

Dear Dr. David Janssen,

Thank you for your feedback and for recommending our manuscript for publication. In the final version of the manuscript we have considered your last suggestions:

-Line 63. With the revised framing on redox state, 'midway' seems misleading for  $\text{NO}_2^-$  (+III), when the endmembers are (+V) and (-III). I suggest removing this word. There are also many typing errors in this sentence (extra periods and spaces). *You are right, we have removed "midway". We have also corrected extra spaces (and other typing errors) along the manuscript.*

-Lines 65-69: Based on the pathways represented in Figure 1, it is not clear why NO should get special discussion, but  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  is not addressed. I think this could be confusing to some readers. Rather than adding more text here (e.g., expanding this section to discuss all possible but less suitable intermediates), I suggest mentioning that other possible intermediates exist (with a short list), but that  $\text{NO}_2^-$  is the best to focus on based on its central position in a greater range of the dominant pathways and greater stability than other intermediates (e.g., NO). *We thank the editor for this helpful suggestion. The extended discussion of NO was originally included in response to a reviewer's comment; however, we agree that in its current form it places disproportionate emphasis on NO relative to other intermediates and may be confusing. We have therefore revised this section following the editor's recommendation, briefly acknowledging the existence of other possible intermediates while clarifying that  $\text{NO}_2^-$  is the primary focus due to its central role across dominant pathways and its greater stability compared to other intermediates such as NO.*

-I suggest adding an acknowledgements section, so that the efforts of the two reviewers can be acknowledged. *We totally agree and we have included a section to acknowledge the help of the two reviewers and the editor to improve the manuscript quality.*

Best regards,

Mathieu Sebilo and Rosanna Margalef Marti