BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
DETAIL – NON-COMPETITIVE TEMPORARY PROMOTION OPPORTUNITY
INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENT # FY24-TOOC-Electrical Engineer- GS-0850-13- Detail - Temporary-Promotion

Electrical Engineer
For Classified Position J07913, GS-0850-*13*
$126,883 - $153,442
Full-time for 120 days

OPENS: 4/23/2024 **CLOSES: 5/03/2024**

POSITION LOCATION: Transmission System Operations Control, Vancouver, WA

WHO MAY APPLY: Any Bonneville Power Administration employee with current competitive career conditional/career status currently at the GS 12/13 (or equivalent) grade level. This is a non-competitive temporary promotion or detail NTE 120 days. Employees will need to confirm they have their supervisor's approval when applying for the non-competitive temporary promotion or detail.

Employees who have non-competitively served a total of 120 days in a temporary promotion or detail to a higher grade within the preceding 12 months are not eligible for a higher-graded opportunity. Contact HR Help at (503) 230-3230 if you have questions regarding your eligibility.

NOTES: The successful candidate will be detailed or non-competitively temporarily promoted to the position of RAS/Disturbance Engineer. Selection from this interest announcement is subject to the requirements of applicable employment practices. Any promotion associated with this announcement will be subject to the following:

- When an employee already holds the same grade or higher as the position of interest on a permanent basis, then the action will be processed as a detail and may be made for a period up to one year, in 120-day increments. When appropriate, details may be extended for an additional year, in 120-day increments.

- When an employee holds a lower graded position or is in a position with lower-graded promotion potential than the position of interest, she/he is prohibited from serving in a higher-graded position for more than 120-days in a 52-week period. The action may be processed as a detail or non-competitive temporary promotion at management's discretion. Employees selected for a non-competitive temporary promotion must meet time in grade, experience, and any minimum education requirements specified under Special Skills & Abilities below. Those who do not meet the time in grade or qualifications requirement(s) may be eligible to accrue experience during a detail. Non-competitive temporary promotions or details to a higher grade may not be extended or made permanent.

- The employee will be returned to his/her permanent position of record (i.e., position prior to detail) upon completion of the non-competitive temporary promotion or detail opportunity.

- Temporary promotions and details may be terminated at any time based on the needs of management.

- Multiple selections may be made from this interest announcement to fill the position on a rotational basis.

GENERAL INFORMATION:
The individual selected will report to David Brown, Operations Control (TOOC).

The purpose of this position is to serve as a technical specialist responsible for Remedial Action Schemes (RAS), disturbance monitoring, investigations, response, and system restoration activities and to provide expert advice to senior colleagues and agency officials responsible for broad program operations within the area of expertise.

DUTIES:
Serves as a technical specialist for RAS, disturbance monitoring, investigations, response, and system restoration activities and provides expert advice to agency officials responsible for broad program operations within the area of expertise. Specifically, performs the following:

- Serves as technical specialist for RAS Wide Area Protection Schemes (WAPS) and Local Area Protection Schemes (LAPS), with responsibility for providing expert advice on the development, interpretation and implementation of technical policy directives and programs.

- Serves as technical expert on AC RAS, DC RAS, Chief Joseph Brake Local Scheme, and Fast AC Reactive Insertion (FACRI) schemes. Writes RAS test plans and coordinates with external utilities, field and control center personnel to execute RAS tests.

- Serves as a technical specialist on all aspects of disturbance monitoring, investigation, response, and system restoration activities, with responsibility for providing expert advice on the interpretation and implementation of technical policy directives and programs, as well as review of plans and specifications for projects.

- Investigates and resolves problems and conditions involving disturbances on the Transmission system. Plans and conducts, or oversees the conduct of, detailed, comprehensive engineering studies to determine the cause of disturbances. Leads others in collecting and interpreting data to evaluate the performance of the transmission system and to investigate and resolve disturbances. Determines if further testing is required, devises and coordinates a test program to locate malfunctioning systems, reviews results of tests, and determines and implements corrective action.

- Coordinates system disturbance monitoring and responds to Dispatch questions or concerns related to operational problems, events, assessments and outages. Performs or coordinates work of others to research operational event trends and patterns.

- Serves as a technical expert on impacts of Relaying and Transfer Trip equipment outages for real-time dispatchers and Outage Office.

- Represents the BPA, Transmission Services, Transmission System Operations, and Operations Support in conferences and meetings with other agencies, State and local authorities, private industry and public groups, including industry, regional and national electric power organizations such as WECC, NERC, and FERC in efforts to develop policies, practices and projects for improving power system operation and to obtain all viewpoints regarding proposed programs or program changes and to assure concerted action by all parties involved.

- Provides technical guidance and analysis for the Transmission Continuous Improvement Program Initiative (TCIPI) and represents System Operations as a member of the Transmission Incident Review Team (T-IRT).

- Provides leadership and technical support for the review, and prioritization of Transmission capital projects to achieve safety, reliability and customer satisfaction at lowest, effective cost. Represent the needs, issues, and priorities of System Operations.

- Serves as an advocate for dispatcher needs in Systems Operations. Identifies issues, practices, procedures or policy improvements needed by Dispatchers to assure safe, reliable system operation.

- Identifies industry trends and operational practices to stay ahead of changes that could negatively impact the reliable operation of the Transmission system. Implements continuous improvements and modernizations needed to maintain reliability as the use of the Transmission system evolves.

- Provides technical information to actively guard against large-scale (multi-state) blackouts, while being prepared to respond to such large-scale transmission system disturbances, should man-made or natural causes instigate one. This includes but is not limited to working with emergency response teams, agencies, and coordinators and being prepared to work from an alternate location during such emergencies.

- Provides real-time power system analysis support to system dispatchers in support of unplanned or abnormal system conditions. Responds to after-hour callback either via telecommute location or by returning to duty station.

- Serves as a NERC/WECC compliance subject matter expert and performs work in compliance with all relevant standards. When NERC or WECC standards are created or revised within the employee's expertise, either participates directly as a member of drafting team or submits comments to drafting team to develop, change, influence and shape important national policies for delivering reliable electric power.

- Provides technical consultation to Dispatch. Writes Dispatcher Standing Orders used by Dispatch to guide their actions as they operate the Federal Columbia River Transmission System across a multi-state region.

SPECIAL SKILLS & ABILITIES:

- **BASIC REQUIREMENTS:**

  A. Degree: Engineering. To be acceptable, the program must: (1) lead to a bachelor's degree in a school of engineering with at least one program accredited by ABET; or (2) include differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics: (a) statics, dynamics; (b) strength of materials (stress-strain relationships); (c) fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (d) thermodynamics; (e) electrical fields and circuits; (f) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (g) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics.

  —OR—

  B. Combination of Education and Experience -- college-level education, training, and/or technical experience that furnished (1) a thorough knowledge of the physical and mathematical sciences underlying engineering, and (2) a good understanding, both theoretical and practical, of the engineering sciences and techniques and their applications to one of the branches of engineering. The adequacy of such background must be demonstrated by one of the following:

  1. **Professional Registration or Licensure** -- Current registration as an Engineer Intern (EI), Engineer in Training (EIT), or licensure as a Professional Engineer (PE) by any State, the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico. —OR—

2. **Written Test** -- Evidence of having successfully passed the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) examination or any other written test required for professional registration by an engineering licensure board in the various States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico.—OR—
3. **Specified Academic Courses** -- Successful completion of at least 60 semester hours of courses in the physical, mathematical, and engineering sciences and that included the courses specified in the basic requirements under paragraph A. The courses must be fully acceptable toward meeting the requirements of an engineering program as described in paragraph A.—OR—
4. **Related Curriculum** -- Successful completion of a curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree in an appropriate scientific field, e.g., engineering technology, physics, chemistry, architecture, computer science, mathematics, hydrology, or geology, may be accepted in lieu of a bachelor's degree in engineering, provided the applicant has had at least 1 year of professional engineering experience acquired under professional engineering supervision and guidance. Ordinarily there should be either an established plan of intensive training to develop professional engineering competence, or several years of prior professional engineering-type experience, e.g., in interdisciplinary positions. (The above examples of related curricula are not all-inclusive.)

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Employees with at least one year of specialized experience at the next lower grade level in the Federal service may be eligible for temporary promotion. Specialized experience for this position is defined as:

GS-12 Experience applying a wide range of professional Electrical Engineering theories, concepts, and methods to plan and conduct engineering studies and analyses such as SCADA, Remedial Action Scheme (RAS), disturbance monitoring, etc… for an electrical transmission system to analyze current-day and next-day operations under real-time conditions, OR designing or commissioning of power system protection schemes, such as Remedial Action Schemes, to improve power system and reliability.

HOW TO APPLY:
Complete a brief memo of interest describing your interest in this detail – temporary promotion assignment and your relevant experience. Submit your memo and a signed Supervisory Acknowledgement statement (below) by close of business on **5/03/2024** to drbrown@bpa.gov.

SUPERVISOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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I acknowledge that _____ has requested consideration for this position. I understand this temporary assignment is a detail or temporary promotion NTE 120 days.

I am willing to consider approving the detail and understand the salary, travel, lodging, M&IE costs and/or FTE for the duration of the detail will be funded by Transmission System Operations Control (TOOC).

Supervisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor's Title: _____ Routing: _____