

POWER PLANT TECHNICIAN

PURPOSE AND NATURE OF WORK

Positions in this class are responsible for efficient operation of any of two large natural gas fired electric generation units, while performing routine mechanical maintenance and / or cleaning. Incumbents work under immediate supervision and guidance and with significant independence at completion of training, subject to supervision of a Power Plant Shift Supervisor. Work is potentially hazardous. Incumbents work 12-hour rotating shift schedule and may be required to work additional overtime, depending on plant work requirements.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK (Note: These examples are intended only to illustrate the various types of work performed by incumbents in this class. All of the duties performed by any one incumbent may not be listed, nor does any incumbent necessarily perform all of these duties.)

At each shift change, ascertains, from other technicians or supervisor as well as inspections of control room and plant, operating conditions of turbines, condensers, generators, cooling tower, water treatment, and related equipment. As scheduled or directed, starts and brings into production or shuts down, electric-generating units. Works on elevated platforms and around hazardous materials. Monitors sensors, annunciators, indicators and controls; interprets and synthesizes information, makes adjustments as necessary. Inspects equipment throughout plant to ensure control room readings and commands are accurately and effectively received and actuated. Reads, reviews and stays abreast of equipment specifications and operating characteristics, as well as regulations, policies and procedures affecting plant operations, assists in instruction of apprentices, where applicable. Cleans, adjusts, lubricates, and maintains equipment and facilities as opportunity arises. Reports and records incidents and need for maintenance. Safely climbs, enters confined spaces, works in and around high temperatures, pressures, and noise levels. Assists maintenance technicians and performs related work as required.

NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge of principles, purposes, characteristics, and operating requirements of generating plant water and electrical processes.

Considerable knowledge of the plant processes as represented by control room indicators and actual inspection throughout the facility.

Ability to read, understand and interpret technical manuals, schematics, blueprints, as well as to put the information into practice.

Ability to work safely around plant chemicals and hazardous materials.

Ability to perform duties calmly and effectively in emergency and time critical conditions.

Ability to climb, to lift up to 50 pounds, to work at heights, to enter and work in confined spaces and in high temperatures and/or noise levels, and to verify instrument indications and control changes by inspection.

Ability to work and remain alert while working under stress and adverse conditions for extended periods of time and at irregular hours.

Ability to analyze interactions of complex instruments, controls, processes, and human operators to identify and solve problems.

Ability to form and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, foremen, technicians, and others.

Basic knowledge of and ability to use computers.

DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

High school supplemented by completed vocational / technical schools in industrial trades or similar military experience, and significant working experience in heavy industrial plant operations.

APPRENTICESHIP

Positions in this class may be assigned to an apprenticeship as defined by Civil Service Rule IV, Section 6. This requires the employee to complete all initial and ongoing training requirements as established by Lafayette Utilities System within two years for continued employment.