## Enhanced detection of toxicity in wastewater using 2D smooth plane anode based microbial fuel cell toxicity sensor

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Detection of free ions of lead by ICP-OES			
Actual concentration			
$0.989 \pm 0.011$ mg/L			
$1.916 \pm 0.027 \text{ mg/L}$			

Table S1. The concentration of the free lead ions in MFCs

Table S2. The pH change of wastewater after introduction of lead nitrate standard solution

	30 min	60 min	120 min
Wastewater	$9.18\pm0.03$	$9.18\pm0.03$	$9.18\pm0.02$
Wastewater+ 1.0 mg/L Pb <sup>2+</sup>	$9.15\pm0.02$	$9.15\pm0.02$	$9.15\pm0.04$
Wastewater+ 2.0 mg/L Pb <sup>2+</sup>	$9.13\pm0.04$	$9.13\pm0.05$	$9.12\pm0.05$



Fig. S1. The voltage output of three consecutive cycles of the MFC sensors.



**Fig. S2**. SEM image of pristine anodes: (a) carbon felt and (b) ITO film. Water contact angles of pristine anodes: (c) carbon felt and (d) ITO film.



Fig.S3. XRD patterns of (a) ITO anode and (b) CF anode



Fig. S4. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption – desorption isotherm plot of carbon felt and ITO film.

N2 adsorption/desorption isotherms at 77 K were measured on BET relative surface area analyzer. Samples were filled in a tube and allowed to dry for 4 h at 100 °C prior to the measurements. After the test, 4~5 data points were selected to make the diagram and then the slope and intercept were calculated. The relative surface area was then calculated based on the BET equation.<sup>1</sup>



Fig. S5 Voltage recovery of MFC sensors with fresh wastewater and 300 mg  $L^{-1}$ 

sodium acetate after 0.5mg  $L^{\text{-1}}$  and 0.8 mg  $L^{\text{-1}}\,Pb^{2\text{+}}$  shocks



**Fig. S6**. Confocal laser scanning microscopy image of anodic biofilm cultivated on ITO film surface (part of the biofilm was scratched using a clean scalpel to show the biofilm thickness). The biofilm was cultivated for a month using half municipal wastewater and half PBS solution.

## Reference

1 S. Brunauer, P.H. Emmett, E. Teller, Adsorption of Gases in Multimolecular Layers, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 60 (1938) 309-319.