

POWERLINE TECHNICIAN III
Salary Range from \$41,629 to \$61,611
(Starting salary dependent upon qualifications)

General Statement of Duties

Performs advanced journey level technical work in the construction, maintenance and repair of underground and overhead lines in the electrical distribution system.

Distinguishing Features of the Class

Employees in this class perform advanced journey level technical work in the installation, maintenance and repair of electrical lines. Work is differentiated from lower levels of line work by the variety of more difficult secondary and primary high voltage line work, by greater independence of action, and by assigning and inspecting work, assuring compliance with safety rules and regulations, and training other line workers. Employees are expected to possess a thorough knowledge of standardized techniques and practices utilized in power line construction, maintenance, and repair. Judgment is utilized in determining the most appropriate work methods, locating and solving electrical problems and observing safety standards. Work requires frequent on-call and callback 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 supervision of a Powerline Supervisor and is reviewed in progress and upon completion for conformance to accepted standards and productivity and safety of crew when in the leadership capacity.

Duties and Responsibilities

Essential Job Duties

Provides leadership and participates in the installation and alignment of power line poles; 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.

Provides leadership and participates in the installation, construction, and repair of underground electrical systems by installing primary and secondary cables and transformers; by locating trouble spots in the cable span and taking necessary measures to excavate and correct; and by determining and replacing faulty equipment such as transformers.

Operates bucket equipment to ascend to high wires.

Participates in making energized line taps and connecting wires; handles energized aspects of system independently.

Installs transformers, fuse cutouts, and reactors.

Trims and disposes of tree limbs using bucket truck, chain saws and other saws and trimmers, chipper and other equipment.

Transfers wire from old poles to new poles; installs metering equipment, and transfers lines from old to new poles.

Participates in making emergency repairs during electric power outages. Serves as lead worker with a team or small crew.

Additional Job Duties

Assists crew leader in training crewmembers; inspects work of crew for adherence to instructions and trade and safety standards.

Performs related duties as required.

Recruitment and Selection Guidelines

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Thorough knowledge of the standard techniques and practices used in underground and overhead power line construction and maintenance work.

Thorough knowledge of the use and care of all tools, equipment, and supplies used in underground and overhead power distribution work.

Thorough knowledge of the hazards and safety precautions involved in power line work.

Considerable knowledge of the principles of electricity as related to transmission and distribution.

Ability to work on high voltage lines independently and to take precautionary measures to avoid accidents.

Ability to assign work, inspect work train coworkers, and insure safety precautions of crew, when assigned these duties.

Ability to understand oral and written instruction and read maps and drawings.

Ability to communicate effectively in oral and written forms.

Ability to use line worker's tools and operate required equipment.

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 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 training in electrical principles and considerable experience at the electric line worker - third class level; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Requirement

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

Special Note: This generic class description gives an overview of the job class, its essential job functions, and recommended job requirements, However for each individual position assigned to this class, there is available a job questionnaire with a physical abilities checklist which can give further details about that one specific position. Those documents should be reviewed before initiating a selection process. They can provide additional detailed information on which to base various personnel actions and can assist management in making legal and defensible personnel decisions.