

Interactive comment on “Particulate matter characterization of Cauca River water in Colombia” by J. P. Gutiérrez et al.

J. P. Gutiérrez et al.

j.p.gutierrezmarin@tudelft.nl

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The reviewer notes that, although the measured parameters are constructive, the number of samples and locations are a limitation of the manuscript. Even though data scarcity is a common problem in developing countries, it must be pointed out that the goal of this study was to characterize the particulate matter contained in a section of the Cauca River (next to Puerto Mallarino WTP) due to the water supply problems occurring for the deficiency in the surface water quality. Therefore, first the possible sources of particulate matter in the Cauca and Palo rivers were identified, by studying literature and reports, in order to determine the characteristics of the particle matter and its potential origin. The Palo River, which has been recognized as the main contributor of particulate matter to the Cauca River, was monitored jointly with the Cauca River in order to have a better understanding. Unfortunately, no more data was ob-

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tained in the Palo River measurement point due to safety issues related to the internal conflict happening in Colombia, which was specified in the manuscript. Nevertheless, the authors are convinced that the scarce data give sufficient information about the water quality characteristics of the Cauca River, in developing Colombia.

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