

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, incumbents operate, maintain and repair a secondary wastewater treatment plant and contributing pump stations, on an assigned shift. Incumbents perform skilled work to control physical, chemical and biological wastewater treatment processes. The Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator is fully proficient in the skills and practices of the trade, with full knowledge of the principals, tools and techniques of the trade. Work at this level is performed with considerable independence within the framework of established practices, processes and procedures. An incumbent may work as part of a crew or as lead worker on specific projects, may supervise a number of lower level operating, maintenance and labor employees, or function in responsible charge on an assigned shift. The work of Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators may be completed with little or no check during progress, or on completion. Supervisor may check overall work to ensure that it meets standards. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Performs and supervises the operation, maintenance and repair of wastewater treatment plant and pump station equipment;

Monitors the performance of and operates mechanical devices designed to process wastewater;

Controls the quantity and quality of solids processed through the use of laboratory test procedures, flow measuring devices, and control instrumentation;

Monitors unit process variables and initiates necessary changes as determined through calculations, test procedures, and independent judgment in order to achieve operational goals;

Starts up and shuts down components of wastewater treatment processes as required and/or directed;

Records quality of treated wastewater using laboratory tests such as: dissolved oxygen concentration, chlorine residual, and temperature;

Samples wastewater and solids processing streams;

Provides mechanical maintenance, adjustment, inspection and cleaning to equipment as necessary;

Requests maintenance for the repair, modification and/or improvement of equipment as needed;

Assists in maintaining equipment including painting, and in providing a neat and orderly work area;

Performs housekeeping when necessary or directed;

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Maintains process operation log sheets and other records to assist in the preparation of operations reports;

Practices safety awareness at all times;

May use computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments;

May perform other incidental tasks, as needed.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Good knowledge of the procedures and techniques required for the proper operation of a wastewater treatment plant; familiarity with the basic principles of physical, chemical and biological sciences; ability to perform appropriate mathematical calculations; ability to interpret charts, flow diagrams, instruments and meters; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; ability to understand oral and written directions; ability to organize and direct the work of support staff; knowledge of computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, e-mail and database software; ability to read, write, speak, understand and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the essential tasks of the position; initiative; good judgment; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: High school or equivalency diploma and four years of experience where the primary function was in the operation, maintenance or repair of mechanical equipment such as heating and ventilation systems, or in any of the trades such as plumbing, electricity, pipe or steam fitting, masonry, carpentry, one of which must have been in a wastewater treatment plant.

SUBSTITUTION: Apprenticeship training or training gained by the satisfactory completion of technical courses in mechanical equipment or in any of the trades at a school, institute or branch of the armed services may be substituted on a year for year basis for up to one year of the general experience. There is no substitution for the one year in a wastewater treatment plant.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: (1) Appointees must possess a Certificate as a Grade 1 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and must maintain certification during course of employment. (2) Must possess a valid driver's license to operate a motor vehicle in New York State. (3) Depending on work location, must meet standards of OSHA regulation 1910.134, Respiratory Protection, and will be required to meet Federal, State and local standards with respect to health and safety.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.

West. Co.
J. C.: Competitive
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Job Group: VIII