

I read with much interest this manuscript reporting on " Optimization of aeration enhanced surfactant soil washing for remediation of diesel-contaminated soils using Response Surface Methodology". Looking to the environmental issues related to the soil contamination. The author made nice effort to improved the soil soil washing performance by 12-25% through incorporation of air bubbles into the low concentration surfactant soil washing system. Overall, I found the manuscript interesting, with certain novelty over the existing state of the art. Based on the details given in the manuscript, I believe it can be improved still and can be brought up to meet the expectations from a paper in Peer J. Besides, there are some issues which need to be answered by the authors in this version of the manuscript. Also, state of art needs to be defined better and some key references are missing. The language also needs careful revisions. Thus, the manuscript as it is written now, the work needs minor revisions. Any other comments for improving the manuscript are-

1. Although Figure 1 explains the soil washing scheme, but that is mentioned as Fig 1. He manuscript quality can be improved by adding suitable graphical abstract.
2. Introduction: The introduction of the manuscript looking long. Concise the text to bring the impact of the need.
3. In the introduction part on page 2 the wrote that "Different physical, chemical, and biological remediation techniques are commonly used to treat the petroleum polluted soils; these methods aim at destroying, modify them into harmless byproducts and reducing contaminant concentration". Authors may check this recent paper to strengthen this aspect- 2019, Environmental perspectives of interfacially active and magnetically recoverable composite materials – A review Science of the Total Environment 670 (2019) 523 – 538.
4. It is suggested to insert more relevant recent reference citations at appropriate instances for better readership.
5. The grammar of the article should be re-checked. There are many mistakes. English grammar must be improved, especially concordance between subjects and verbs.