

Senior Powerline Technician - 2643

Primary Reason Why Classification Exists

To perform skilled manual and technical work in the construction, maintenance, and repair of municipal electrical distribution systems.

Distinguishing Features of the Class

This is skilled electrical work as a First Class lineman in the construction, maintenance, and repair of overhead and underground high voltage electrical distribution systems. An employee in this class functions as an experienced level technician performing routine work independently or providing skilled work as part of a team. 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 energized 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 Electrical Utility Division Supervisor or other supervisory official and is evaluated on the basis of attainment of specific performance objectives, quantity and quality of work, feedback from crew leaders, compliance with safety regulations, and initiative and dependability.

Illustrative Examples of Work

- Provides skilled level electrical lineman work in the construction, maintenance and repair of electrical distribution and transmission systems including digging holes and setting of poles, anchors and guys, placing of cross arms and insulators, stringing and tapping of wires, and the installation of transformers, service drops, and metering equipment; climbs poles and works with energized 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), opens and closes switches, replaces fuses, lays insulating sleeves on wires, and performs various tasks without exposing work crew to electric shock
- Operates backhoe and trencher; operates special purpose line trucks and attached equipment; checks equipment daily to ensure they are operational and equipped to provide service
- Uses wiring diagrams, maps, and SCADA systems to troubleshoot work problems to locate the sources causing power failure; makes defined repairs and restores electrical service in overhead or underground infrastructure
- Installs and maintains streetlights, floodlights, and associated equipment in public areas including underground lines and associated equipment
- Assists with relocating other utilities such as cable, telephone, and fiber optic lines when setting new poles
- Responds to fire alarms, vehicle accidents, and other emergencies to disconnect wires, ; may install meters and metering equipment as required
- Maintains, inspects, tests, repairs and operates all transformers and other electrical equipment if working at substation
- Provides guidance and training to less experienced personnel

- Performs related work as required such as hanging banners or decorations from poles, tree trimming, restocking vehicles with supplies, load and unload materials, and related labor activities

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of the methods, materials, tools and equipment used in electrical construction and maintenance work; knowledge of the principles of electricity as applied to power circuits, wiring diagrams, and energized high voltage equipment
- Knowledge of the operation of aerial devices (bucket truck) as well as other occupational hand and automotive and power equipment
- Knowledge of the methods, materials, tools and equipment used in underground wire/transformer installation
- Knowledge of the occupational safety requirements and state and federal protocols (OSHA) associated with high-voltage electrical work
- 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 hand, electrical, and power work tools and equipment; ability to operate a 2-way radio, bucket truck/pick-up, backhoe, trencher, front end loader, laptop, regulators/controls, testers/relays/switches, meters/metering equipment, and other electrical equipment as may be required
- Ability to maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and subordinates
- Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions and evaluate the work of less skilled personnel
- Ability to climb poles and work at various heights with energized high voltage wires and related equipment as well as work underground in trenches and confined spaces exercising proper safety precautions
- Ability to maintain good physical condition and health and sufficient physical strength and agility to perform 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 and make calculations for amount of materials required for job assignments
- Ability to communicate effectively with the public
- Ability to work overtime (including weekends and holidays) as 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 technology training program offered by various North Carolina community colleges

Experience

At least 5 - 7 years experience working as a senior lineman with a municipal or private sector company providing energized high voltage above ground and below ground electrical distribution systems

Special Requirements

- Valid North Carolina Commercial Driver's licenses (CDL-B) with endorsement for operating a bucket truck
- Certification in CPR & first-aid, Lock-out/Tag-out, confined space/trenching, and other job related certifications as may be required when positions are open for recruitment
- Certification as a senior lineman (First Class)

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.