

## **SOLANO IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

### **Job Description**

## **OPERATOR, WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Salary Range: 133-138  
(Assigned Salary Range based on Certifications)  
FLSA Status: Non-Exempt  
Representation: General Unit

Qualifying California State Water Resources Control Board Certifications:  
Possession of Distribution Level D1 and Treatment Level T-2 = Range 133  
Possession of Distribution Level D-2 and Treatment Level T-2 = Range 138

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### **Description**

Under general direction of the Supervisor of Water Treatment & Quality and/or Lead Water Treatment Plant Operator, receives on-the-job training in water treatment plant operations and maintenance. Performs standard chemical and water quality tests. Makes minor and major repairs to plant equipment. Recommends to management suggested changes and modifications of District's water treatment facilities. Schedules and collects water samples for analysis to maintain safe potable water in the District and M&I systems.

### **Examples of Duties**

*The duties specified below are representative of the range of duties assigned to this classification and are not intended to be an inclusive list.*

- Monitors water treatment plant equipment and machinery such as valves, motors, pumps, chlorinators, filters, chemical feeders, flocculator and other plant equipment.
- Takes samples and performs standardized laboratory tests such as tests for temperature, alkalinity, turbidity, chloride residual and pH, using required chemical testing tools and equipment.
- Reads and interprets meters, gauges, charts, and instruments.
- Logs plant operations, test results, unusual operating conditions, maintenance work performed, and related information.
- Enters data into computer.
- Lubricates, packs, cleans, adjusts, and makes minor and major repairs to plant equipment which may include disassembling, cleaning, sanding and reassembling valves, gear cases and reduction units, aligns motors, pumps, and gear cases.
- Keeps records of plant operation and laboratory tests.
- Performs plant maintenance work such as sweeping, cleaning, sanding, and painting.
- May guide groups of visitors through the plant.
  
- Makes routine decisions within standard operation policies and procedures, subject to approval of a Shift Operator, Supervisor, or Superintendent.

- Is responsible for the efficient operation and maintenance of the membrane water treatment plant on an assigned shift.
- Consults with Supervisory personnel in unusual, or emergency situations not covered by operating procedures.
- Operates and monitors pumps, valves, and related equipment to regulate the flow of water through the membrane treatment plant or other portions of the water distribution system.
- Starts, adjusts, and shuts down plant operations and/or adjusts pumping stations and distribution flows, to meet production and storage requirements and water quality standards.
- Answers and relays or responds to incoming telephone calls.
- Provides information and assistance to customers and to other agencies.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

### **Employment Standards**

#### **Knowledge Of:**

- District policies, rules, regulations, and procedures.
- Water treatment principals, practices, methods, tools, and equipment.
- The operating principles of valves, pumps, and motors.
- Principles and methods of conducting basic chemical water analysis.
- Applicable safety precautions and procedures.
- Common public relations courtesies, practices, and techniques.

#### **Ability To:**

- Deal tactfully and courteously with the public.
- Read and write the English language.
- Communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- Understand and carry out oral and written instructions.
- Read and interpret gauges and recording devices.
- Make basic arithmetical calculations quickly and accurately.
- Perform standard water quality tests.
- Use a computer to enter and retrieve information.
- Perform minor and major plant repair work using a variety of tools.
- Diagnose operating problems and take effective course of action.
- Conduct guided tours of the plant.
- Operate a vehicle observing legal and defensive driving techniques.
- Establish and maintain effective relationships with those contacted during work.
- Initiate and maintain effective safety practices that relate to the nature of the work.

### **Other Requirements:**

Requires willingness and ability to:

- Work outdoors in a variety of weather conditions
- Work standby shifts, weekends, holidays, and in emergencies
- Work with and around hazardous chemicals
- Wear respiratory protection equipment
- Be available for stand-by work.

### **Training and Experience**

Any combination of training, education and experience which demonstrates possession of the knowledge and abilities stated above and the ability to perform the duties of the position. Graduation from high school (or equivalent) and supplemented by a course in water technology, chemistry, or biology.

### **Licenses and Certification**

Possession of a valid California Driver's License with a satisfactory driving record to maintain insurability.

Possession of a valid California State Water Resources Control Board Treatment Level T-2 and Distribution Level D-1 certificates upon hire.

As a condition of continued employment, incumbents are required to obtain a valid California State Water Resources Control Board Treatment Level T-3 and Distribution Level D-2 certificate within two (2) years of appointment.

*Advancement to the Shift Operator, which is the next step within the job series, is based on the incumbent meeting the position minimum qualifications, prior job performance, and position availability, among other considerations.*

### **Physical Demands**

Carrying:	Transport objects by holding them in hands or arms.
Hands/Arms:	Operate vehicles, hand tools and equipment. Seize, hold, or work with hands.
Reaching:	Extend hands and arms in any direction.
Stooping:	Bend body downward and forward by bending at waist or knees.
Lifting:	Raise (above head) or lower (below knees) assorted mechanical devices, supplies and appurtenances, up to 50 pounds.
Sitting	May remain in a seated position for up to 6 hours per day performing paperwork and operating computers. Rides in District vehicles.
Standing	Stand for up to 7 hours per day.
Climbing	Climb in and out of equipment and facilities; ascends and descends ladders up to 50 feet. May be required to crawl in confined spaces.

Hearing	Hear well enough to receive communication in person, by radio and by telephone, as well as for safety. May work in conditions with intermittent or constant noise.
Talking	Express ideas and share information by means of spoken word in person, by radio and by telephone.
Vision	Read written documents; computer screens; and gauges; operates vehicles and equipment.
Walking	Move about on foot, often through uneven terrain.
Environment	Work in conditions with intermittent or constant noise and works outside with variations of temperature and weather. Exposure to dust, hazardous materials chemicals, fumes, and noise. May be required to operate in confined spaces. Ability to work irregular hours including any day and any shift within a 24-hour period.

Requires sufficient physical strength and agility to perform equipment operation, inspection, and maintenance tasks, and to unload, store and transfer supplies and equipment.

*Reasonable accommodations will be considered.*

### **Physical Examination**

Must pass a physical examination, which includes substance screening, before employment with the District.

### **Confidentiality**

Work does not ordinarily involve confidential information.

### **Supervision**

This position receives general supervision from the Lead Operator, Water Treatment Plant. This position works with and may receive technical direction from the Water Quality Specialist. This position does not have supervisory authority.