

City of Coalinga

155 W. Durian

Coalinga, CA 93210

Water Operator IV (Chief Plant Operator – Water)

Pay Class: 32 General

FLSA Non-Exempt

DEFINITION

Under limited supervision of the Utilities Supervisor, operates a surface water filtration plant and distribution system with reservoirs. Performs a variety of tasks including but not limited to adjusting plant and reservoir flows, chemical dosages, backwash filters; using the SCADA system to monitor and adjust treatment and distribution; maintaining water plant and distribution equipment and appurtenances, such as pumps, chemical feed systems, valves and motors; and maintaining grounds, buildings and other related areas. Responds to distribution system needs. May oversee, monitor and/or direct the work of lower level personnel.

EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL DUTIES

NOTE: Examples listed in this class specification represents but is not necessarily exhaustive or descriptive of duties assigned to this position. Each individual in this classification may not necessarily perform all the duties listed. Further, management is not precluded from assigning other related tasks not listed herein if such duties are a logical assignment for this position.

- Evaluates real time operational and historic data to determine optimal flow rates, chemical feed rates, filter backwash scheduling, and all other parameters needed in the operation of the water treatment, transmission and reservoir systems.
- Monitors all applicable water quality parameters to ensure that EPA and DHS quality standards are being met at all times in treatment and distribution systems.
- Maintains, cleans, lubricates and adjusts water and treatment and booster pump station equipment and appurtenances such as pumps, chemical feed systems, valves, motors, etc. Maintain and cleans grounds, buildings and other areas as needed.
- Evaluates operational expenses to insure efficiency in the use of operations budget.
- Obtains water samples for laboratory analysis using standards sampling techniques and chain of custody procedures.
- Takes water samples and makes standardized laboratory tests such as tests for pH, turbidity; performs field-testing for chlorine residual, temperature, pH and additional tests as needed.
- Operates construction equipment for pipeline repair, grounds maintenance and similar construction projects.
- Lifts and moves heavy objects from time to time.
- Maintains and cleans tools used on the job, work areas, office spaces, etc., as needed.

- Performs daily pre-job inspection of equipment and vehicles, and completes regular safety, maintenance and cleanliness checks as required.
- Guides individuals or groups of visitors through the plant discussing plant operations and functions and all applicable EPA, DHA, WRCB and Health Services regulations governing the operation of water and wastewater treatment plants.
- Serves as water plant Chief Plant Operator; may assist in the training of new operators.
- Assists in employee performance evaluations.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

NOTE: The specifications listed below outline the desirable qualifications necessary for entry into the class and do not necessary convey the qualifications of incumbents within the position.

Education: High school diploma or equivalent.

Experience: Three (3) years of responsible experience in work involving operations and maintenance of surface water treatment and distribution systems.

Licenses: Valid State of California Driver’s License, Class B preferred; must be insurable under the City’s insurance policy without any additional premiums or costs being incurred by the City.

Certifications: Possession of the following certificates issued by the California State Water Resources Control Board:

- Grade T4 Water Treatment Plant Operator Certificate;
- Grade D2 Water Distribution Operator Certificate;

Certificate

Incentives: After successfully obtaining all required certifications, eligible for the following certification incentive pay if applicable:

- 5% Pay Incentive for Grade 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certificate.

NOTE:

It is the responsibility of the operator to renew all applicable license(s) and to maintain the validity of the certificates and licenses. The City will reimburse the employee for the renewal and Continuing Education Units (CEU) expenses.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

NOTE: The following are a representative sample of the KSA’s necessary to perform essential tasks of the position.

Knowledge of: Operation of water filtration plant and the distribution system; use of computers for the purpose of accessing and evaluating data needed to make operational decisions; treatment processes involved in the daily operations of water filtration and distribution system; all applicable Federal and State regulations governing the operation and quality needed to ensure regulatory compliance; safe work habits and all hazardous material(s), electrical and mechanical safety procedures; the operating principles of valves, pumps, screens, chemical feed systems, etc., as needed to properly operate treatment processes.

Skills and Ability to: Independently operate the water filtration plant and distribution system; read and interpret system plans; evaluate real time operational and historic data; perform minor and major plant repair work using a variety of tools; read and interpret gauges and recording devices; diagnose operating problems and take effective courses of action; conduct guided tours of the plant and assist in the training of new employees; communicate well with others and understand and follow oral and written direction; interact with the public to create a positive atmosphere with regard to water quality, treatment and testing procedures; work flexible work schedules, weekends, overtime and scheduled standby time as needed and during emergency work situations.

ATTITUDE

Characterized by initiative, commitment to teamwork and quality performance, and a customer-service orientation; must interact in a positive manner with City employees and the public.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: The physical demands described herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential duties of this classification. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable an individual with qualified disabilities to perform the essential functions of this job, on a case-by-case basis.

Work is performed in a water treatment plant and a typical outdoor environment. Ability to read small print, gauges, instruments and computer monitors; see distances sufficient to spot oncoming traffic, read signs and hazards; ability to detect unusual odors; sufficient mobility to stand, walk, bend, stoop, kneel, crouch, squat, push, pull, reach, rotate neck and/or upper extremity from neutral position while sitting or standing; dexterity to use small tools, to grasp with simple or firm grip, to perform fine manipulation with dominant/non-dominant hand or both hands; ability to lift and carry up to 50 pounds; and work in all weather conditions. Employee is required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for job assignments and must comply with respiratory protection program and Cal OSHA standards.

Approved by: Marissa Trejo 2/20/24
Marissa Trejo, City Manager Date