

NSC WS Basel 10th Feb 2016

Estimating concentrations from sewage effluent in rivers: Simple example for the River Thames at Kingston (the tidal limit above London)

Simple estimate of the daily concentration = $(P_Ld_inf_X * Pop_B*Con_B*(1-R_X))/(365*MDF)$

- *P_Ld_inf_X* (g/cap/year) is the European average per capita load of ENP X entering the sewer system
- *Pop_B* is the total population in the basin above the point of interest = 6 million for the Thames basin.
- Con_B is the fraction of the population connected to sewage treatment in the basin
- *R_X* is the removal efficiency of ENP *X* in STPs (0-1)
- *MDF* is the mean daily flow m3/day = 7,000,000

The task is simply to derive estimates of the concentrations of nano-Ag or nano-Zn using suitable values for these parameters. Compare the results with PNECs and consider the implications.

The tables below will give you some realistic values for these parameters.

Start with conservative values i.e. values likely to give a worst case PEC.

Assume the sewage treatment removes 0% of the nano-particles and that all the populations is connected to sewage treatment.

Consider how this estimate might be refined using other values for the parameters. Looking at how the PEC compares with the PNEC would it need refining?

Table 1 has some values that will help with the calculations

Table s1 Parameters used for estimating soils concentrations of nano-particles (Keller et al in prep)

| Parameters | Nano Ag | Nano ZnO |
|--|---------|----------|
| Mass released to Sewer in the EU27 (tonnes/year) ¹ – EU27_Ld_inf | 8.85 | 1050 |

| Fraction of the population connected to sewage treatment plants ³ - Con | The values for each country are given in Table S2 (see soil exercise document) | | | |
|--|--|----------|------|----------|
| Scenario | Best | Expected | Best | Expected |
| Fraction captured in Sludge R_X^* | 0.99 | 0.93 | 0.88 | 0.85 |

- 1. T. Y. Sun, F. Gottschalk, K. Hungerbühler and B. Nowack, *Environmental Pollution*, 2014, **185**, 69-76.
- 2. European Commission, <u>http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database</u>, 14th January 2014 edn.
- 3. R. Williams, V. Keller, A. Voss, I. Barlund, O. Malve, J. Riihimaki, S. Tattari and J. Alcamo, *Hydrological Processes*, 2012, **26**, 2395-2410.
- 4. United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), Global atlas of excreta, wastewater sludge, and biosolids management: Moving forward the sustainable and welcome uses of a global resource, 2008.
- 5. E. Dumont, A. C. Johnson, V. D. J. Keller and R. J. Williams, *Environmental Pollution*, 2015, **196**, 341-349.
- 6. E. Lombi, E. Donner, E. Tavakkoli, T. W. Turney, R. Naidu, B. W. Miller and K. G. Scheckel, *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2012, **46**, 9089-9096.
- 7. Environment Agency, *H1 Annex E Complex Surface Water discharges*, Environment Agency, Bristol, UK, 2011.