

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY OPERATOR

DEFINITION

Under general direction performs journey level work in the operation and maintenance of the water pollution control facility and assumes responsibility for monitoring, adjusting, minor mechanical repair and maintaining equipment, grounds and facilities.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the journey level in the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) Operator series and is required to have the ability to carry out more complex duties related to laboratory testing, process operation and control, and minor mechanical repairs. This level requires a Grade II Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certificate, issued by the California State Water Resources Control Board, and is considered to be an Operator on a shift.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED

Lead direction is provided by a WPCF Lead Operator, or, in the Lead Operator's absence, the WPCF Operations Supervisor, or WPCF Operations and Maintenance Manager.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Responsibilities may include providing technical and functional assistance and on-the-job training to skilled workers, semi-skilled workers and operators-in-training, as required.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Ensures compliance with environmental and public health standards, including monitoring and making adjustments as needed to optimize efficiency, making chemical dosage changes, changing pumping rates and monitoring equipment regularly.

Operates and checks the operation of process equipment in the facility used for the treatment of wastewater, digestion of sludge and disposal of waste products.

Performs plant rounds and inspections, and reports significant changes in process or equipment conditions.

Monitors, interprets and records meter readings and gauges at various stages of the treatment process and adjusts controls as needed.

Collects and preserves samples and performs routine, standardized tests (i.e., chlorine

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ESSENTIAL DUTIES (continued)

residual titrations, settleable or total solids, acid and alkalinity, sulfide analysis, pH determinations, and various colorimetric tests) using Standard Methods, or approved standard operating procedures and quality control basic standards.

Monitors and adjusts valves, pumps, motors, generators, and other equipment to insure proper operation and maximum efficiency.

Reviews and analyzes WPCF Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) data to ensure that correct values are inputted and that trends meet expected normal parameters. Notifies supervisor of unusual situations and makes inspections or corrects system problems.

Assists in the training of other personnel in the operations and maintenance of the WPCF.

Operates and maintains equipment involved in bio-gas production for the co-generation system to ensure proper operation and maximum efficiency.

Logs information related to plant performance and status in a legible, professional and complete manner.

Cleans, inspects and lubricates plant machinery and equipment.

Performs preventative and routine maintenance work, as assigned.

Inspects mechanical and electrical equipment, makes requests for major repairs or performs minor repairs as required.

Maintains buildings, equipment, tools, materials and worksite in a neat, clean, proper and safe condition.

Observes proper safety precautions, rules, regulations and practices; actively participates in safety programs.

Performs housekeeping tasks as assigned.

Performs individual and group projects as assigned.

Conduct plant tours.

Performs related duties as required.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Principles, practices, equipment, material and tools used in the operation, cleaning and preventative maintenance of wastewater treatment and disposal facilities.

Applicable safety rules and regulations.

Wastewater treatment processes and tests used to verify the effectiveness of such processes.

SCADA operating systems and other computer applications related to operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.

Safe handling of hazardous chemicals.

Basic laboratory operations and standard chemical and physical tests of water, wastewater, and sludge.

Tools, equipment and methods used in the overhaul, repair, adjustment and modification of facility equipment.

Practical applications of pumping, piping and electrical systems as applied in a water pollution control facility.

Basic arithmetic.

Ability to:

Operate all process equipment in a water pollution control facility.

Anticipate and recognize need to adjust processes as necessary to insure permit compliance, take appropriate actions and keep supervisor informed of critical process issues.

Handle hazardous chemicals in a safe manner using proper personal protection equipment.

Perform standard laboratory tests of water, wastewater and sludge.

Perform minor mechanical repairs, maintenance work and preventative maintenance of equipment.

Handle a variety of highly critical duties required to operate the plant in conformance with all permit requirements without close supervision or assistance.

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JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS (continued)

Ability to:

Maintain and evaluate manual and automated logs, records, reports and charts.

Use and maintain the tools and equipment of the work skillfully and safely.

Maintain positive working relationships with coworkers and supervisors.

Follow department policies and procedures related to assigned duties.

Follow oral and written directions.

Make basic arithmetic computations.

Operate modern office equipment, including computers and specialized software applications.

Provide assistance to others.

Perform heavy physical labor.

Communicate effectively orally and in writing.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Any combination of experience and training that could likely provide the required knowledge and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Experience: One year of operational experience working in a publicly owned water pollution control facility. The experience must have been gained while in possession of a Grade I certificate or higher.

Education: Equivalent to completion of the twelfth (12th) grade.

License or Certificate: Possession of a valid Class C California Drivers License. Possession of a Grade II Certificate issued by the California State Division of Water Quality Control.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Essential duties require the following mental and/or physical abilities to: frequently stand and walk throughout the day; regularly bend, stoop, reach and handle equipment; ability to lift, carry, push and pull up to 50 pounds while servicing equipment or when assigned to maintenance activities; ability to occasionally sit, kneel, squat, crawl, climb and twist; work in an environment with exposure to outdoor elements in all weather conditions (e.g. heat, cold, and rain); withstand exposure to loud noises, moving objects, dust, chemicals, hazardous waste, mechanical and electrical hazards; ability to read fine print on labels, manuals, and diagrams; ability to converse over the telephone or using a radio device and in-person; drive vehicles. Essential functions must be performed with or without reasonable accommodation.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD: One year.

350CS98

Created: June 1958

Revised: 1998

Revised: January 2014

APP GROUP: 17

FPPC STATUS: Non-Designated

FLSA STATUS: Non-Exempt