ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN I

Work in this class involves collecting, testing, and sampling of liquid or gaseous materials and substances for the purpose of monitoring environmental quality.

Employees collect samples of water and air from designated sites within assigned regions and perform routine tests and analyses according to prescribed standards to determine physical and chemical characteristics to assure environmental control and determine conformity to agency specifications. Work assignments and schedules are received in the form of general objectives required and applicable testing methods used; and employees carry out field assignments with a great deal of independence. Employees occasionally perform other related duties as required. Work is performed under the general supervision of a technical superior and evaluated through testing methods applied and results obtained. Work may include other duties as assigned.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Complexity - Employees must learn the location of all assigned stations, develop monitoring schedules and routes, and prepare or gather any necessary equipment or chemicals. Work requires employees to collect samples, take field readings and perform routine chemical analyses and quality assurance checks using the appropriate techniques and procedures. Limited calculations may be required to complete logs and laboratory sheets. Employees operate and perform minor maintenance work on monitoring equipment and vehicles; and calibrate equipment according to established standards.

Guidelines - Specific monitoring sites and the parameters to be sampled are determined by division management. Actual sampling and testing follow divisional procedures and state and federal standards. Manufacturers' manuals and standard operating procedures are referred to for operation and maintenance of equipment.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Accountability - Employees must determine monitoring routes and schedules to accommodate all assigned stations at the appropriate times for proper data collection. Samples must be collected and stored properly to insure accurate analyses. Employees must be aware of probable equipment malfunctions and how to correct or repair minor problems.

Consequence of Action - Improper sampling or storage procedures could make the analyses invalid and would require extra cork to re-sample. Incorrect data could also result in inadequate management decisions. Malfunctioning equipment would produce incorrect, invalid measurements. In sane cases it may be impossible to recapture lost data.

Review - Daily work is performed with considerable independence. Supervisor reviews procedures, results and schedules on a periodic basis.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Subject Matter - Contact is primarily with other staff members to discuss sampling procedures, station locations and the usage or repair of equipment or vehicles. Occasional contact with the general public is usually due to other special assignments.

Purpose - Communications with staff are generally to provide or receive information. Occasionally, information may be reported by or solicited from the general public.

IV. WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Nature of Working Conditions - Majority of the cork is performed in the field. Employees are exposed to disagreeable conditions such as inclement weather, noise, fumes, glare and dust. Equipment and instruments must be physically transported to and from sampling sites.

Nature and Potential of Personal Hazards - Employees spend a considerable amount of time driving or operating a boat and are subject to related accidents.

V. RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities - Working knowledge of sampling procedures and the operation and maintenance of monitoring equipment. General knowledge of and ability to prepare certain chemical solutions for conducting routine tests. Ability to read maps and locate assigned stations. Ability to perform minor repairs on equipment and vehicles. Ability to perform limited calculations. Ability to make observations of physical conditions at assigned sites.

Minimum Education and Experience - Graduation from high school with basic courses in physics, chemistry, biology or related subjects and one year of experience in chemical or physical testing; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Minimum Education and Experience for Trainee Appointment - Graduation from high school with basic courses in physics, chemistry, biology or related subjects; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Note - This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA. Examples of work are primarily essential functions of the majority of positions in this class, but may not be applicable to all positions.

All degrees must be from an accredited university