

WATER PLANT OPERATOR

NATURE OF WORK

This is routine skilled work in water production, treatment, and distribution facility.

Positions of this class are responsible for the operation and maintenance of water production, treatment, and distribution equipment on an assigned shift. Employees of this class work around toxic chemicals, under varying weather conditions, and shift work. General supervision is received from the Water Production Superintendent. Once the details of the position are understood and experienced, employees work independently within established policies and procedures and may provide assistance to lesser experienced employees within the same work area; additional responsibilities may include assigning work to water operations personnel.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK {Employees of this classification must be able to perform the following. Physical and mental tasks related to these functions will be required. The following examples do not contain every task that could be reasonable assigned. The absence of a specific task here does not imply the task cannot be assigned if related to the nature of work, a logical assignment, or a business necessity.}

- Observes, regulates, and controls the production, treatment, and distribution of water from the main control panel.
- Inspects and operates chemical feeders, agitators, pumps, and related equipment. Cleans assigned work areas to ensure sanitary conditions and prevent accidents.
- Accurately records pertinent information at regular and timely intervals and makes simple computations on standard forms concerning the production and distribution of treated and untreated water.
- Instructs lower level water operations personnel in the upkeep of various water production, treatment, and distribution equipment and other assigned tasks. Supervises and participates in the proper delivery, transfer, and usage of chemicals in water treatment.
- Collects water samples and tests for hardness, chlorine, ph, turbidity, and other water analyses which may be required.
- Communicates with superiors and others to resolve water production, treatment, and distribution problems.
- Performs related work as required.

NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS

- Knowledge of procedures, policies, terminology and equipment used in the production, treatment, and distribution of water. Knowledge of occupational hazards and safety precautions associated with water production, treatment, and distribution.
- Ability to collect, inspect, record, and report necessary information. Ability to use manual overrides in the event of automatic control system malfunctions.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with others. Ability to coordinate and instruct subordinates.
- Ability to anticipate the public demand of water.
- Ability to work in various physical surroundings.
- Skill in the loading, transfer, and unloading of various materials and equipment.
- Possession of and the ability to maintain Class III certification in Water Treatment and Water Distribution issued by the State of Louisiana.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Graduation from high school or GED equivalency with two years of coursework in chemistry, sanitary or civil engineering or related water operations field; with three years appropriate experience in a water treatment facility or a related facility; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience accepted under the Louisiana State Operator certification law. Must be a registered voter.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Maintain a functional telephone in his/her residence.
- Pass the Class III – Water Treatment and Class III-Water Distribution examination for permanent certification as administered by the State of Louisiana within two years after appointment or allocation to this position.