

THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES



CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

CLASS SPECIFICATION

12/11/2008

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE INSPECTOR, 4292

Summary of Duties: An Environmental Compliance Inspector inspects and investigates industrial waste control, pretreatment and treatment facilities as well as industrial and commercial establishments discharging industrial wastes into sewers, storm drains, channels, ditches and other watercourses. In addition, an Environmental Compliance Inspector inspects, investigates and prepares reports on operational procedures at sanitary landfill sites, wastewater treatment plants and transfer stations. To ensure conformance to regulations governing the disposal of industrial waste, an Environmental Compliance Inspector collects samples and conducts laboratory and field tests of the composition of industrial waste discharged into City sewers, watercourses or other surface, underground or saline waters. An employee in this class also reports on the results of investigations and audits and recommends preventive or corrective measures; and does related work.

Distinguishing Features: The primary feature of the work performed by an employee in this classification is the prevention and correction of industrial waste disposal processes resulting in discharges harmful to City sewers and storm drains, that contain pollutants, are dangerous or obnoxious, or interfere with the City's wastewater treatment facilities. Periodic inspections are required because of the dynamic nature of industrial waste processes. An Environmental Compliance Inspector, in the field, recommends modifications to existing treatment and control facilities or new equipment installation. In addition, an Environmental Compliance Inspector must secure the cooperation of private sector management to make the recommended changes. It is frequently necessary for an Environmental Compliance Inspector to explain, to the public, the purpose and objectives of the industrial waste inspection program. The more difficult or technical public relations problems are referred to a Senior Environmental Compliance Inspector.

Example of Duties:

- Inspects industrial and commercial establishments discharging industrial wastes into sewers, storm drains, ditches or other watercourses;
- Determines whether industrial waste permits are required, whether permits have been issued by the Board of Public Works and enforces the provisions of the permits;
- Prepares rough drafts of new permits, specifications and City ordinances governing the discharge of industrial waste;
- Makes referrals to other agencies for violations beyond the scope of the Los Angeles Municipal Code;
- Inspects all pretreatment systems including the dimensions, operation and maintenance of floor drains, sand traps, settling tanks, clarifiers, neutralizing tanks, grease removal equipment, screening and cooling devices, and other equipment used in the treatment, disposal, and control of industrial wastes, and makes appropriate recommendations to ensure compliance with regulations;

- Checks the volume and content of industrial waste discharged into sewers to determine if unpolluted water may be diverted to storm drains or other watercourses;
- Takes samples for laboratory tests and makes field tests for quality of flow, temperature, conductivity, acidity, alkalinity, hydrogen sulfide, cyanide, hexavalent chromium, heavy metals and other factors to determine if waste discharge will comply with Federal and local regulations, or pollute and contaminate surface and underground water and deteriorate sewer facilities;
- Uses gas detection equipment such as velometers to detect explosive gas in sewers, storm drains, and landfills;
- Monitors dumping into sewers by commercial cesspool servicing companies and prepares reports of activities and findings;
- Operates chlorinating equipment in wastewater treatment facilities;
- Investigates complaints about water stoppages resulting from industrial waste discharges;
- Detects and records the quality of industrial waste effluents with automatic pH recorders, automatic samplers, automatic conductivity recorders, weir and automatic flow recorders, hand pH meters, and radioactivity meters;
- Collects permit fees on delinquent accounts; and
- May occasionally be assigned to other duties for training purposes or to meet technological changes or emergencies.

Qualifications

Knowledge of:

- Requirements of the City governing the treatment, control and operation of facilities used in the control of industrial wastes prior to discharge into sewers, storm drains and other watercourses;
- Inspection methods and sampling and testing procedures used in testing wastewater and industrial waste;
- Materials and equipment used in the treatment, discharge and control of industrial wastes;
- Federal and local environmental agencies and the regulations governing pretreatment and discharge of industrial wastes;
- Pretreatment systems operations and maintenance;
- Policies, procedures, and functions of the Bureau of Sanitation as related to the control of industrial wastes; and
- Methods, testing procedures, materials and equipment used in the application of chlorine and other chemicals used in the treatment of wastewater and industrial wastes.

Ability to:

- Inspect pretreatment systems and watercourses for industrial waste pollution;
- Explain and enforce laws, ordinances and regulations concerning industrial waste disposal in sewer and storm drain systems;
- Interpret laboratory reports, construction plans and specifications, sewer recorded maps and plans, and Environmental Protection Agency documents;
- Deal tactfully and effectively with other City employees, representatives of commercial and industrial firms, and the general public;
- Prepare clear, concise reports and recommendations;
- Maintain accurate records; and
- Research and apply local and federal regulations related to industrial waste control.

Requirements: Two years of experience at the level of Laboratory Technician in physical or chemical testing, in wastewater treatment or in explaining or enforcing laws, ordinances and regulations is required for Environmental Compliance Inspector. Completion of 12 semester or 18 quarter units from a recognized college or university in biology, chemistry, environmental science or engineering may be substituted for each year of experience lacking.

License: A valid California driver's license is required. Upon appointment, an Environmental Compliance Inspector will be required to furnish a properly insured automobile for use in City service.

Physical Requirements: Strength to perform average lifting up to 25 pounds and occasionally over 70 pounds; body ability and equilibrium for climbing, back and leg coordination for stooping and kneeling; arm, hand and finger dexterity and strength for handling, grasping, and dragging; good speaking and hearing ability; and good eyesight.

Persons with disabilities may be able to perform the essential duties of this class with reasonable accommodation. Reasonable accommodation will be evaluated on an individual basis and depend, in part, on the specific requirements for the job, the limitations related to the disability, and the ability of the hiring department to reasonably accommodate the limitations.

As provided in Civil Service Commission Rule 2.5 and Section 4.55 of the Administrative Code, this specification is descriptive, explanatory and not restrictive. It is not intended to declare what all of the duties, responsibilities, and required qualifications of any position shall be.