MESCALERO APACHE TRIBE
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Position Title:	**(2) Water/Wastewater Operator**	
Department:	**Roads & Utilities Dept.**	
Employment Status:	**Non-Exempt, Full-Time**	**Grade: NE7 ($16.39- $21.31)**
Opening Date:	**November 6, 2026**	**Closing Date: November 20, 2026**

Job Summary

Performs a variety of skilled and semi-skilled duties in the operation and maintenance of the Tribal water and sewer systems. Performs semi-skilled construction and maintenance work on a variety of facilities and projects within the jurisdiction of the Utility Department.

This position description may not include all of the listed duties, nor do all of the listed examples include all tasks which may be found or assigned to this position.

Duties and Responsibilities

Water system duties

- Perform regular inspections at facilities, such as pump houses, public water wells, sewer mains, and other facilities within the Utility Department.
- Perform necessary preventative maintenance work needed on facilities.
- Install, repair, clean and perform minor to major repairs of water and sewer mains.
- Monitors the performance of all equipment.
- Performs required labor involved in construction and maintenance projects as part of a crew, pavement cutting, ditch digging, line cleaning, main and pipe repair, laying and backfilling.
- Cuts, fits, lays, repairs, taps, cleans and flushes water mains, pipe, gates and fittings on repair of mains and services and installation of services, fire hydrants and assists in shutting off broken sections of water mains.
- Determines the locations of water lines from the appropriate sources prior to excavation.
- Insures the proper maintenance of equipment and tools by cleaning and checking equipment and tools after use.
- Performs routine inspections and preventative maintenance on assigned equipment and refers defects or needed repairs to supervisor.
- Cleans equipment after use.
- Performs all duties in conformance to appropriate safety and security standards.
- Cover repaired pipes with dirt, and pack backfilled excavations, using air and gasoline tampers.

Wastewater system duties

- Performs required labor involved in construction and maintenance projects as part of a crew, pavement cutting, ditch digging, line cleaning, main and pipe repair, laying and backfilling.
- Determines the locations of wastewater lines from the appropriate sources prior to excavation. Responds to complaints regarding the wastewater plant or system, evaluates situation; explains findings to supervisor.
- Ensure that repaired sewer line joints are tightly sealed before backfilling begins.
- Clean and repair septic tanks, sewer lines, or related structures such as manholes, culverts, and catch basins.
- Cover repaired pipes with dirt, and pack backfilled excavations, using air and gasoline tampers.
- Cut damaged sections of pipe with cutters, remove broken sections from ditches, and replace pipe sections, using pipe sleeves.
- Inspect manholes to locate sewer line stoppages.
- Install rotary knives on flexible cables mounted on machine reels, according to the diameters of pipes to be cleaned.

- Measure excavation sites, using plumbers' snakes, tapelines, or lengths of cutting heads within sewers, and mark areas for digging.
- Operate sewer cleaning equipment, including power rodders, high velocity water jets, sewer flushers, bucket machines, wayne balls, and vac-alls.
- Dig out sewer lines manually, using shovels.
- Service, adjust, and make minor repairs to equipment, machines, and attachments.
- Tap mainline sewers to install sewer saddles.

Minimum Qualifications

- **High School Diploma or GED.**
- One year minimum experience in related field.
- **Must have a current valid unrestricted NM Driver's License**; to be insurable by the Tribe.
- Must successfully pass a pre-employment drug/alcohol screen and background investigation.

Tribal preference and Native American Indian preference shall apply to all positions.

Physical Demands

While performing the duties of this job, the employee frequently is required to stand; sit; use hands to finger, handle, or feel; reach with hands and arms; and stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl. The employee regularly is required to climb or balance; and talk or hear. The employee occasionally is required to walk; and taste or smell. The employee must have good eyesight and better than average coordination in order to operate both hand and foot levers simultaneously. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 100 pounds.

Work Environment:

Work is performed both indoors and outdoors. Exposure to natural weather conditions and various dusts and mists may occur while performing outdoor duties. Prolonged exposure to odors. Prolonged sitting is a common occurrence when using backhoe. Standing and walking may be on uneven surfaces or unstable ground. Situations where safety-toe shoes, safety goggles, gloves, protective face shields, or hardhats are needed may occur. Evening, weekend, and/or holiday work will be required. Extended hours and irregular shifts will be required.