

Position Description

POWER PLANT OPERATOR – U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Position is in the second year (Part II) of the Power Plant Trainee Program, assigned to the targeted craft specialty of Power Plant Operator. At the beginning of Part II of the program, the trainee is assigned to a specific target occupation of Power Plant Operator, Power Plant Electrician, or Power Plant Mechanic. Each part (Part II, III and IV) consists of one year specialized training in the field of operation and maintenance of hydroelectric power plants, consistent with future project requirements; plus the appropriate instruction, tests, and assignments. The Training Program will consist of a combination of academic, plant equipment study, and on-the-job training.

MAJOR DUTIES

Receives specific assignments designed to provide required knowledges, skills, and abilities necessary for performance as a Power Plant Operator at the journey level and to be made a part hereof under the formal Hydroelectric Power Plant Personnel Training Program as set forth in provisions of ER/EP 1130-2-510, and supplemented by locally established implementing procedures, practices and instructions. Advancement from Part II to Part III is governed by satisfactory completion of Part II as prescribed in the ER/EP and local Power Plant Trainee Training Plan.

Part II, one year, grade TC-C

Part III, one year, grade T/C-E

Part IV, one year, grade T/C-G

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Basic knowledge of trade theory and practice, and ability to apply skills and knowledges learned. Basic knowledge of math, algebra and geometry, and ability to make routine shop calculations. Knowledge to perform on-the-job learning tasks and pass associated tests related to the specialized occupation of Power Plant Operator. Basic knowledge of tools of the trade. Basic knowledge of related aspects of computer technology. Ability to follow directions in a shop and use trade related guides such as: manufacturer catalogs, technical manuals, specifications, blueprints, etc. A valid state driver's license is required.

RESPONSIBILITY

Receives specific orientation, guidance and instructions on various aspects of hydroelectric power station operation and maintenance through training in the craft specialty during the formal training program. Related and classroom study and on-the-job work assignments are closely coordinated to relate basic theories to practicable application of operation and maintenance activities of hydro-electric projects, and are closely and critically reviewed to assure satisfactory performance necessary for continuance in the program. Responsible for meeting and maintaining standards of Federal employment in the classroom and on-the-job performance and work conduct. Responsible for learning the study material and ability to do the work required in the trade without hazard to self or other workers. Responsible to comply with established safety standards and practices. Must comply with lockout/tagout procedures and other project safety requirements.

PHYSICAL EFFORT

Work requires extensive walking, standing, and climbing vertical and inclined ladders and stairs; and some stooping, bending, kneeling, and crawling. Work may be done in awkward and cramped positions which may require the physical endurance to work under poor conditions for prolonged periods of time. Requires lifting, carrying, pushing, pulling, and twisting objects frequently weighing up to, and occasionally over, 45 pounds. Required to operate large valves, apply servolocks, lift deck hatches, and perform other tasks requiring pulling or turning force. Must have good distant vision in each eye and be able to read fine calibrations; glasses permitted. Ability to distinguish basic colors is required. Ability to hear the conversational voice, with or without a hearing aid, is required. An amputation of arm, hand, leg or foot will normally disqualify an applicant for appointment. Any physical condition which would cause the applicant to be a hazard to his/herself or to others is disqualifying.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The principal assignment is to the powerhouse; however the work area may include navigation lock, fish facilities, intake structures, and spillway areas. Work is principally indoors in a well heated, lighted and ventilated environment, but occasional outdoor work exposes employee to usual climate extremes. Exposed to equipment and machinery noises, heights, oils, greases, confined areas, dust, dirt, water, heat and cold, odors, fumes, and moving and/or energized equipment. May work in proximity to high voltages and currents. Is subject to the discomfort of safety equipment required such as hard-hats and ear plugs. Must wear appropriate safety equipment and protective clothing, and successfully complete and maintain all occupational health requirements. Operator's work schedule includes an alternating 12-hour rotating shift.

Revised 01/18/02