

MUNICIPAL UTILITY SERVICES PLANT OPERATOR

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, performs a variety of highly skilled tasks in the operation, maintenance and repair of power plants, generators, fired and unfired pressure vessels, balance of plant equipment, and electric distribution systems; and performs related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This position reports to the Municipal Utilities Manager, or designee. Position requires highly skilled and technical work experience. Incumbent may specialize and be completely competent in any one or more of the following for the production and distribution of energy: power plants, natural gas systems, cogeneration plants, generators, and electrical distribution systems.. Work is subject to review in progress and upon completion.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Places electrical circuits and generating equipment in and out of service; performs chemical titrations, testing, and additions to plant systems to maintain specified parameters; starts, regulates, and stops turbines, boilers, gas compressors, reciprocating engines, chillers, pumps, and other equipment related to the generation of electricity; performs daily preventive, planned and breakdown maintenance activities in a safe, productive and timely manner; takes necessary actions to prevent or limit plant systems failure and to optimize efficiency; inspects, services, monitors, and operates automated control systems and instrumentation; maintains security at generation sites; reads meters; assists manager, supervisor, and other staff with obtaining necessary supplies for projects; reads and interprets plans, drawings, and specifications for electrical and natural gas systems; understands and responds to written instructions and logbook notations; ensures equipment is operated safely, economically, and within established parameters; ensures compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations; maintains a safe, environmentally and regulatory compliant facility; documents incident reports; maintains equipment lubrication schedules; performs housekeeping functions such as sweeping, dusting, picking up trash, wiping down equipment, and hosing down areas of the plant; operates a City vehicle, forklift, and other mobile equipment; travels for training and/or other company business; routinely adheres to and maintains a positive attitude and professional appearance; and performs related duties as required.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Training & Experience - Graduation from high school, or GED equivalent, and one year of journeyman level experience, or three years experience as an apprentice in the installation, maintenance, and repair of power plants, generators, underground gas lines, and/or electric distribution systems. Additional trade school may be substituted on the basis of 30 units equal to one year of experience up to two years.

Knowledge & Abilities - Knowledge of: Equipment and procedures involved in the operation, maintenance, and repair of power generating equipment, natural gas systems, and electrical distribution systems; related laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, policies and procedures; emergency generating systems; occupational hazards, and safety precautions; current applicable Occupational Safety and Health Act (O.S.H.A) regulations, and the State of California Public Utilities Commission General Orders No 95 and 128, California Title 8; departmental policies, operations, and goals.

Ability to: Use all tools of the trade; read and interpret electrical, natural gas and construction specifications, diagrams, and blueprints for electrical installations and facilities; obtain FAA airport security clearance; perform calculations necessary to determine and balance electrical loads; modify, alter, and repair electrical and mechanical systems; function as a lead worker in the supervision of assigned tasks; perform physically strenuous tasks on a continuing basis in a variety of environmental conditions in a safety-conscious manner; perform accurate mathematical computations; maintain time and material records; prioritize and schedule workload to ensure completion within established deadlines or emergencies; care for and maintain equipment that is operated in the course of one's duties; maintain professional appearance and conduct when dealing with the public and employees; learn and interpret various regulations, energy terminology, including municipal codes, pertaining to various departments and operations; understand and utilize computerized and automated systems, including Microsoft applications; understand and carry out oral and written instructions with minimum supervision; use logic while interpreting and applying policies and procedures; establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, supervisors, and the general public, including outside agencies; operate City vehicles and other equipment in a safe and efficient manner; and performs related duties as required; respond to emergency calls within thirty (30) minutes..

Licenses & Certificates: Possession of a valid California Class 'C' driver's license. Must have a satisfactory driving record. Steam Engineer License, issued by City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety, with Unlimited/Turbine Endorsement desirable.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed primarily in both an inside and outside environment. Incumbent may be exposed to all types of environmental conditions (i.e., noise, vibrations, fumes, odors and dust) and may work for long periods in hot, cold, wet or icy weather, and high winds. Incumbent must be able to see within the normal range of color and distance, with or without correction, and have the ability to read printed material the size of typewritten characters; must also be able to hear within the normal range. Incumbent must be physically and mentally able to efficiently perform the duties of the position, with or without reasonable accommodation, and without hazard to themselves or others. Physical demands require bending, stooping, frequently lifting heavy objects, squatting, sitting, standing, walking in/on level, uneven and slippery surfaces, reaching, twisting, turning, kneeling, grasping, and making repetitive hand movement in the performance of daily duties. Incumbent must be able to occasionally lift loads and transport materials and supplies weighing up to 50 pounds. Incumbent must be able to open and close large valves by use of only the operating wheel and must be able to distinguish and negotiate minimal clearances around machinery with moving parts. Incumbent must be able to work with small components. Incumbent may be required to respond to call-outs and emergencies after regular working hours and on weekends and must be willing to work an irregular schedule, which may include weekends, holidays, evenings, rotating, and/or varying eight or twelve hour shifts.

APPROVED:


DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

DATE REVISED: June 16, 2006

Class specifications are only intended to present a descriptive summary of the range of duties and responsibilities associated with specified positions. Therefore, specifications **may not include all** duties performed by individuals within a classification. In addition, specifications are intended to outline the **minimum** qualifications necessary for entry into the class and do not necessarily convey the qualifications of incumbents within the position.

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