Response to comment on “COVID-19, a double-edged sword for the environment: a review on the impacts of COVID-19 on the environment”

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We would like to thank Mr. Mohideen and Dr. Liu for the comment on our paper. The general purpose of the paper “COVID-19, a double-edged sword for the environment: a review on the impacts of COVID-19 on the environment” is to discuss the positive and negative impacts of COVID-19 on the different aspects of the environment and thereby increase awareness of the impacts of human activities during the impacts on water, air, and soil. The main criticism of the paper provided in the comment surrounds a statement in the introduction of our paper that the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) originated in Wuhan, China, in December 2019. This statement is supported by many references (Xiang et al. 2020; Xiao and Torok 2020; Shah et al. 2020; Abrams and Szefer 2020; Ali and Alharbi 2020; Chakraborty and Maity 2020; Giani et al. 2020). However, we recognize that the origin of SARS-CoV-2 is an ongoing area of investigation, and we do not intend to engender any hostility. The origin of the virus has no impact on any of the conclusions in our paper, since the

focus is on the environmental effects of the response. So, we stand behind all of our original conclusions.

Author contribution Hossein Atoufi developed the conceptualization and wrote the original manuscript. Dr. Lampert and Dr. Sillanpää guided and revised the manuscript's completion.

Data Availability Not applicable.

Declarations

Ethics approval and consent to participate Not applicable.

Consent for publication All the authors have approved the manuscript and agreed with the submission.

Competing interests The authors declare no competing interests.

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