

## Retraction Note: The adsorption of $Pb^{2+}$ and $Ni^{2+}$ ions utilizing modified chitosan beads: A response surface methodology and artificial neural network modelling study

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The retraction notice regards the paper “The adsorption of  $Pb^{2+}$  and  $Ni^{2+}$  ions utilizing modified chitosan beads: A response surface methodology and artificial neural network modelling study”<sup>[1]</sup>, published in *EQA-International Journal of Environmental Quality* on 15 May 2024.

The paper was found to be a redundant publication, as it was previously published with an almost identical title in the journal *Desalination and Water Treatment* on 16 April 2024<sup>[2]</sup>. It was therefore temporarily retracted and labeled as non quotable, and it is now permanently retracted.

In *Desalination and Water Treatment* journal the publication procedure was: Received 10/2/2024; Revised 20/3/2024; Accepted 8/4/2024; On line 16/4/2024;

In *EQA-International Journal of Environmental Quality* the procedure was: Received: 10/11/2023; Revised 4/4/2024; Accepted 20/4/2024; On line 15/5/2024.

Note that the paper was initially credited to E. Igberase and N.T. Sithole, however it was later clarified that N.T. Sithole was not aware that the paper was submitted to both journals. E. Igberase stated that he asked for the withdrawn of the paper on February but no emails were found on the *EQA* mailbox.

We apologize to readers for this oversight.

<sup>[1]</sup>Igberase, E., & Sithole, N. T. (2024). The adsorption of  $Pb^{2+}$  and  $Ni^{2+}$  ions utilizing modified chitosan beads: A response surface methodology and artificial neural network modelling study. *EQA - International Journal of Environmental Quality*, 61, 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2281-4485/18471>

<sup>[2]</sup>Igberase, E. (2024). The adsorption of  $Pb^{2+}$  and  $Ni^{2+}$  ions utilizing modified chitosan beads: A response surface methodology and neural network modelling study. *Desalination and Water Treatment*, 319, 100293. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dwt.2024.100293>