October 16th, 2016

Dear Dr. Hendricks Franssen,

Please find enclosed our revised manuscript "On the efficiency of the hybrid and the exact second-order sampling formulations of the EnKF: A reality-inspired 3D test case for estimating biodegradation rates of chlorinated hydrocarbons at the port of Rotterdam." We have considered all your comments and suggestions. For the figures, we have merged a couple of them and removed Figure 17 from the older version. The total number is 15 now. The text has been revised accordingly.

We thank you for the time you spent editing this manuscript. We appreciate your patience and assistance. We are also grateful for all your editorial efforts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need anything else.

Sincerely yours, M. E. Gharamti