**Water MDPI** (Manuscript ID: Water-667193)
**Title**: Effects of persulfate activation with pyrite and zero-Valent iron for phthalate acid esters degradation

Dear Reviewer,
Thank you very much for the comprehensive review of our manuscript. The authors acknowledge your efforts and time for reviewing our manuscript.
We have revised the manuscript according to your valuable comments and suggestions. The revisions corresponding to your comments are mentioned using the "Track changes" function in the revised manuscript. The followings are the itemized answers to your comments.

# Response to Reviewer 3 Comments

**Point 1:** Dear Authors, thanks for your very solid work and the very nice presentation of a very complex topic. Slight improvement of language may be possible but the paper is very well readable. It´s a pity that the results show only small differences between both approaches.

**Response 1:** The authors appreciate your comments. As per your kind comment, the language of the manuscript has been improved. Yes, you are right, the difference between both approaches is very small. But compare to zero-valent iron, Pyrite is, as a natural mineral, easier to obtain and has a longer lifetime, so it is more suitable as a reactive medium for PRB.

**Accepted.** The language of the manuscript has been edited accordingly by MDPI English Editing Service.

Once again we are thankful to you for reviewing our manuscript.