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Dr. Pedro J. Alvarez is the George R. Brown Professor and Chair of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Rice University, where he also serves as Theme leader for the Environmental Nanotechnology group of the Center for Biological and Environmental Nanotechnology (CBEN).

Dr. Alvarez received the B. Eng. Degree in Civil Engineering from McGill University and MS and Ph.D. degrees in Environmental Engineering from the University of Michigan. His research interests are related to the applications and implications of biological processes in natural and engineered systems, including catabolic enzyme expression under various substrate and electron acceptor conditions; fate and transport of toxic chemicals in aquifer systems; effect of ethanol on BTEX natural attenuation, reductive treatment and biogeochemical interactions with zero-valent iron; microbial-plant interactions during phytoremediation, and environmental impacts of waste nanomaterials.

Dr. Alvarez is a P.E., a Diplomate of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers, and a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Honors include the cleanup project of the year award from SERDP (2002), the Button of the City of Valencia (2000), the Collegiate Excellence in Teaching Award from the University of Iowa (1997); the Alejo Zuloaga Medal from the Universidad de Carabobo, Venezuela (1996); a Career Award from the National Science Foundation (1995); the Outstanding Achievement Award in Environmental Engineering from the University of Michigan (1991); and best paper awards from the EPA/HSRC for Regions 7 and 8 (1995); the WEF Chicago Conference (1997), and the Battelle San Diego Conference (2000).

Dr. Alvarez currently serves as Associate Editor of *Environmental Science and Technology*. He also serves as honorary professor at Nankai University in Tinajin, China, as adjunct professor at the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina in Florianopolis, Brazil, and UNAM in Mexico City, and as past president of the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP).