed DOC values (ie +/- 0.96 mg/L) and the increase in DOC removal is only 0.5 mg/L. Is this the variation between batches of feed water? It makes it difficult to ascertain the significance of the DOC reductions.

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