Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., referee comment RC2
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Comment on essd-2021-1

Georg Miehe (Referee)

Referee comment on "A synthesis dataset of permafrost thermal state for the Qinghai–Tibet (Xizang) Plateau, China" by Lin Zhao et al., Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2021-1-RC2, 2021

The paper is of greatest significance and importance for permafrost and Climate Change disputes. The terminology of regions is a major issue and causes misunderstandings: the plateau is widely refered to as "QTP" = Qinghai-Tibet-Plateau. "QXP" is of course correct, but readers may not recognize it. However both acronyms are not really correct, because the Xinjiang parts of the plateau (with permafrost!) are not included in the naming. My suggestion: use "Tibetan highlands (QTP or QXP)" just to avoid misunderstandings.