



PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT
A CENTURY OF SERVICE



Associate Engineer



OUR MISSION

Since 1918, the Palmdale Water District has provided high-quality water at a reasonable cost. We pride ourselves on providing great customer care; advocating for local water issues that help our residents; educating the community on water-use efficiency; and leading our region in researching and implementing emerging technologies that increase operational efficiency.

OUR COMMUNITY

Located 60 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles, Palmdale is best known as a suburban town with numerous aerospace companies and related agencies, including Boeing, Northrop Grumman, Lockheed, NASA, and the Federal Aviation Administration. It is in the high desert of the Greater Antelope Valley, affectionately nicknamed the Aerospace Valley by locals. To further expand transportation needs for its nearly 170,000 population, an airport and a high-speed rail are planned to complement the existing Metrolink Station. Although it is considered a medium-sized city based on population, it maintains a small town feel. The main thoroughfare is Palmdale Boulevard, which is still lined with mom and pop businesses. A few miles away is a bustling mall surrounded by a diverse selection of restaurants, both national chains and locally owned. For outdoor adventurers, living in Palmdale makes it possible to go skiing in the mountain resorts and surfing at the beach on the same day, for both are within reasonable driving distances. The spacious desert offers perfect locations for activities such as hiking, camping and dirt biking amongst native Joshua trees that sprout throughout the valley. A town that was settled in 1886 by a small group from the Midwest, Palmdale is now an ethnically diverse community that is known for its affordable housing. It has been ranked among the top 20 cities for millennial homeownership. And, driving on the 14 Freeway through Palmdale, one cannot miss the glistening reflection of Lake Palmdale, one of Palmdale Water District's water storage sites.

OUR DISTRICT

For more than 100 years, Palmdale Water District has been an integral part of the community's expansion and success. It was formed in 1918 when it was known as the Palmdale Irrigation District and providing irrigation to the area's expansive farming operations. With its early foresight, the Littlerock Dam was built. Today, the dam continues to be a major water source for PWD as it serves more than 116,000 people within its 187-square-mile boundary who depend on clean, safe, reliable water. The State Water Project and groundwater are the other two PWD water sources. PWD is no different from other water agencies as it looks for innovative ways to supplement an ever-decreasing water supply. One of the biggest projects it is undertaking is the Palmdale Regional Groundwater Recharge and Recovery Project, a groundwater banking project that will blend State Water Project water with recycled water. The plan is to have this natural percolation occur on an 80-acre basin and eventually be pumped for distribution. The three-phase project would meet the community's growing needs for at least the next 50 years. A few other projects aimed at increasing future water supply include the Littlerock Sediment Removal Project, Upper Amargosa Creek Recharge Project and Big Rock Creek Recharge Project. In addition, PWD has \$30 million in capital improvement projects to complete by the end of 2024. Today, PWD has 88 employees and an annual budget of about \$23.5 million. To provide for its 26,500 connections, it has 414 miles of pipelines, 23 active wells, 15 boosters pumping stations and 20 water tanks, which have a storage capacity of 50 million gallons of water. Over the next five years, the District will be constructing over \$30 million in capital improvement projects ranging from pipeline replacements, new wells, treatment plant improvements, recycled water, and groundwater recharge and recovery projects.

ASSOCIATE ENGINEER

The Associate Engineer is responsible for complex engineering projects requiring independent engineering analysis. Under the direction of the Engineering/Grant Manager, the Associate Engineer performs complex and difficult professional field and office civil engineering work related to the planning, design, construction and maintenance of Palmdale Water District's capital improvement projects and infrastructure; confers with developers, contractors and representatives of other agencies regarding facility and infrastructure development; prepares and presents staff reports; submits reports; and performs similar work within state guidelines.

IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will have practical experience within an engineering department of a water district.

KEY DUTIES

This position reports to the Engineering/Grant Manager.

The key duties include:

- Design activities such as construction and maintenance of water systems, including transmission mains, pump stations, pressure regulating facilities, reservoirs, water treatment plants and related water supply facilities.
- Inspect storm drains, sewers, water lines, water meters, hydrants, service lines, fire lines, cross-connection control devices and related water operations and structures for various types of construction projects; re-inspects for compliance.
- Assist in the decision making process and operational process for operating pumps, related flow and pressure control, water model and storage facilities by using a system control and data acquisition (SCADA) system; analyze and make recommendations for adjusting system flow and pressure requirements, control flows to meet consumer demands including fire flow demands and minimum pressure requirements.
- Review plans and estimates for construction and maintenance of water systems; review environmental reports; prepare contracts and specifications for projects; prepare engineering cost estimates; hold bid openings and maintain appropriate records; administer contracts and coordinate inspections.
- Participate in major water system planning and water supply management; assist making recommendations on technical reports and studies; perform studies requiring analysis of issues; prepare reports or correspondence, status reports, the annual Consumer Confidence Report for water utility, Annual Notice of Extraction and Provisions of water as required by the California Water Code and other federal, state and/or local jurisdictional reports and form; and prepare Water Rights Information Management Systems (WRIMS).
- Perform plan checks for Water Improvement Plans; maintain hydraulic software model and perform hydraulic calculations for domestic and fire flow; assist with SCADA programming, monitoring and operations support.
- Serve as liaison to contractor representatives in coordinating contract projects; monitor project construction activity; coordinate project inspections; coordinate the review of related invoices and progress payments; prepare change orders, if necessary, for alteration of plans and specifications.
- Participate in contract negotiations and administration; review work for conformity with standards and project requirements; prepare and monitor project schedules and project budgets.
- Respond to inquiries and provide technical assistance to developers, contractors, and the public regarding fee schedules, procedural guidelines and standards, plans and specifications; provide information as appropriate; and resolve service complaints.



MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Science degree from an accredited college or university in Civil Engineering
- Three years of progressively responsible professional experience in water facility or civil engineering

Ability to:

Perform professional engineering work, including project design; compile, analyze and synthesize engineering and other technical information; prepare accurate plans, specifications, cost estimates, and engineering reports; conduct technical and engineering research work; conduct inspections and evaluate construction relative to approved plans and specifications; prepare and maintain records and prepare reports for compliance; interpret and apply related laws, ordinances, and regulations; interpret, explain, and apply applicable laws, codes, and regulations; read, interpret, and record data accurately; organize, prioritize, and follow up on work assignments; work independently and as a part of a team; make sound decisions within established guidelines; follow written and oral directions; observe safety principles and work in a safe manner; communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing; establish and maintain effective, professional working relationships.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Salary

The Salary Range for this position is \$105,786 - \$128,583. Actual salary within this range will be based on the qualifications of the successful candidate.

- Participation in the CalPERS program at 2% at 55 for classic members or 2% at 62 plan for new CalPERS members as defined under PEPR.
- Palmdale Water District also participates in Social Security.
- Employer contribution is \$1,875/mo. toward choice of medical, dental and vision programs. Palmdale Water District offers both Anthem and Kaiser, including HMOs and PPOs.
- 13 paid holidays.
- Vacation accrued at 80 hours per year for first five years.
- Palmdale Water District provides a \$10,000 life and AD&D policy, and EAP participation.
- 4/10 work schedule Monday through Thursday.
- Optional health, disability, and life insurance available at employee's expense.
- Flexible Spending Accounts available.
- Tuition reimbursement of \$3,000 - \$5,250 annually after introductory period.

THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS

The final filing for this position is open until filled, with first review of applications on June 11, 2020.

To be considered, please complete an application at <https://www.palmdalewater.org/about/employment/>. Please make sure that your resume reflects the month and year of positions held, number of staff supervised and the dollar amount of the budget for which you were responsible.

Please direct questions to Human Resources Director Jennifer Emery at jemery@palmdalewater.org.

Palmdale Water District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.