

## **SLUDGE PROCESSING EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I\***

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is moderately difficult work involving responsibility for the operation and minor maintenance of sludge processing equipment used in the reduction of solid waste into a dried cake form. Employees in this class are typically required to work an assigned shift and are subject to call at other than their normal work hours during periods of emergency. A wide variety of laboring and maintenance tasks may be assigned when sludge is not being processed. Work is performed under the general supervision of a senior level operator or the wastewater plant operator. Work direction may be given to one or more laborers. Does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Operates and adjusts belt filter press for dewatering of sewerage sludge, including electrical control, mechanical and hydraulic subsystems and appurtenances;  
Operates and adjusts the dewatered sludge belt conveyor system and appurtenances;  
Operates and adjusts the polymer injection system and appurtenances;  
Operates and adjusts the chemical odor control system and appurtenances;  
Operates and adjusts the sludge storage tanks, including pumps, automatic valves, level control devices, mixers, etc. to include electrical control, mechanical and pneumatic subsystems and appurtenances;  
Maintains (minor maintenance) machinery and equipment such as grease equipment; replace pump subassemblies, gears in pumps, rollers on conveyor belts, etc.;  
Observes and controls the operation of all equipment;  
Connects the truck tractor to the sludge transportation trailer;  
Maneuvers sludge tractor trailer combinations under the dewatered sludge conveyor belt for loading;  
Applies odor control chemicals and covers the loaded dewatered sludge;  
Drives the loaded tractor trailer to a parking area on Sewer Department grounds, and disconnects the tractor;  
Cleans work area and equipment (e.g., power wash pumps, steam clean walls and floors, etc.);  
Maintains operating log and related records;  
Performs any or all duties normally assigned to a Laborer when sludge processing is not taking place;  
May assist in the major repair or overhaul of machinery and equipment;  
May use a lathe and/or drill press to fabricate replacements for broken parts;  
May, on an emergency basis, operate motor vehicles such as high pressure truck, vacuum truck, dump truck, trailer truck, generator truck, etc.

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Good knowledge of the practices used in the operation of a sludge processing plant and related equipment; ability to operate and perform minor maintenance and repair to the equipment; ability to read and understand operating manuals and record data accurately; ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions; mechanical aptitude.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Completion of two (2) years of training and/or experience in the mechanical/electrical trades and one (1) year of experience in the operation and maintenance of sludge processing equipment.

(over)

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** When required to operate a motor vehicle, must have the appropriate driver's license for the size and kind of vehicle to be driven.

\*This is a retitling of Incinerator Operator. In the past, sludge processing included incineration.

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Competitive

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