



Job Description

Job Title: Power Plant Operator

<p>Department: Electric FLSA Status: Non-Exempt Work Shift: Monday – Friday (unless otherwise necessary) Work Status: Full-time KPERS: Yes City Manager Approved Date: 12/31/2022 Job Grade: 19 PCP Level: 3 Location: Power Plant</p>

General Overview of Position and Responsibilities: Under the general supervision of the Superintendent of Electric Production, this non-exempt position is responsible for performing a variety of routine, complex and skilled maintenance tasks in the operation of the city’s generating plant. This position requires the ability to work independently, work well with others and perform in a team environment on a daily basis. This person must understand and follow certain procedures in the operation of the generating plant. This position does require frequent interaction with other employee’s in all different departments as well as dealing with the general public.

Supervisory Responsibilities: None

Essential Duties and Responsibilities include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

- Monitor power plant equipment and indicators to detect evidence of operating problems such as volts, amps, megawatts and power factors and make adjustments as necessary.
- Monitor and operate pumps, motors, valves regulators, circuit breakers and switch gears.
- Monitor and adjust various gauges and recording devices.
- Adjust controls to generate specified electrical power or to regulate the flow of power.
- Control power generating equipment, turbines, generators, using control boards or semi-automatic equipment.

- Regulate equipment operations and conditions, such as levels, based on instrument data or from computers.
- Take regulatory action and compliance steps to observe and record information, based on readings from charts, meters and gauges, at established intervals.
- Start or stop pumps, motors, generators, equipment, turbines, or other power plant equipment as necessary.
- Inspect, record, or log book entries or communicate with plant personnel, plant supervisor, and maintenance operations to assess equipment operating status such as temperatures.
- Control, repair, replace, and maintain equipment, such as motors, pumps, bearings valves, controls, pumps, fans, compressors, condensers, filters, to supply water, fuel, lubricants, air, or auxiliary power. Perform sampling of water, chemicals, adding chemicals to process as required.
- Clean, lubricate, or maintain equipment, such as generators, turbines, pumps, or compressors, to prevent failure or deterioration.
- Change oil in gear boxes, pumps and turbocharger.
- Disassemble and clean oil coolers, condensers and generators.
- Perform arc welding and acetylene welding tasks.
- Communicate with systems operators to regulate and coordinate line voltages and transmission loads and frequencies.
- Use tools ranging from common hand and power tools, such as hammers, hoists, saws, drills, and wrenches, to precision measuring instruments and electrical and electronic testing devices.
- Perform routine preventive maintenance to ensure that machines continue to run smoothly, systems operate efficiently, or the physical condition of buildings does not deteriorate.
- Inspect, operate, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions.
- Diagnose mechanical problems and determine how to correct them, checking blueprints, repair manuals, or parts catalogs, as necessary.
- Assemble, install, or repair wiring, electrical or electronic components, pipe systems, plumbing, machinery, or equipment.
- Inspect drives, motors, and belts, check fluid levels, replace filters, or perform other maintenance actions, following checklists.
- Clean or lubricate shafts, bearings, gears, or other parts of machinery.
- Adjust functional parts of devices or control instruments, using equipment or tools.
- Repair or replace defective equipment parts, using hand tools and power tools, and reassemble equipment.
- Record type and cost of maintenance or repair work.
- Maintain and refills recording devices with charts and ink.
- Dispatch city crews via utility band radio.
- Maintain and clean plant facilities and grounds.

- Remove and replace cylinder head, valves, pistons rings, bearing and cylinder liners.
- Work to improve customer service.
- Work with other departments to ensure efficient and effective service delivery.

Marginal Duties and Responsibilities include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

- Assist line crew and water departments during crisis situations.
- Assist other departments as the need arises.
- May serve on various employee or other committees as assigned.
- Perform other related duties as deemed necessary or as required.
- Mow grass and paint equipment and buildings.

Qualifications: To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the competencies, knowledge, skill, abilities, required education and or experience to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

This position is subject to call out, working weekends, holidays.

Competencies: To perform the job successfully, an individual should demonstrate the following competencies:

- Problem Solving - Identifies and resolves problems in a timely manner; works well in group problem solving situations.
- Customer Service - Manages difficult or emotional customer situations; responds promptly to customer needs; solicits customer feedback to improve service; responds to requests for service and assistance; meets commitments.
- Interpersonal Skills - Focuses on solving conflict, not blaming; maintains confidentiality; keeps emotions under control; remains open to others' ideas and tries new things.
- Communication - Listens and gets clarification; ability to read, write and understand instructions.
- Teamwork - Gives and welcomes feedback; contributes to building a positive team spirit; puts success of team above own interests; able to build morale and group commitments to goals and objectives.
- Attendance/Punctuality - Is consistently at work and on time; ensures work responsibilities are covered when absent; arrives at meetings and appointments on time.
- Dependability - Follows instructions, responds to management direction; takes responsibility for own actions; keeps commitments; commits to long hours of work when necessary to reach goals; completes tasks on time or notifies appropriate person with an alternate plan.

- Initiative - Volunteers readily; undertakes self-development activities; seeks increased responsibilities; asks for and offers help when needed.
- Innovation - Generates suggestions for improving work.
- Safety and Security - Observes safety and security procedures; determines appropriate action beyond guidelines; reports potentially unsafe conditions; uses equipment and materials properly.
- Ethics - Works with integrity and ethically.

Required Knowledge, Skills, Abilities:

- Ability to read and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions, and procedure manuals. Ability to write routine reports and correspondence. Ability to speak effectively with customers or employees of organization.
- Ability to calculate figures and amounts such as discounts, interest, commissions, proportions, percentages, area, circumference, and volume. Ability to apply concepts of basic algebra and geometry.
- Ability to solve practical problems and deal with a variety of concrete variables in situations where only limited standardization exists. Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram, or schedule form.
- Ability to operate computers and software necessary to complete assignments may include word processing, spreadsheet, databases, global positioning equipment, software downloads from systems, etc.
- Thorough knowledge of mechanical procedures on equipment.
- Knowledge of power plant operations, safety procedures, equipment, operation and maintenance, mathematics and chemical usage.
- The ability to make repairs to diesel generators, switch boards and other plant equipment.
- The ability to operate welding equipment.
- Ability to work under pressure and/or with frequent interruptions.
- Ability to multi-task and work in a fast-paced environment.
- Ability to be organized, accurate, and prioritize tasks.

Required Education and/or Experience: Associate's degree or equivalent from two-year college or technical school; or two to three years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Preferred Education and/or Experience: Bachelor's degree from four-year college or university; or four to five years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Certificates, Licenses, Registrations: Driver's license

Physical Demands: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential

functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand; walk; use hands to finger, handle, or feel and reach with hands and arms. The employee is occasionally required to sit; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl and talk or hear. The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and ability to adjust focus.

Work Environment: The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee may be exposed to toxic or caustic chemicals. The employee may be exposed to moving mechanical parts and fumes or airborne particles. The employee is regularly exposed to high, precarious places; outside weather conditions; risk of electrical shock and vibration. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate to loud.