

## WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR I

### **Definition:**

Under general supervision, to be responsible for the overall operation of a wastewater treatment plant or perform as lead or relief wastewater treatment plant operator.

### **Distinguishing Characteristics**

In the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator flexible classification series, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator I is distinguished from the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator II by the performance of the more routine tasks, lower State Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation certification, and level of experience. Promotion to Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator II is considered on a merit basis subject to recommendation by the department head and approval of the Director of Personnel.

### **Essential Functions:**

- Maintains records of wastewater treatment plant operations.
- Prepares reports, analyze data, and implement results to enhance wastewater treatment performance.
- Inspects the wastewater treatment plant equipment and processes.
- Operates equipment, hand and power tools following recommended safety procedures.
- Reads meters, gauges, records results, and performs calculations.
- Operates pumps, motors, air compressors, valves and resets alarms.
- Performs minor laboratory analyses; evaluates test data and reports to verify proper operation and determine deficiencies; recommends adjustments and/or corrective action.
- Climbs ladders either stand alone or affixed to side of walls up to 30 feet; performs heavy work; occasionally lifts and carries 50 pounds, occasionally lifts 100 pounds; and occasionally removes and replaces street manhole covers weighing up to 205 pounds with the assistance of a pry bar.
- Performs repairs and maintenance for wastewater treatment plant and sewer systems and equipment.
- Cleans wastewater treatment plant structures and assists in major repairs.
- Works as a member of the Confined Space Entry crew in non-permitted required spaces.
- Communicates clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.
- Performs and adheres to facility safety practices, and attends safety trainings.
- Records data on computers; manipulates related software, and uses electronic equipment.
- Operates tractors, forklifts, and utility carts as necessary.
- Responds to emergency call-outs.
- Works as a relief plant operator at any of the county wastewater treatment plants.
- Performs other job-related duties as assigned.

### **Employment Standards:**

One (1) year of experience equivalent to a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator I.

**Licenses Required:**

Must possess at the time of appointment and maintain a valid Grade I Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator or higher certification issued by the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Certification).

Must obtain within eighteen (18) months of appointment and maintain a valid Grade II Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator or higher State certification.

Must possess and maintain a valid California Class "C" driver's license.

**Some Positions May Require:**

May be required to obtain a Class "B" driver's license.

Attainment of California Water Environment Association certification in appropriate sewer maintenance, mechanical or electrical categories may be required, dependent upon assignment.

**Additional Requirements:**

As a condition of employment, must reside within 45 minutes normal driving time of the wastewater treatment plant designated as the primary duty location.

**Knowledge of:** applicable rules and regulations according to certified grade level; wastewater treatment plant operations; reading meters and gauges; facility safety practices; facility repairs and maintenance; laboratory analyses; wastewater treatment plant and collection system equipment and maintenance; using computers and related software.

**Ability to:** maintain records; follow oral and written directions; perform basic algebraic calculations and apply mathematical and mechanical aptitudes; perform the physical requirements of lifting and maneuvering heavy objects; climb ladders; establish and maintain cooperative working relationships; read and understand maintenance and low-level technical manuals and apply technical knowledge; operate office equipment, including computers and related software; operate and repair wastewater treatment plant and collection system equipment.

A background check may be conducted for this classification.

All Kern County employees are designated "Disaster Service Workers" through state and local laws (CA Government Code Sec. 3100-3109 and Ordinance Code Title 2-Administration, Ch. 2.66 Emergency Services.) As Disaster Service Workers, all County employees are expected to remain at work, or to report for work as soon as practicable following a significant emergency or disaster.