

Transfer/Rinsate Blank Contamination Assessment

The criteria presented below are set as an interim goal for evaluating transfer/rinsate blank contamination and may be re-evaluated. An overall assessment of the transfer/rinsate blank results with respect to the associated field sample and method blank results will be conducted by the project manager to determine if excessive contamination occurred during sampling or handling procedures.

Rinsate blank contamination acceptance rules:

- An individual congener cannot exceed 50 pg/L.
- If an individual congener exceeds the RL and the associated field sample congener concentration > 5X the amount in the blank, then no action is required.
- If an individual congener exceeds the RL and the associated field sample congener concentration < 5X the amount in the blank, then the associated field sample congener result may not be used. Follow the flagging guidelines/recommendations set out for method blank contamination.
- If an individual congener exceeds the RL and the congener is not found in the associated field sample, then no action is required.
- The total PCB concentration cannot exceed 170 pg/L.

If rinsate blank levels violate the rinsate blank contamination guidelines, the source of external contamination should be investigated and eliminated, if possible. Re-sampling and re-analysis may be required.