

JOB TITLE: WASTEWATER TREATMENT/WATER PLANT OPERATOR (Hourly: Non-exempt)

ACCOUNTABILITY: Under the direction of the W/WWTW Superintendent or Facilities Maintenance Supervisor.

NATURE OF WORK: This is skilled work assisting in the supervision of a major segment of the wastewater treatment plant, water production, and water treatment plant as assigned. Work involves responsibility for the general operation of the wastewater treatment plant and water treatment plant, including inspecting and operating production treatment and process equipment and participating in the collection and testing of water samples. Employees of this class frequently operate a plant without the benefit of immediate supervision, and are called upon to make technical determinations regarding modifications of plant operating procedures. Work also involves performing mechanical maintenance and process control tasks necessary to ensure the normal, continuous operation of the plant. Supervision is received from a technical or an administrative superior who establishes routine operating standards, reviews records for operating results and gives specific instructions regarding new maintenance or operating practices.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED: Uses the SCADA system in the operation of the plant; monitors flows and equipment, trends and reports equipment and system operation over time, calibrates chemical dosage curves, monitors well control, lift station control, tower control, and identifies and offers solutions on programming issues. Ensures efficient operation of pumps and chemical treatment equipment; takes periodic readings of meters; maintains log sheets; keeps constant surveillance of switchboard circuits, pumps and pressure. Operates pumps, valves, filters, chemical injection processes, and other water treatment equipment to achieve and maintain desired performance of the treatment plant. Makes daily rounds and lubricates and services pumps as necessary. Performs maintenance on the collection system by Jet Cleaning Sewer mains and checks and maintains manholes. Performs preventative maintenance and services on equipment and keeps facilities in a clean and orderly manner; performs general housekeeping as needed, particularly around operating equipment. Performs routine preventative maintenance tasks on equipment and makes recommendations for updating procedures for the preventative maintenance program; performs repairs in accordance with work order instructions, equipment operating and maintenance manuals, blueprints and sketches. Controls the operation of the treatment plant; continuously monitors the system in order to anticipate demand for wastewater treatment flow. Maintains water production and treatment operations within established standards for specific processes and makes corrective measures as operation problems occur. Gives instructions regarding modified operating procedures based on laboratory test reports of water or sludge quality; maintains desired pressure in the system. Takes raw and treated sludge samples for laboratory analyses. Collects water samples, performs routine standard tests and submits water samples to laboratory for analysis. Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES AND SKILLS: Considerable knowledge of the operating principles and theories of a wastewater treatment plant and the operating principals and theories of water production and treatment plant. Considerable knowledge of the established routines and practices for the operation of the equipment and related testing and measuring devices to which assigned. Considerable knowledge of the preventive maintenance practices applicable to equipment operated. Considerable knowledge of chemical usage related to water treatment. Considerable knowledge of records maintenance practices as applied to plant operation. Considerable knowledge of the work hazards and relevant safety precautions to be taken. Knowledge of basic mathematics. Knowledge of biology or chemistry as it applies to water pollution control plants. Some knowledge of computers and their applications. Some knowledge of electrical/mechanical equipment and instrumentation. Ability to supervise the work of subordinate personnel while participating in plant operations. Ability to maintain plant operations within established

standards. Ability to recognize and remedy plant malfunctions. Ability to make repairs to electrical and mechanical equipment. Ability to maintain detailed operating records and prepare reports. Ability to understand, follow and transmit oral and written instructions. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and subordinates.

**DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:** Course work from a college or university, or technical school, with major course work in environmental science, environmental engineering or related fields, and considerable experience in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant including some supervisory experience. A Grade III Wastewater certificate and a Grade II Water Operator's certificate or higher and experience in water treatment plant operations.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduation from a senior high school or equivalent supplemented college-level or technical school course work in environmental science, environmental engineering or related fields, and experience in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the desirable skill, knowledge, and abilities.

**NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Possession of a valid Nebraska driver's license and CDL License is necessary for the satisfactory performance of assigned duties. Possession of a Nebraska Class II Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification, and a Grade III Water Operators certificate. In addition an employee of this classification may be required to obtain and maintain a CDL with a tanker endorsement.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:** Ability to work in inclement weather conditions; ability to lift up to 50 lbs.; ability to operate hand and power tools; ability to work in confined areas and near bodies of water; ability to climb ladders; ability to lift, carry, push and pull heavy equipment and tools.

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