



MISSION-CRITICAL PROFILE

Name: Ronald J. Gooding

Organization: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Job Category (Check one below):

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

I do whatever it takes to get a street light working. The Power Enterprise maintains 25,000 street lights in the City of San Francisco. I do mainly maintenance and trouble-shooting. For example, I solve circuit breaker problems and repair damaged or deteriorated conduit. Sometimes we need to string temporary conductors to conduct electricity while a repair is being performed. I also do conversion work and alterations. We sometimes convert old series loops to multiple circuitry in order to conserve electricity. Also, no more incandescent lights are being made. Now we install high-pressure sodium (HPS) and light-emitting diode (LED) lights.

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?

After I finished high school I worked for an electrical contractor, which was like an informal apprenticeship. I started doing fluorescent lighting (e.g., changing bulbs, trouble-shooting, etc.). I was trained by journey-level electricians with high-voltage expertise. I was a member of the electrical union from the beginning of this work.

3. What do you like best about your job? .

I like being in the field and driving around the City. It's a challenge. I have fun doing whatever I do. You have a sense of accomplishment; you can see what you achieve at night when the lights come on.

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

It's great when there is a large circuit (e.g., one that has 120 lights on it) that goes out and you can pinpoint the problem and repair it in time for the lights to be back on before dark. Sometimes people come out and wonder if we can restore lighting by the end of the day, and we're glad when we can. People want lighting so the streets will be safe.

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

You have to be a jack of all trades, be handy with your hands, and show initiative.

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

If you want to enjoy a job with a lot of great people, this would be a good place to look into. Overall it's great.