

## ***Interactive comment on “Microbial Biobanking Cyanobacteria-rich topsoil facilitates mine rehabilitation” by Wendy Williams et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

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I found the manuscript interesting and encompassing almost all the indicators relating to the populations of cyanobacteria in the area undergoing rehabilitation after mining.

It was also worth adding an illustration of the distribution of rainfall and temperature. I am certain that this data is available and can be added to the manuscript.

The only small comment is that there is no reference concerning the characteristics and major elements in the tested soil types. What are the major elements that can be found and their levels in the topsoil, restored areas and the natural area nearby? From my experience in comparison of the natural soil near disturbed areas, there is a sharp change in the content of the various elements and their dispersion both on the soil surface - topsoil and in the depth of the soil [a few cm]. This change may enhance or suppress the cyanobacterial growth.

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/bg-2017-482>, 2017.

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