

## **Response to reviewers' comments:**

### **Soil properties impacting denitrifier community size, structure and activity in New Zealand dairy-grazed pasture.**

Neha Jha, Surinder Saggar, Donna Giltrap, Russ Tillman, and Julie Deslippe

In this document we provide a comprehensive description of how we have responded to all the changes suggested by the associate editor.

#### **Anonymous Referee #1**

Comments

#### **Suggestions for revision or reasons for rejection (will be published if the paper is accepted for final publication)**

The authors have nicely improved their manuscript and make a much more compelling case. I have only two minor things:

Figure 3:

I agree with the authors that the final stress values for the NMDS ordination look normal. However, I still suggest reporting them in the figure legend to show the reader that this is not a problem as many will only read the final version of the manuscript and not go through the whole discussion.

Author's Response: Thank you for drawing our attention to this important information, we have reported the final stress values of all the three genes in the revised version of the manuscript

p. 10, l. 19: shouldn't this be anaerobic microsites?

Author's Response: Thank you we have corrected the typo. Changed aerobic to anaerobic microsites.

