

POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT LEADER

KIND OF WORK

Professional program/project administration pollution cleanup work.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under limited supervision, coordinates the work of Pollution Control Agency staff in identifying, investigating, and recommending mitigative efforts regarding sites where there is a release or threatened release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants under state or federal site cleanup fund statutes through enforcement against responsible parties or use of state or federal funds so that sites no longer pose a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment. Where direct expenditure of federal or state funds is not a regular part of the job, positions require and apply a thorough knowledge of an additional technical knowledge base, such as funding types/availability and loan financing Voluntary Investigation & Cleanup (VIC program) and/or insurance industry environmental coverage and claims processing (Insurance Recovery Effort) in addition to scientific knowledge, federal and state environment law. Positions will apply the ability to comprehend and articulate environmentally and socially related decisions concerning the direction to take to bring about site clean-up on a voluntary/litigated basis or through expenditure of public moneys; performs related work as required.

This class is distinguished from Pollution Control Specialist Senior by the responsibility to administer and expend SuperFund dollars or the application of a thorough knowledge base in an additional technical area such as insurance or real estate financing (a subject matter area not normally associated with Pollution Control Specialist activities).

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position must include at least one of the starred (*) examples to be placed in this class.)

*Secures and administers state and/or federal funds and documents their expenditure using knowledge of grant program requirements and federal EPA and state fund financed project sites so that funds are available for clean-up activities.

*Facilitates private-sector financed investigation and clean-up activities during the course of property redevelopment under the Voluntary Investigation and Clean-up (VIC) program using knowledge of state and federal environmental regulatory and case law, technical and scientific disciplines, federal, state and local funding sources and their applicability, and the ability to comprehend and articulate the significance and applicability of the myriad social, technical and financial issues that affect the reuse of real property so that voluntary investigations and remediation are conducted by responsible or voluntary parties.

*Develops and administers the Insurance Recovery Effort under the Landfill Clean-up Act which includes collection and dissemination of money from insurance carriers who have written policies at the landfills through collection of insurance policy information, determining past, present and future costs at sites, determining global settlement amounts, negotiating settlement offers and assisting with litigation so that the insurance industry funds a portion of the clean-up and long-term care at closed landfills.

Develops a preliminary plan of action for each assigned site which takes into account the possibility of each site being a fund financed or a responsible party financed cleanup so that the appropriate course of action is identified and a strategy is developed for implementation.

Recommends consultants/contractors to perform site cleanup, and develops and negotiates scope of work, schedule, and dollar value of contracts so that the work is completed in accordance with requirements of applicable state rules and federal regulations.

Takes appropriate enforcement action, in conjunction with Attorney General's staff, against responsible parties at assigned sites and makes presentations to the MPCA Board of those actions that require board approval within the timeframe established in the enforcement strategies so that sites are cleaned up by responsible parties.

Coordinates litigative activities for assigned sites by making recommendations to the supervisor regarding action to resolve disputes, recover costs, and/or compel performance; communicates site activities with EPA, Department of Justice, and Attorney General's staff; and ensures that evidentiary materials and information are presented through deposition or testimony at formal legal proceedings in order that MPCA's litigative efforts regarding assigned sites are properly supported.

Acts as MPCA spokesperson for assigned sites by working with the agency Public Information Office to prepare and implement a Community Relations Plan for each assigned site; conducts public meetings and makes presentations on activities at assigned sites at the meetings; provides information on sites to the news media; and responds to inquiries from the general public, local governmental officials, and legislators so that the public is aware of health risks, enforcement/fund financed actions including remedial investigation, feasibility study, response actions, and progress on cleanup activities.

Enforces requirements of compliance documents and/or contracts for assigned sites through planning for the monitoring of on-site activities with involved staff; oversees the review of responsible party or contractor work (including remedial investigation, feasibility study, and remedial action), and recommends approval, modification, or rejection of the work product; facilitates the resolution of disputes with responsible parties or contractors; and identifies when a responsible party or contractor is not in compliance with the terms of a compliance document or contract, effectively recommends to the unit supervisor enforcement action to be taken, and implements the enforcement action; in order that cleanup action is completed at assigned sites in accordance with acceptable methodologies and timetables.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (federal superfund) and Environmental Response and Liability Act (state superfund) and/or other applicable laws and statutes related to cleanup activities sufficient to understand when fund financing for the cleanup of an assigned site is possible.

State and federal solid and hazardous waste rules and MPCA enforcement procedures and policies sufficient to take appropriate enforcement action against responsible parties at assigned sites within established timeframes.

State and federal litigation process sufficient to coordinate preparation of depositions and litigation testimony and to coordinate activities of site cleanup team during litigation with USEPA, Department of Justice, and Attorney General's staff.

State and federal administrative procedures and rules and regulations relative to procurement, contract administration, and grant management sufficient to administer fiscal and contractual arrangements and tracking procedures.

An additional area of technical expertise (e.g., insurance, real estate financing) in addition to those identified above-sufficient to lead, direct, and manage a discrete programmatic activity that depends on application of such knowledge for success.

Ability to:

Deal effectively with scientific and technical consultants and analyze their proposals and work products.

Effectively represent the MPCA before a variety of groups regarding social, economic, and environmental issues.

Negotiate successfully with affected clientele.

Administer complicated fiscal and contractual arrangements and tracking procedures.

Comprehend and articulate, both orally and in written communication, the significance and applicability of the myriad social, technical and other (e.g., real estate financing, insurance) issues that are critical to the success of the program.

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T.C.:
Former Title(s):