

Powerline Journeyman - 2644

Primary Reason Why Classification Exists

To perform highly-skilled heavy duty electrical work to construct, maintain, and repair electrical distribution, transmission, and underground systems.

Distinguishing Features of the Class

An employee in this class performs skilled heavy duty electrical work in the construction, maintenance, and repair of overhead and underground electrical distribution systems. The designation of Journeyman signifies the employee functions at the experienced level and can provide guidance and training to trainees and less experienced staff. Work includes performing the most hazardous tasks in construction and maintenance of the City's electrical distribution systems, substations, and associated equipment. Employees are required to work with high voltage electrical wires in adverse weather conditions, requiring skill and care to protect the lives of employees and others. Work is performed under the supervision of the Electric Utility Division Supervisor and is evaluated on the basis of attaining specific performance objectives, quantity and quality of work, feedback from crew leaders, and initiative and dependability.

Illustrative Examples of Work

- Performs skilled level electrical lineman work in the construction, maintenance and repair of electrical distribution and transmission systems including setting of poles, anchors and guys, placing of cross arms and insulators, stringing and tapping of wires, and the installation of transformers, fuse cutouts, capacitors, meters, metering, service installation and drops, and metering equipment
- Provides guidance and training to less experienced personnel; signs off on skills acquired by less senior employees
- Installs and maintains streetlights, floodlights, and associated equipment in public areas; installs personal protection grounds at any given location on a distribution system; installs underground lines and associated equipment
- Supervises and participates in the making of voltage and amperage tests and in the adjustment and replacement of transformers to regulate power to point of use
- Troubleshoots work to locate the sources causing power failure; locates and repairs damaged URD cable (primary and secondary); replaces damaged hardware on overhead primary system; makes defined repairs and restores electrical service
- Climbs poles and works with high voltage electrical lines if working on overhead lines; works with power lines, replaces capacitor banks, distributes transformers on poles, insulators, and fuses
- Uses hot sticks (insulated poles) when working with live-lines on energized high-voltage electric power lines; tests voltage, tightens nuts and bolts, applies tie wires (twisted lengths of ductile wire which fasten the running cable to its supporting insulators), installs, opens and closes group operated switches, as well as single and three-phase re-closures; replaces fuses, lays insulating sleeves on wires, and performs various tasks without exposing work crew to electric shock
- Maintains, inspects, tests, repairs and operates all transformers and other electrical equipment if working at substation

- Supervises and participates in loading and unloading trucks, operates special purpose line trucks and attached equipment; Operates backhoe and trencher; checks equipment daily to ensure they are operational and equipped to provide service
- Locates other utilities such as cable, telephone, and fiber optic lines when setting new poles
- May serve as a supervisor in the absence of the Electric Utility Division Supervisor
- Respond to emergencies when required; subject to call-back
- Performs related work as required

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of the methods, materials, tools and equipment used in electrical construction and maintenance work
- Thorough knowledge of the occupational hazards and safety precautions of the trade;
- Knowledge of the principles of electricity as applied to power circuits, wiring diagrams, and plant operation
- Knowledge of the operation of aerial devices (e.g., bucket truck)
- Knowledge of the methods, materials, tools and equipment used in underground wire/transformer installation
- Skill in the use of tools, construction equipment, and testing equipment used in installation and maintenance of electrical distribution and transmissions, substations, and allied equipment
- Ability to use common work tools and equipment such as 2-way radio, bucket truck/pick-up, backhoe, trencher, front end loader, digger derrick, regulators/controls, testers/relays/switches, meters/metering equipment, various electrical equipment
- Ability to maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and subordinates; ability to oversee and train less skilled personnel in work with electrical high voltage systems
- Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions and evaluate the work of less skilled personnel
- Ability to read and interpret electrical sketches, diagrams, and blueprints
- Ability to climb poles and work at various heights with high voltage wires and related equipment, exercising proper safety precautions.
- Ability to maintain good physical condition and health and sufficient physical strength and agility to performs heavy manual tasks
- Ability to work under varying weather conditions to include extremes in temperature and/or adverse conditions
- Ability to operate a personal computer and associated software
- Ability to establish and maintain an effective relationship with subordinates, supervisors, citizens and member of external governmental organization and agencies;
- Ability to work overtime (including weekends and holidays) as the needs of the City determines is required to meet operational needs and travel to varied locations as required

Physical Requirements

Work in this position is characterized as heavy work exerting up to 100 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects. Employee must be able to stand, use hands to finger, handle or feel

objects, see clearly, bend body downward and forward, requiring full use of the lower extremities and back muscles, reach with hands and arms, hear, walk, ascend and descend stairs or ladders, climb poles, and work at heights or work underground in confined spaces. Employee must have the stamina to engage in strenuous physical work for extended periods of time.

Working Conditions

Employees are primarily subject to outside environmental conditions including extreme cold and heat as well as noise levels requiring workers requiring the wearing of personal & occupational protective equipment. Employees are subject to physical workplace hazards including proximity to moving mechanical parts, cutting tools, or moving vehicles in roadways, climbing poles or working in trenches both of which may have energized high voltage electrical current and wires, working on scaffolding and high places, exposure to extremes of heat and cold, rain and snow, and potential exposure to chemicals, PCBs, herbicides & pesticides, as well as atmospheric conditions including fumes, odors, dusts, dirt, mists, gases, or poor ventilation.

Education

Graduation from high school or GED equivalency and completion of an Electrical Lineman Career training program by Electricities or by various North Carolina community colleges

Experience

At least 4 years' experience working as a senior or journey lineman with a municipal or private sector high voltage electrical distribution system

Special Requirement

- Valid North Carolina Commercial driver's license (CDL-B); a CDL-A is preferred
- First aid and CPR certification
- Certified as a Journey Lineman

FLSA Status: Nonexempt (eligible for overtime or equivalent compensatory time at 1½ times the employee's regular weekly rate for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the City's official work week and not the employee's work schedule)

Disclaimer

This classification specification has been designed to indicate the general nature and level of work performed by employees within this classification. It is not designed to contain or be interpreted as a comprehensive inventory of all duties, responsibilities, and qualifications required of employees to perform the job. The Physical Requirements and Working Conditions section of this classification may vary from position to position and a more thorough description of these elements can be found in the employee's Position Analysis Questionnaire (PAQ). The employer reserves the right to assign or otherwise modify the duties assigned to this classification.