

New York State Department of Civil Service

DIVISION OF CLASSIFICATION & COMPENSATION

Tentative Classification Standard

Occ. Code 4523110

Utility Engineering Specialist 1 (Gas Pipeline Safety), Grade 18	4523110
Utility Engineering Specialist 2 (Gas Pipeline Safety), Grade 23	4523210
Utility Engineering Specialist 3 (Gas Pipeline Safety), Grade 27	4523310

Brief Description of Class Series

Positions in this series perform technical analysis and services related to the regulation of natural gas, hazardous liquid, liquefied natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, and steam pipeline systems.

These positions are classified only in the Pipeline Safety Section of the Office of Electric, Gas and Water at the Department of Public Service.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Utility Engineering Specialist 1 (Gas Pipeline Safety): performance level; under the direction of a higher-level Utility Engineering Specialist (Gas Pipeline Safety), conducts reliability and safety standards compliance and monitoring, facility and construction inspections, emergency response and damage prevention, and incident and complaint investigations.

Utility Engineering Specialist 2 (Gas Pipeline Safety): advanced-performance level; serves as lead inspector over inspections of services related to the regulation of natural gas, hazardous liquid, liquefied natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, and steam pipeline systems.

Utility Engineering Specialist 3 (Gas Pipeline Safety): first supervisory level; administratively supervises Utility Engineering Specialists 2 (Gas Pipeline Safety) serving as lead inspectors and lower-level staff. Incumbents testify on the most difficult issues in major utility rate cases, siting cases or other administrative proceedings on behalf of the Department of Public Service, participate in policy development related to utility rates, reliability and safety issues, and may perform all the duties and responsibilities of lower-level Utility Engineering Specialists (Gas Pipeline Safety).

Related Classes

Utility Engineering Specialists analyze and process rate proposals and utility rate structures of public utilities and evaluate the impact that proposed changes in rates, charges, rules and regulations will have on the utilities and consumers in New York State. In addition, they review utility emergency preparedness and reporting; evaluate reliability of the electric, natural gas, steam and water systems; monitor capital projects and operations and maintenance; audit operations for safety and compliance with regulations; monitor implementations of audit recommendations; enforce the State's underground facilities damage prevention program; investigate incidents of non-compliance and consumer complaints; assist other State agencies with energy-related policy and initiatives; and work with federal government agencies.

Illustrative Tasks

Positions at all levels perform similar duties in the following areas:

- Performs safety compliance audits and inspections and evaluates pipeline operators for compliance with State and Federal regulations.
- Inspects utility and contractor work sites involving construction, operations and maintenance activities on pipelines; enforces against violators of the State's Protection of Underground Facilities rules detailed in 16NYCRR Part 753; and prepares session items and notices of probable violations related to these activities.
- Performs facility design review and construction inspections, and documents field activities and prepare inspection reports.
- Audits and inspects leak management, emergency response, and damage prevention performance, prepares reports, and reports to Public Service Commission (PSC).
- Performs investigations of incidents involving natural gas and hazardous liquids pipelines, especially those that involve injury to people or significant property damage and where utility facilities caused or contributed to such.
- Performs safety complaint investigations, including site visits and interviews of affected utility customers and nearby residents. Ensures timely actions are taken by the pipeline operator to resolve the complaint and report as appropriate to senior management and the Office of Consumer Services of the Department of Public Service.
- Reviews utility filings related to rate proceedings and incentive plans, especially those sections that deal with capital budget projects and operations and

maintenance expenditures. Prepares testimony and develops rate case positions.

- Reviews State regulations for compliance with federal regulations and for any modifications that may be necessary due to lessons learned from incident investigations and other recent events, recommends needed revisions and prepare necessary documents.
- Reviews and analyzes waiver petitions filed by pipeline operators and advises of their merits.
- Reviews and analyzes applications received under the Public Service Law's Article VII dealing with siting of major natural gas transmission facilities for compliance with the gas safety regulations dealing with construction, operations and maintenance of such facilities.
- Participates in development of annual plan to accomplish inspections, consults with United States Department of Transportation personnel, and completes associated reporting.

Minimum qualifications

Utility Engineering Specialist 1 (Gas Pipeline Safety)

Open Competitive: Bachelor's degree or higher in an accredited engineering curriculum.

Utility Engineering Specialist 2 (Gas Pipeline Safety)

Promotion: one year of permanent competitive service as a Utility Engineering Specialist 1 (Gas Pipeline Safety).

Utility Engineering Specialist 3 (Gas Pipeline Safety)

Promotion: one year of permanent competitive service as a Utility Engineering Specialist 2 (Gas Pipeline Safety).

Note: Classification Standards illustrate the nature, extent, and scope of duties and responsibilities of the classes they describe. Standards cannot and do not include all the work that might be appropriately performed by a class. The minimum qualifications above are those required for appointment at the time the Classification Standard was written. Please contact the Division of Staffing Services for current information on minimum requirements for appointment or examination.

Date: 6/26

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