

TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR II, III, IV (WWTP)

Position Code: Operator II – 1756, Operator III – 1757, Operator IV - 1780

WC Code: 7580

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Pay Grade: Operator II - 351; Operator III - 352; Operator IV - 353

Location: Public Services

Approval Date: 2022

General Statement of Duties

Responsible for making changes and adjustments to the plant process as necessary to maintain compliance with NPDES permit; performing operational, laboratory, maintenance and grounds work

Distinguishing Features of the Class

An employee in this class performs a variety of operational, laboratory, and maintenance duties designed to produce the disposal of domestic and commercial waste materials. Work is performed on an assigned or rotating shift. Work includes monitoring the plant's operation through observation, mechanical readings and the results of standard chemical and biological tests and to make necessary adjustments in the process as conditions or test results dictate. Other duties include performing standard laboratory duties and tests and assisting with plant and facilities maintenance. Work also includes substantial record keeping or work activities. Employees are subject to hazards associated with wastewater operations including working both inside and outside environments, in extreme hot and cold weather, and exposure to various hazards such as loud noises, moving mechanical parts, electrical current, chemicals, fumes, odors, dusts, mists, gases, poor ventilation, working in small spaces such as sewer pipes, and oils. Workers may be required to wear respirators when working around chlorine tanks. Work around wastewater is also subject to the final standards of OSHA on blood borne pathogens. Work is performed under general supervision and reviewed by observation, conference, and reviewing records for adherence to operations standards, instructions, and safety practices.

Duties and Responsibilities

Collect Process Control and Compliance data

Check Influent and Effluent Ph samples daily

Monitor chlorine, caustic and bisulfate rates

Conduct light maintenance and help with major maintenance as needed

Mow, weed eat and conduct general maintenance around the plant

Calibrate process meters when needed

Maintain records and logs

Clean, condition, and check all equipment, digesters, and filters

Perform other duties as requested

Recruitment and Selection Guidelines

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Working knowledge of the operating characteristics and maintenance requirement of wastewater treatment plants.

Working knowledge of applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and permitting requirements.

Working knowledge of the occupational hazards of the work and of necessary safety precautions.

Some knowledge of standard laboratory test and procedures used in a wastewater treatment plant.

Some knowledge of hydraulic, chemical and mechanical principles pertinent to wastewater treatment plant operations.

Ability to detect flaws in the operation of mechanical equipment and to determine proper remedial measures.

Ability to conduct routine laboratory tests.

Ability to understand and follow moderately complex oral and written instructions.

Ability to read meters, charts, and technical manuals and drawings accurately and to maintain records of shift operations.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with peers and superiors.

Physical Requirements

Must be able to physically perform the basic life operational functions of climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, reaching, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, grasping, and hearing.

Must be able to perform medium work exerting up to 50 pounds of force occasionally; and/or up to 20 pounds of force frequently; and/or up to 10 pounds of force constantly to move objects.

Must possess the visual acuity to read gauges, dials and observe moving parts of machines, and to record and review written records.

Minimum Education and Experience

WWTP Operator II - High School Diploma or GED and five to seven years of experience in the operation and maintenance of machinery and equipment, preferably in a wastewater treatment plant; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

WWTP Operator III - High School Diploma or GED and five to seven years of experience in the operation and maintenance of machinery and equipment, preferably in a wastewater treatment plant; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

WWTP Operator IV – An Associate’s Degree from an accredited community college and five to eight years of directly related experience in a wastewater treatment plant; High School Diploma or GED and seven to ten years of directly related experience in a wastewater treatment plant; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Requirements

Operator II - Grade II Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification

Operator III - Grade III Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification

Operator IV - Grade IV Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification

Employees in Biosolids must obtain a valid North Carolina Commercial Driver’s License within 18 months.