Example of Job Analysis to support physical requirements

Powerplant Operator - WB-5407-00

Statement of Duties:
Works in conjunction with the power system dispatcher, operations supervisor, and water authorities to accomplish overall operation of the power and water system. With individual responsibility for control of powerplants, switchyards, and water release equipment. Performs operations by centralized remote or local control. Operates hydroelectric generators by starting, stopping and controlling as necessary to meet water or power requirements. Effects changes in generation, by operation of voltage regulators, and other auxiliary equipment, normally associated with power generation and water release equipment. Accomplishes this either by local, automatic, hand, or remote control, and supervisory control.

Directly prepares and performs switching to accomplish and issue clearances and hotline orders, general and special conditions on all delegated facilities. Coordinates power clearances with the dispatcher or other proper authorities. Receives clearance requests and determines if equipment can be removed from service safely. Must be familiar with S.O.P. and emergency preparedness plans for all facilities. Assesses actual or potential damage to facilities and personnel safety during emergency situations.

Is responsible for adhering to load schedules set up by system dispatcher. For generation as required to conform with system operating criteria. Handles systems emergencies by testing equipment and restoring systems to service, following outages. Reports failures and problems to system dispatcher and supervisor verbally and by completing interruption and unsatisfactory equipment reports. Monitors instruments and remote data recording equipment. Checks automatic acquisition of power and water data.

Checks control center and equipment for proper operation. Performs minor troubleshooting. Must have working knowledge of SCADA and LAN computer systems. Must have a good working knowledge of all auxiliary and hydro systems associated with the control center. While on duty assesses all security alarms and takes the appropriate action.

Physical Demands:
The duties of the position involves switching in high voltage substations, hydroelectric generating stations, and related structures. The incumbent will be required in emergency
situations to climb ladders, perform arduous tasks in the switchyard, and manually operate valve controls and gate operating mechanisms that are typically power assisted.

The incumbent may be required to don Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) to assess actual or potential damage to facilities and personnel safety during emergency situations.

The incumbent will be required to lift, stoop, and carry heavy equipment or materials. The employee will be in the field during mixed weather seasons requiring increased physical demands to perform duties.