

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Wastewater Treatment

Flushing, NY

ABOUT CLIENT

The NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is comprised of 6,000 employees who are dedicated to protecting public health and the environment by supplying clean drinking water, collecting and treating wastewater, and reducing air, noise, and hazardous material pollution. The scale of the organization is unmatched by any other water utility in the nation - each day, DEP:

- delivers one billion gallons of high-quality drinking water a day to more than nine million New Yorkers
- collects and treats an average of 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater at 14 wastewater resource recovery facilities

As a result of DEP's investments in the wastewater treatment system, the New York Harbor is the cleanest it has been in more than a century. To support these functions, DEP has one of the largest capital construction portfolios in the City, with nearly \$10 billion of work under construction.

POSITION OVERVIEW

Reporting to the Chief Operating Officer, the Deputy Commissioner will provide leadership and policy direction for the largest of DEP's bureaus, with an annual operating budget of \$550 million and 1,800 employees. This position offers the unique opportunity to drive the transformation of this critical function from a purely wastewater utility to biorefineries that not only treat wastewater but play a critical role in the circular economy of New York City. The bureau's robust infrastructure includes 14 wastewater resource recovery facilities, 96 wastewater pumping stations, five laboratories, and related facilities and marine vessels for transporting sludge and monitoring waterways.

The Deputy Commissioner will be responsible for leading continuous improvements in wastewater operations and sustaining DEP's national reputation within the industry for innovation, excellence, and safety. Maintaining the system in a state of good repair and planning future upgrades will be of tremendous importance in this role. The Deputy Commissioner will work collaboratively with the executive team to develop and implement innovative solutions to manage storm water, protect critical infrastructure from sea level rise, and address the other challenges posed by climate change.

DEP, and in particular the Bureau of Wastewater Treatment, is one of the largest users of energy in the City. As such, the Deputy Commissioner will be responsible developing and implementing an aggressive, holistic sustainability program that both seeks to reduce and eventually eliminate the bureau's reliance on fossil fuels while identifying opportunities to leverage the wastewater treatment process to create renewable natural gas and other commodities as part of the circular economy. One such area is through building a strong partnership with the Department of Sanitation to deliver an integrated organics strategy that meets the City's goals to reduce landfill waste while also creating valuable biogas that can be used to power hard to electrify equipment.

In addition, the Deputy Commissioner will be responsible for making final recommendations to the Commissioner concerning extremely complex, technical, and often controversial programs concerning Federal and State water-quality based programs and permits and for:

- directing and tracking the Bureau's budget and expenditures
- developing alternative solutions to providing wastewater treatment service
- representing DEP at public meetings where facilities and service issues are addressed
- establishing policies and procedures
- coaching and evaluating management personnel
- directing the preparation of statistical and narrative reports including the Annual New York Harbor Water Quality Survey and Discharge Monitoring Reports for submission to City, State, and Federal agencies to comply with regulatory requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS

- At least 10 years of progressively responsible experience in managing technical operations, laboratory, and engineering disciplines, preferably in wastewater operations
- Demonstrated track record of implementing global best practices, building strong relationships with labor leaders and elected officials, and embracing innovative approaches to financing mechanisms and institutional arrangements
- Deep understanding of the Federal Clean Water Act and the New York State regulatory environment
- Creative, interdisciplinary approach to achieving water quality improvements and regulatory compliance
- Experience managing a multilayered organization comprised of both technical and field staff

Preferred Skills

- New York State grade 4A Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certificate or equivalent
- Professional Engineer's License
- NYS Driver's License

To apply, please send a cover letter and résumé via e-mail to:

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DEP is an equal opportunity employer with a strong commitment to the diversity of the organization and workforce. All applications are appreciated, but only candidates under consideration will be contacted.

For more information about NYCDEP, visit: www.nyc.gov/dep



Location

This position is located at 96-05 Horace Harding Expressway. However, it does require travel throughout the five boroughs.

Residency Requirement

New York City residency is generally required within 90 days of appointment. However, City Employees in certain titles who have worked for the City for 2 continuous years may also be eligible to reside in Nassau, Suffolk, Putnam, Westchester, Rockland, or Orange County. To determine if the residency requirement applies to you, please discuss with the agency representative at the time of interview.

The City of New York is an inclusive equal opportunity employer committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce and providing a work environment that is free from discrimination and harassment based upon any legally protected status or protected characteristic, including but not limited to an individual's sex, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status, gender identity, or pregnancy.