

WATER PLANT OPERATOR

NATURE OF WORK

This is skilled work in the operation of a water production and treatment plant.

Work involves responsibility for inspecting and operating production treatment and process equipment and participating in the collection and testing of water samples. Work also involves performing minor mechanical maintenance and process control tasks necessary to ensure the normal, continuous operation of the treatment plant. Supervision is received from a departmental administrative or technical superior or acting departmental superior with work being reviewed in process. Supervision may be exercised over subordinate water plant operators and/or assistants assigned to a given shift.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Operates pumps, valves, filters, chemical ozone production processes, and other water treatment equipment to achieve and maintain desired performance of the treatment plant.

Performs routine control tests related to the various unit processes.

Directs the activities of subordinates assigned to operations and provides instruction as required.

Maintains accurate and complete operating records of treatment plant and well field; recommends more efficient operational procedures as appropriate.

Maintains production and treatment operations within established standards for specific processes and makes corrective measures as operational problems occur.

Makes regular inspections to observe and check the integrity and proper function of all equipment and systems associated with the assigned stations and reports faulty equipment operation to superiors.

Performs minor preventative maintenance and services on equipment and keeps facilities in a clean and orderly manner; performs general housekeeping as needed, particularly around operating equipment.

Maintains and reviews the various station logs and initiates appropriate responses to indicators of abnormal operation; adjusts feed rates of process control equipment; identifies anticipated operation changes needed to maintain process control equipment.

Participates in training courses and education programs as directed by superiors.

Collects water samples, performs routine standard tests and submits water samples to laboratory for analysis.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge of the operating principals and theories of a water production and treatment plant.

Considerable knowledge of applicable equipment and related testing and measuring devices to which assigned.

Considerable knowledge of the safety hazards associated with the work and precautionary methods utilized to prevent accidents.

Considerable knowledge of chemical usage and ozone production as it relates to water treatment.

Knowledge of basic mathematics.

Some knowledge of computers and their applications.

Some knowledge of electrical/mechanical equipment and instrumentation.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and subordinates.

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Ability to understand and follow instructions.

Ability to maintain plant operations within narrowly established standards.

Ability to make minor repairs to mechanical/electrical equipment and instrumentation.

Ability to solve problems logically.

DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Graduation from a senior high school or equivalent supplemented with an Associate Degree in Environmental Sciences or related area. Possession of a valid Nebraska Grade I Water Operators License from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health and experience in water treatment plant operations.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a senior high school or equivalent with a minimum of two (2) years experience as an Assistant Water Plant Operator or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the desirable knowledge, abilities, and skills.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENT

Must possess a Nebraska Grade IV Water Operators License from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services of Public Health.

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