Interactive comment on “Re-evaluating the 1940s CO$_2$ plateau” by Ana Bastos et al.

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We would like to thank the referee for the careful review and detailed comments, that help improving the quality of the manuscript.

We acknowledge that it is possible that fossil fuel emissions estimates have higher uncertainty during the WW2 period. An alternative estimate of $E_{FF}$ for the 20th century may be found in Mohr et al. (2015). Their estimates for the 1940-1950 differ by about 0.1PgC/yr from the CDIAC ones, i.e. 7.5%, slightly more than the 5% uncertainty range defined by the CDIAC. Quilcaille et al. (2016, conference proceedings) calculate that uncertainty in datasets and the different methodologies to estimate $E_{FF}$ from statistics of fossil fuel extracted may increase total $E_{FF}$ uncertainty up to 11%. Even considering an uncertainty range as high as the one suggested by Quilcaille et al. (2016), the difference would be 0.15PgC/yr, which would not suffice to explain the CO$_2$ stabilisation in the 1940s. The authors, nevertheless, agree that it is worth including a note about
the subject in the revised version of the manuscript.

The referee’s proposed corrections will also be included in the revision.

**References**

