

**Powerline Technician I**  
**Grade 15**

Performs responsible technical work assisting in the construction, maintenance and repair of underground and overhead lines in the electrical distribution system.

**Distinguishing Features of the Class**

An employee in this class performs technical work in the installation, maintenance and repair of underground or overhead electrical distribution lines. Work is differentiated from higher levels of line work by performing only less hazardous and less skilled phases of electrical distribution work including working only on secondary lines and performing maintenance and assistance on the crew. The employee is responsible for operating the line truck to set poles and transformers, the service truck including repairing or replacing area lights, installing residential services, and other tasks using the bucket truck. The employee applies standardized techniques and safety standards in daily work operation. Work requires frequent on-call and call-back responsibilities. The employee is subject to hazards associated with electrical work including working in both inside and outside environments, in extreme temperatures, and exposure to various hazards such as working at heights, loud noises, vibration, moving mechanical parts, electrical current, chemicals, fumes, odors, dusts, mists, gases, confined spaces, poor ventilation, and oils. Work is performed under regular supervision and is reviewed in progress and upon completion for conformance to instructions and accepted standards.

**Key Duties and Responsibilities**

- Operates a bucket truck to provide a variety of customer services including connecting and disconnecting electrical service; providing temporary and permanent service connections; assisting customers with locating area lights and installing them; performing maintenance on area lights; trimming trees back from service lines; and replacing bulbs and ballasts in street and other lights.
- Participates as part of a line installation, maintenance or tree-trimming crew; operates and maintains various trucks; services truck as needed; checks and keeps equipment in good operating condition and keeps materials stocked; operates trenchers, backhoes, and other light, medium, and heavy equipment.
- Participates in hanging and connecting transformers.
- Participates with higher level line workers in stringing primary and secondary lines; attaching wire to insulators and cross arms; installing, repairing and replacing cross arms, supports, insulators, lightning arresters, and fuse cutouts; and maintaining and repairing street light system.
- Performs related duties as required.

**Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

- Working knowledge of the operation of the various trucks and equipment necessary to perform line worker tasks.
- Working knowledge of electrical principles and functions.
- Working knowledge of the tools, materials and methods used in power line construction and maintenance.
- Working knowledge of the hazards and related safety precautions involved in power line work.
- Skill in maneuvering trucks, equipment, and materials and supplies on the job sites.
- Ability to use power line tools and operate required equipment.
- Ability to understand written and oral instructions and read maps and electrical drawings.

- Ability to communicate effectively in oral and written forms.
- Ability to maintain effective working relationships with the public, other employees and supervisors.

#### **Physical Requirements**

- Must be able to physically perform the basic life operational functions of climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, crawling, reaching, standing, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, fingering, grasping, feeling, talking, and hearing.
- Must be able to perform 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 lift objects.
- Must possess the visual acuity to operate mobile equipment, monitor work site progress, perform skilled electrical tasks, and inspect and assemble small parts.

#### **Desirable Education and Experience**

Graduation from high school supplemented by technical training in electrical principles and some electrical distribution system experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

#### **Special Requirement**

Possession of a valid North Carolina class B commercial driver's license.