

November 16, 2012

Dear Microbiology Client:

We would like to clarify several aspects of the Total Coliform Rule regulation as per 40 CFR 141.21(f), Safe Drinking Water Act and EPA Manual for certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water (EPA 815-R-05-004, January 2005, 5th Edition). Under the Total Coliform Rule regulations, public water systems must collect at least 100mL of sample; allowing at least 1-inch air space to facilitate mixing of the sample by shaking.

According to the above regulations under the Total Coliform Rule, Eurofins Eaton Analytical (EEA) **must invalidate** any sample that has:

- A volume less than 100 ml
- No obvious headspace, i.e. the bottle has been filled up to the top without any continual headspace upon inversion

Invalidation is a tedious process for both the utility and the laboratory, requiring recollection and a significant amount of extra time for both parties. Therefore, to help avoid invalidation, we have provided the pictures below (Figure 1) to show the correct sample volume with 1-inch air space.

The IDEXX sample bottles that we use have an etched 100 ml fill line. The bottle should be filled **slightly above** the fill line to below the shoulder.

The Fliptop sample bottles that we use also have an etched of 100mL fill line. The bottle should be filled **slightly above** the fill line.

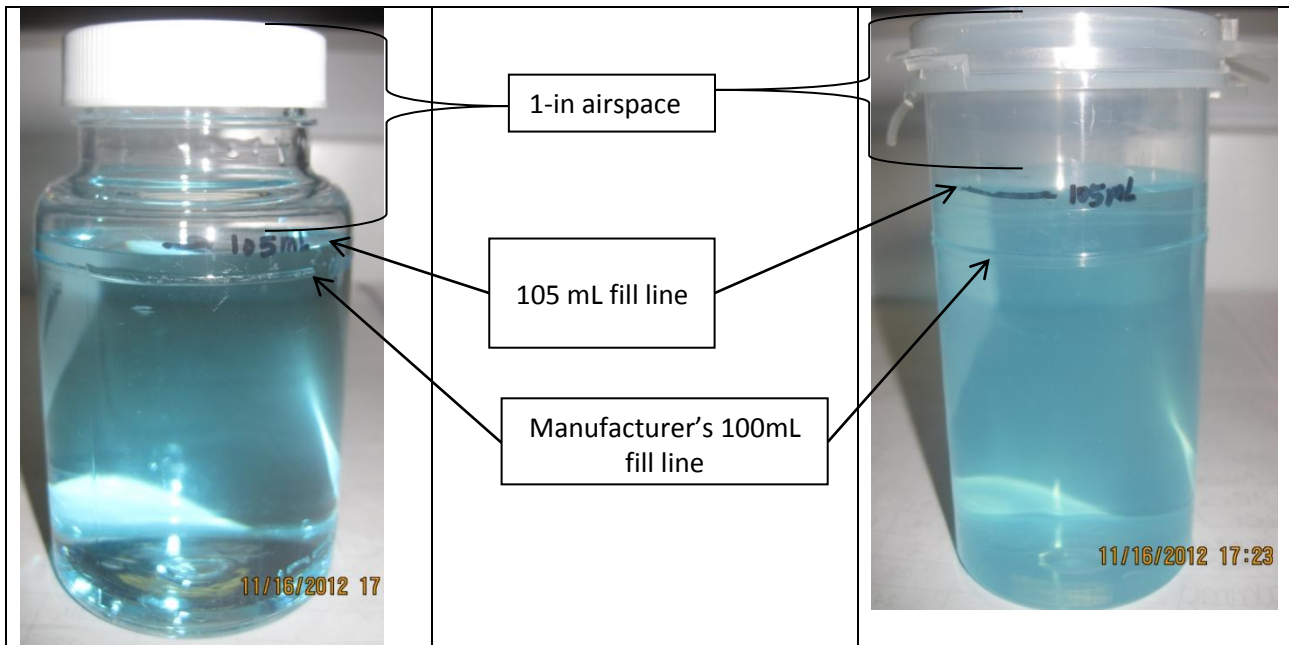


Figure 1. Sample volume according to 40 CFR 141.21(f), Safe Drinking Water Act and EPA Manual for certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water (EPA 815-R-05-004, January 2005, 5th Edition)

Formerly MWH Laboratories

Eurofins Eaton Analytical, Inc.

750 Royal Oaks Drive, Suite 100
Monrovia, CA 91016-3629

T | 626-386-1100
F | 626-386-1101
www.EatonAnalytical.com

We also want to remind all of our clients of the DHS requirement, in which we be provided with a current 24 hour live contact number from each of our clients. Please confirm your contact information with your designated lab project manager, who will ensure that it will be disperse to the authorized microbiological staff. ***In addition, we ask that you indicate whether this same contact is to be used in the event of receipt of invalid samples.***

Our microbiology staff attempts to be diligent in contacting utilities in the event of a positive coliform sample. Please indicate the staff that are most readily available, particularly after hours. In the event that we are unable to contact a LIVE body at the utility within 24 hours of completing a positive coliform sample, we are required to notify the DHS Field Operations Office. ***Please also provide us with the contact information for your DHS representative.***

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact your project manager. We are looking forward to continuing to serve you and helping to keep you in compliance.

Sincerely yours,



Nilda Cox
Quality Manager