

## ***Interactive comment on “Sustainable water services and interaction with water resources in Europe and in Brazil” by B. Barraqué et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #3**

Received and published: 4 December 2007

1. Title: the title is slightly misleading. The main emphasis of the paper appears to be on the historical development of water services in Europe and Brazil
2. Abstract: this is fine. However, I would probably change “water industry technologies in Europe...” to “water services provisions in Europe ...” “or water engineering approaches”
3. Introduction: I feel the introduction should lead into the paper and provide the objectives of the paper rather than providing already some information and conclusions, which in any case are presented again later in the paper. I feel that some of the issues discussed in the introduction would be better suitable for the conclusion especially the last two paragraphs.

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4. The main text is interesting. However in the last section on environmental engineering it would be useful to at least mention the EU Water Framework Directive, which is currently the main driver for integrated water management requiring not only water resources protection at the river basin catchment level but also emphasises the need for demand management. Thus the current thinking, at least in those countries with water shortages, integrated water management not only tries to integrate resource protection and water services but also demand management and land use management. It would be useful briefly to outline what the main problems are to achieving this goal and to analyse whether Brazil has to move in the same direction or whether in Brazil there are sufficient water resources that water resources protection and provision of water services for the whole population is the main goal.
5. Conclusions: The conclusions should highlight the main conclusion, which can be drawn and should not provide new ideas. Therefore the discussions on the contracts between farmers and water suppliers for instance should not be in the conclusion but in the previous section. The PIREN-Seine project should be discussed in the previous chapter if it is here used as an example. It should summarise the main requirements for the Brazilian and European metropolitan areas in terms of water management. (see some issues mentioned under 4)
6. Although the English used in the paper can be understood it is not always the correct English and the paper would therefore benefit from some editing once it has been amended. For instance “Besides” at the beginning of a sentence should probably be changed to “in addition” or “Geneva Lake” to “Lake Geneva”. Activated carbon alone is not a disinfection technique. It is used mainly to improve the chemical quality of the water partly to make disinfection easier. A better term for “recuperation” is probably “rehabilitation” and for “extinction” of PLANSA “abolishment”.

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Despite the above comments I feel the paper provides a useful addition to the current discussions on water management and should be published with the amendments discussed above.

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Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 4, 3441, 2007.

**HESD**

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