

## MISSION-CRITICAL PROFILE

**Name:** Lolita Wilkins

**Organization:** San Francisco Public Utilities Commission - Wastewater Enterprise



**Job Category (Check one below):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Treatment                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Maintenance Technician/ Instrument Technician |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Distribution              | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrician/Electrical Line Worker                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wastewater Treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> Machinist/Mechanic                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater Distribution         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

1. Please describe the work you do:

The work I do now is plan jobs for the maintenance crews that I'm assigned to. My job consists of extensive record keeping and generating reports. The bottom line is to accurately track where and how money is being spent on man hours, equipment repairs, and purchasing necessary items as well as allocating materials to crews to complete tasks or work orders.

2. What combination of education, vocational training, apprenticeship, experience, and/or skill did you obtain in order to be qualified and selected for your job?

I completed a four year Stationary Engineer Apprenticeship Program in order to be qualified and selected for my current position. While going to school, I worked full time at the wastewater treatment plant and that is where I obtained my experience. It was great to get textbook training at school and hands-on training at work.

3. What do you like best about your job?

What I like best about my job is that I learn something new every week. I never get a chance to get bored with routine work, because my tasks change every day.

4. Please tell us about the projects and activities you have enjoyed most in your work in the water/wastewater field, and what made them rewarding.

The projects and activities I've enjoyed the most was gathering data from certain equipment in the field. My supervisor asked me to collect data off of the nameplates of motors and pumps in a specific section of our plant. I got a chance to be out in the field and familiarize myself with equipment I didn't even know existed. What made this project so rewarding is when I completed the task, I had to enter the data in our CMMS, a computerized maintenance management system. This task not only helped one person, my supervisor, but it also helped the entire division by having accurate data in our CMMS.

5. What qualities and capabilities are needed in order for a person in your area of expertise to be successful in the water/wastewater industry?

Both qualities and capabilities needed for a person in my area of expertise to be successful in the water/wastewater industry is to be self-driven, willing to learn, organized, and dedicated. You also have to have good communication skills – verbal and written, good computer skills, good mechanical ability, troubleshooting skills, and the ability to get along well with others.

6. Do you have any advice for an individual who is considering pursuing a career in your field in the water/wastewater industry?

My advice to any individual would be to be self-driven, focused and motivated. There are so many facets within the wastewater field that are interesting. It is sometimes hard to choose what you like the best. Choose something you like, excel in it, teach others what you've learned and if you feel the need to advance, do so! Everyone will cheer you on. Be willing to work full time and go to school twice a week. Trust me. It is worth it!