



BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
DETAIL OPPORTUNITY
INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENT BPA-26-IA-TOIZ-043

Classified Detail
Substation Operations Specialist
J06734, GS-1601-13
Full-time, NTE 120 days
Number of Vacancies: 2

OPENS: 08/17/2026

CLOSES: 08/27/2026

POSITION LOCATION: Various Locations, *TOIZ*

WHO MAY APPLY: Bonneville Power Administration employees currently at GS-12/13 *and/or equivalent hourly position* are encouraged to apply.

NOTES: Selection from this interest announcement is subject to the requirements of applicable personnel regulations, policies, and BPA HR Directives. There is no promotion associated with this interest announcement (i.e., employee will retain their current rate of pay)

- When an employee already holds the same grade or higher as the position of interest on a permanent basis, then the detail 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, he/she is prohibited from serving in a higher-graded position for more than 120-days in a 52-week period.
- The employee will be returned to his/her permanent position of record (i.e., position prior to detail) upon completion of the detail opportunity.

(Also include any additional information, such as travel required, expectation of which organization carries FTE, etc.)

GENERAL INFORMATION: The incumbent will report to Supervisory Substation Operations Specialist, David Pruitt.

Substation Operations provides substation operations technical expertise and leadership for the operation of BPA substations including the development of standards, policies, and procedures. They are responsible for the development and revision of BPA's Switching and Clearance Procedures and access to energized facilities as well as develop and maintain the Operations Technical Manual. They provide leadership to the Substation Operations Apprentice Craft Committee and to the Operations Functional Team.

MAJOR DUTIES:

The incumbent of this position provides the regions with technical support relating to daily substation operations and troubleshooting. Is responsible for performing research to be used to establish policies, procedures, and formal guidance on substation operations, maintenance, and troubleshooting. Writes manuals and guidance for publication which are reflected in Substation Operations Alerts, and Standards, Procedures and Policies. Research performed includes ensuring documentation complies with requirements from WECC, NERC, OSHA, the EPA and other regulatory entities.

Continually monitors, evaluates and audits substation operations, and based on this review, establishes new and revised operations requirements, methods, and procedures for improving substation operations. Investigates routine and unusual operating errors and substation failures to ascertain cause and prevent future recurrence. Applies experimental theories or new applications or developments to resolve unique or novel problems, conditions, or issues; significantly alter standard practices, equipment, devices, processes, and known techniques; and provide significant and innovative recommendations for advancing programs and/or methods.

Establishes control, data, and indication requirements for operation of substations.

Provides advice and guidance on substation operations to others within BPA. Researches topics, prepares presentation syllabuses, perfects presentations and delivers finished classroom instruction to Substation Operations personnel of all levels, including Chief Operators, Journeymen and Apprentices of all levels.

Acts as spokesperson for assigned program management activities, and serves as program liaison with other internal entities to ensure consistency of interpretation and implementation of the programs. Meets with representatives of other BPA organizations, other government agencies, or private industry to coordinate work and provide technical guidance concerning assigned projects or requirements related to assigned program management activities. Represents the organization in the presentation and discussion of technical problems related to assigned program management activities at meetings and conferences. Provides workshops, presentations, and/or briefings on technical topics related to assigned program management activities.

Assists with the administration of substation operations apprenticeship program as a management representative or alternate; attends meetings; formulates policy; conducts step examinations; evaluates apprentice skill levels; provides recommendations into staffing/location assignment decisions.

Is responsible for being the expert and managing one or more of the following programs and being back-up in the absence of the program manager in the others. (Program management responsibilities require fully independent management of the program. Duties include rotation of assignments at least annually to maintain expertise and promote bench strength and succession planning.) :

Quality Management Auditing
Contractor Clearance Training & Certification
Clearance Certification
Rules of Conduct in Energized BPA Facilities
Switching and Clearance Procedure
Applicable BPA Work Standards
Substation Operations Standards
Operations Update training sessions
Dispatcher Training
Chief Operator Training
Annual Chief Operator Meeting
Physical Security Program
Technical Services
Transmission Continuous Improvement Program Implementation (TCIPI) Error Reduction Program

The incumbent may interface with outside entities such as NATF and EPRI on matters pertaining to programs for which the incumbent has program management responsibilities.

SPECIAL SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

1. Knowledge of regulatory compliance, Federal, State and/or local rules, regulations, practices and procedures applicable to the operation of high-voltage electrical transmission substations sufficient to develop, implement, operate and evaluate high voltage substation operations program.

2. Ability to coordinate work on multiple projects including prioritizing, developing projects, ensuring availability of adequate resources, planning and scheduling project activities.
3. Skill in completing project activities and building and maintaining positive and productive relationships.
4. Ability to communicate with all levels of individuals both inside and outside of BPA to provide feedback on projects; skill in making oral and written presentations to a variety of individuals, both internal and external to BPA.
5. Ability to organize a variety of information and data into a comprehensive package and present alternative approaches. Incumbent gathers and organizes information into formats to present analysis of options and recommendations, including prepared findings, presented alternatives or recommendations to management officials in written or oral form.

HOW TO APPLY: Complete a brief memorandum of interest giving a description of your relevant experience and reasons for applying for this detail. Submit your memorandum, along with the completed supervisory acknowledgment statement below by close of business on (08/27/2026) to: drpruitt@bpa.gov. Do NOT submit a resume.

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SUPERVISOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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I acknowledge that _____ has requested consideration for this position. I understand this assignment is a full-time detail not to exceed 120 days.

I am willing to consider approving the detail and understand the *salary and FTE* for the duration of the detail will be funded as determined by the district manager and TOIZ manager.

Supervisor's Signature _____ Date: _____

Supervisor's Title: _____ Routing: _____