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Interactive comment

## Interactive comment on "Comprehensive analysis of the start-up period of a full-scale drinking water biofilter provides guidance for optimization" by Loren Ramsay et al.

## Loren Ramsay et al.

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## Dear Anonymous Referee #2

We thank Anonymous Referee #2 for the effort and valuable comments to the manuscript. We have provided an individual response to each comment and described in text the changes to the revised final manuscript.

Answer to comment 1: We agree with Referee #2 that the language on page 1 and several other places in the article could be improved. After a reading by a native speaker, we have improved the following specific sections in the revised final paper along with



Discussion paper



correction of minor mistakes: page 1, lines 19-20; page 1, line 22; page 7, line 29; page 9, line 28; page 12, line 21; page 14, line 15.

Answer to comment 2: We have accommodated this comment by removing the keywords altogether. This decision was based on looking at a number of other articles in DWES in which no keywords were given.

Answer to comment 3: We have added the following sentence to explain the typical treatment train: In Denmark, this simple treatment train is typically composed of e.g. gravity cascades or submerged diffusors to aerate the water followed by rapid sand filtration in open (gravity) or closed (pressure) filters.

Answer to comment 4: We have added three references to the introduction section (page 2, line 30-32).

Answer to comment 5: Based on the comment, we decided to change all references in the text to "iron", "manganese" and "ammonium" while retaining the chemical formulas in all figures and units. This resulted in three changes in the final revised paper (page 8, line 18; page 9, line 26, figure 9A).

All changes are marked with blue in the attached revised paper. Changes from revision after comments from Anonymous Referee #1 are marked in yellow.

Please also note the supplement to this comment: https://www.drink-water-eng-sci-discuss.net/dwes-2018-6/dwes-2018-6-AC2supplement.pdf

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