

Interactive comment on “Water Expert: a conceptualized framework for development of a rule-based decision support system for distribution system decontamination” by J. L. Gutenson et al.

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Specific Comment 1 1) Does the paper address relevant scientific questions within the scope of DWES? 2) In Water Expert, risk is mitigated through consultation with the subject matter experts who validated the Water Expert’s heuristic processing in both technology deployment and implementation workshops (Section 3.5). Thus, the optimum solution is inherently given for any decontamination scenario. 3) The manuscript will be altered to better elicit the scientific process undertaken and will in greater depth examine previously developed tools.

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Specific Comment 2 No response.

Specific Comment 3 1) Are substantial conclusions reached? 2) No response. 3) The manuscript will be altered to better elicit the scientific process undertaken.

Specific Comment 4 1) Are the scientific methods and assumptions valid and clearly outlined? 2) No response. 3) The manuscript will be altered to better elicit the scientific process undertaken.

Specific Comment 5 1) Are the results sufficient to support the interpretations and conclusions? 2) No response. 3) The manuscript will be altered to better elicit the scientific process undertaken.

Specific Comment 6 No response.

Specific Comment 7 No response.

Specific Comment 8 No response.

Specific Comment 9 No response.

Specific Comment 10 No response.

Specific Comment 11 No response.

Specific Comment 12 No response.

Specific Comment 13 1) Should any parts of the paper (text, formulae, figures, tables) be clarified, reduced, combined, or eliminated? 2) No response. 3) The manuscript will be altered to better elicit the scientific process undertaken.

Specific Comment 14 1) Are the number and quality of references appropriate? 2) No response. 3) The manuscript will examine, in greater detail, previous DSS applications.

Specific Comment 15 No response.