

JOB OPENING

CITY OF FARMINGTON

JOB POSITION #94: SENIOR SYSTEM OPERATOR

NUMBER OF VACANCIES: 2

DEPARTMENT: Electric Utility

WORK LOCATION: MOC

HIRING RANGE: \$65,684 - \$77,832 per year

PAY CLASS: EPAT-1, Exempt

SALARY RANGE: \$65,684 - \$89,979 per year

DAYS WORKED: Rotating Shift

HOURS WORKED: Varies

TYPE OF POSITION: Regular, Full-Time

APPLICATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL: Open until filled

JOB DUTIES

Resumes submitted without a City of Farmington application will not be considered in our job selection process.

Salary covers all scheduled hours; hours worked in addition to the scheduled hours will be paid at straight time.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Works under the general supervision of the System Operations Supervisor.

Ensures North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) reliability standards pertinent to system operations are consistently adhered to:

- Makes real time decisions relative to the grid in selling and purchasing electrical power.
- Constantly monitors the grid for system ties to maintain reliability to FEUS and the bulk electric system.
- Constantly uses independent judgment in curtailing and restoring load.

Assures NERC and WECC training requirements are met.

Has the responsibility, authority, and clear decision-making authority to take whatever actions are needed to ensure the reliability of the transmission, generation, and distribution system and shall exercise such authority to alleviate capacity in dealing with energy and reliability emergencies without being required to obtain prior management approval.

Using excellent customer service skills, establishes and maintains effective working relationships with other employees, officials, and all members of the general public.

Updates hourly power resource schedules and ensure hourly resource adequacy to reliably meet customer demand.

Job #94 – Senior System Operator

Dispatches energy over the electric utility system considering the load requirements, reliability of service and the most economical utilization of power resources.

Ensures the proper level of reserves is maintained appropriately to assure activation if needed.

Monitors, enters and verifies hourly loads and resources for reporting to reserve sharing group to ensure reserve obligations are met

Develops and executes arrangements for power brokering, resource scheduling and sales, third-party transactions, wheeling points of delivery and receipt of energy and energy accounting requirements with other utilities.

Uses NERC tagging guidelines to develop, implement, and verify all power schedules and transactions.

Prepares, processes and coordinates all switching procedures for transmission, substations and major distribution circuit switching for routine and emergency work on the electric system

Issues and records transmission and distribution hold tags and switching clearances. In the event of an electric system disturbance or failure, quickly restores service in a safe and orderly manner through SCADA switching and radio directions given to field crews.

Records other information, including hourly and daily electrical load disturbances, failures, and relay breaker operations.

Monitors trends and performs minor adjustments to the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and telemetry systems.

Answers trouble calls by recording pertinent information in Operator Daily Logs and/or Report Forms and arranging for a repair crew as needed.

Operates base radio station during switching operations and incidental to minor equipment repair work.

Could be required to perform shift work in a rotation of days, evening and nights including weekends and holidays. Currently this work group is working a 12 hours shift rotation.

Regular attendance at work is an essential requirement of this position.

NON-ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Travels as required for training for up to one week.

Operates a motor vehicle to assist in carrying out the business of the department and the City.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

QUALIFICATIONS

This position is subject to the City of Farmington's Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy which includes: pre-employment testing, post-accident testing, random testing, reasonable suspicion testing, return to duty testing and follow-up testing.

Experience: a minimum of ten years of experience as a power system operator/dispatcher or five years as a NERC certified operator with sufficient experience to perform all the job duties listed above, duties as outlined in Procedures Manual and other duties associated with power dispatching.

Education: Graduation from an accredited university with a bachelors degree in electrical or power related engineering preferred; or, a minimum of three years of technical training in basic electric power system design and operation.

Must be able to pass a seven year security background check.

Must have NERC / WECC Reliability Certification or be able to obtain NERC / WECC Reliability Certification within six months.

Must have a combination of classroom and on-the-job training in power system apparatus, relaying, control, and system emergency response sufficient to sustain or maintain a stable and reliable electrical system with economic dispatch. Content of classroom training must be equivalent to WECC Session A through E.

Proficiency in SCADA system operation including but not limited to resource/load balancing, var flow and control, and operation of power equipment through Remote Terminal Units.

Experience in power system generation, including energy and voltage control, electric transmission and distribution systems' operation and electronic schedule tagging is required.

Experience and knowledge of interconnected power systems and emergency restoration procedures.

Experience with security and economy power pool operation required, including hazard/reserve sharing and various economy transaction methods for purchase/sale of power and energy sufficient to operate under Southwest Reserve Sharing Group (SRSG), WECC and NERC requirements as well as hourly resource optimization.

Job #94 – Senior System Operator

Ability to react calmly, intelligently and efficiently under stressful conditions imposed by system disturbances and/or emergency conditions.

Ability to direct operating and maintenance personnel. Must be skilled in a high degree of decision making skills.

Must be able to communicate effectively with others, both in writing and orally.

Must be able to establish effective working relationships with others.

Ability to accept and adapt to rotating shift work. (Currently 12 hour shifts)

Knowledge of telemetry used in Area Control Error calculations, hourly integrations, historical archiving and system load calculations.

Must be familiar with, or have the ability to become familiar with Microsoft Excel worksheet functions, with Microsoft Word document development, and with software applications using Microsoft Internet Explorer, such as OATI tagging and on-line training services such as S.O.S.

Knowledge and understanding of basic math and basic algebra sufficient to reconcile daily/hourly loads and resources, to calculate basic electrical concepts such as ohms, current flows, voltages, and power flows and to understand wheeling rates, losses and interchange accounts.

Valid New Mexico driver's license with acceptable driving record for the past three years.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Work is performed mostly in office settings. Infrequent outdoor work is possible for training purposes at various substation and distribution sites and generation facilities.

The employee must have the ability to hear and speak clearly in order to process information and dispatch energy over the electric utility system.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is occasionally required to stand or sit; walk; use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls; and reach with hands and arms. The employee is occasionally required to climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; talk or hear.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 50 pounds.

Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

The employee must have corrected visual acuity sufficient to accurately read incoming data on computer screens, computer printouts, and meters and to distinguish between the primary colors.

The employee is required to perform shift work in a rotation of days, evenings and nights including weekends and holidays.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee occasionally works in outside weather conditions. The employee is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, or airborne particles.

The noise level in the work environment is usually quiet in the office, and moderate in the field.

Work space is smoke free, temperature controlled and maintained at a comfortable level in all seasons.

City of Farmington Human Resources, 850 Municipal Drive, Farmington, New Mexico 87401, 505-599-1132, email personnel@fmtn.org, or visit our website at www.cofjobs.com

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