



## MISSION-CRITICAL PROFILE

Name: Edward (Jerry) Dille

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 problems and repair damaged or deteriorated conduit. I also install both new and repair damaged/deteriorated street light poles. Sometimes we need to string temporary overhead conductors to continue circuit while a repair is being performed. I also do conversion work and alterations. We sometimes convert old series loops to multiple circuitries in order to aide in ageing infrastructure. Also, there are no more incandescent lights being made. Now we install high-pressure sodium (HPS) and are in the processes of testing and installing light-emitting diode (LED) street 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 also installed and maintained parking lot lighting that is similar to street lights (mostly HPS and Metal Halide Lights)

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

I like that every job has a new challenge. No two things we do are the same, you have to be able to make decisions in the field and change as conditions change. We also sometimes make our own parts and brackets for special projects. I enjoy the challenge of having to make things work.

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 LED project has been at times challenging due to the technology changing and growing. We have and are testing different control systems for multiple companies. We have to give feedback to these companies to allow them to make adjustments to their systems. I look forward to being a big part in the conversion of HPS to LED. The reward will come to me when I'm able to see all LEDs and know I was part of it.

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?

Able to work with what you have. Make decisions in the field based on conditions. Good people skills, both for the public and the employees you work with. Good computer skills as the streetlight systems are changing all the time. Good organization.

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

If you want to enjoy a job with different aspects every day. Good people and good pay. This is the place. I love it and plan on retiring from here someday.