

## **SENIOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** The work involves the responsibility for working an assigned shift for the actual operation and maintenance of a wastewater treatment plant, dependent on the municipality's type and complexity as defined by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Plant Scoring System. The work involves the responsibility of operating and maintaining either a facility for employing the activated sludge process, or any similar process, including all modifications of a facility employing any biological, physical or chemical treatment process other than the activated sludge and the stabilization or oxidation pond processes depending on the municipality's plant type. An Operator or Assistant Operator (as defined by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation dependent on the type of facility) is fully proficient in the skills and practices of the trade, with full knowledge of the principals, tools and techniques of the trade. An incumbent may work as part of a crew or as a lead worker on specific projects, may supervise a number of lower level operating maintenance and labor employees, or function in responsible charge on an assigned shift. Work at this level is performed with considerable independence within the framework of established practices, processes and procedures and may be completed with little or no check during progress or on completion. Work is performed under the general supervision of a supervisor in order to ensure that the work meets standards. Supervision is exercised over lower level treatment plant personnel. Does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** The typical work activities listed below, while providing representative examples of the variety of work assignments in the title do not describe any individual position. Incumbents in this title may perform some or all of the following, as well as other related activities not described.

Oversees the operation of a wastewater treatment plant to assure the most economical and efficient use of equipment and supplies on an assigned shift;

Operates incinerator, controlling feed rate, draft, temperature, shaft speed, ash removal and emissions;

Supervises the work of wastewater personnel;

Performs laboratory tests for control of plant operations;

Records readings of meters and gauges;

Maintains inventory of bulk chemicals and other plant supplies;

Monitors sludge deliveries from other municipalities;

Starts and stops pumps, motors, air compressors, and related machinery and equipment;

Makes minor repairs to machinery and equipment;

Treats and disposes of sludge;

Takes sample of sewage for testing;

Performs custodial duties in connection with the cleaning and maintenance of plant buildings and grounds;

Keeps a log of plant operations and related records.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:** Good knowledge of the principles and practices involved in the operation and maintenance of a wastewater treatment plant; good knowledge of the principles and applications of physics, chemistry and bacteriology as applied to wastewater treatment and disposal; working knowledge of the tools, equipment and terminology used in the maintenance and repair of wastewater treatment systems; ability to make routine laboratory and field tests for control of plant operations; ability to follow oral and written directions; ability to maintain records and prepare reports; skill in the operation and repair of pumps, valves and related mechanical and electrical equipment; mechanical aptitude; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Possession of a high school diploma or its equivalency and one (1) year of experience in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant.

**Special Requirement:** At time of appointment candidates must possess certification as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator relative to the municipality's facility type issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation under Part 650, and must maintain certification during the course of employment. Certificate qualifications shall consist of education, training and practical experience as defined in Part 650 of the Department of Environmental Conservation regulations.

ULSTER COUNTY  
6654 SR WW OP  
Classification: Competitive  
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Adopted: July 28, 2003