

## ***Interactive comment on “Population exposure to droughts in China under 1.5 °C global warming target” by Jie Chen et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #1**

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The “Population exposure to droughts in China under 1.5 °C global warming target” has important implications for the adaption and coping with climate change. Overall, this study is well motivated, and is generally well-written. I have only few relatively minor comments, and therefore I recommend to return the manuscript to the authors for minor revisions. My main comments and suggestions are listed below.

Please define “risk” and “exposure” in introduction.

Rephrase P3 Line 12 to 13.

Please give more details on SPEI calculation.

Please define the “Hu line” and provide a brief introduction.

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P5 Line 5, two scenarios?

Figure 5, figure (a) and figure (b) almost the same, so I suggest to add a total number of population.

P7 “Results suggest that reaching the 1.5 °C target is a potential mechanism for mitigating the impact of climate change on droughts.” It is not very clear.

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Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Dynam. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/esd-2017-100>, 2017.

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