



# BPA VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT (#002809-05)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
BONNEVILLE POWER  
ADMINISTRATION

**POSITION AND LOCATION:** Electronics Engineer, GS-855-11/12/13, Snohomish, WA

<b>OPENING DATE</b> 11/08/04	<b>CLOSING DATE</b> 11/22/04	<b>ANNUAL PAY RATE</b> GS-11 - \$51,491 - \$64,730 GS-12 - \$60,897 - \$79,163 GS-13 - \$72,146 - \$94,143
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Selections at Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) are based on merit and are accomplished without regard to political, religious, or union affiliation or non-affiliation, marital status, race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, or non-disqualifying physical disability; nor will such action be based upon any personal relationship, patronage, or nepotism.

**WHO MAY APPLY:** Career and Career Conditional Employees (in the competitive service) of Bonneville Power Administration, Transfer Eligibles, Reinstatement Eligibles, and CTAP/ITCAP Eligibles. Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous active service may apply.

**POSITION LOCATION:** Bonneville Power Administration, Transmission Business Line, Transmission Field Services, Snohomish Region - TFNC

**NOTES:**

The full performance level of this position is GS-13

This position may be filled at the **GS-11, GS-12, or GS-13 level**. You must indicate on your application the grade levels for which you are applying. Candidates hired at less than full-performance level may be promoted without further competition when assigned higher level duties and meeting all qualification requirements.

Minimum Qualifications and Time-in-Grade Requirements must be met within 60 calendar days of the closing date of this announcement.

**Relocation bonus may be paid**

**CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CTAP)/INTERAGENCY CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ICTAP):**

Displaced or surplus employees who may be entitled to consideration under CTAP/ICTAP must meet the OPM and BPA requirements for consideration. Individuals who have special priority selection rights under the Agency Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) or the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP) must be well qualified for the position to receive consideration for special priority selection. Well qualified for merit promotion (status applicants) means an applicant who possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities which clearly exceed the minimum qualification requirements for the position, including being evaluated at the "3" or equivalent rating level on all quality ranking factors. Well qualified for non-status applicants means an applicant who scores 85 points or higher prior to the addition of veteran's preference points, if applicable. Federal employees seeking CTAP/ICTAP eligibility must submit proof that they meet the requirements of 5 CFR 330.605(a) for CTAP and 5 CFR 330.704 for ICTAP. This includes a copy of the agency notice, a copy of their most recent Performance Rating, and a copy of their most recent SF 50 noting current position, grade level, and duty location. Please annotate your application to reflect that you are applying as a CTAP or ICTAP eligible. For additional information, please refer to <http://www.opm.gov/> or to <http://www.jobs.bpa.gov/>.

This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

**BPA Consecutive Accelerated Training and Promotion Plan for Annual Positions** – This position is covered by Bonneville's Consecutive Accelerated Training and Promotion Plan for Annual Positions (P.L. 335-06) for the **Electronics Engineer series GS-855**. Candidates selected under this announcement at grade GS-11 will be placed in an accelerated training program designed to accelerate his/her ability to assume higher-level duties and responsibilities by allowing training to be substituted for experience required in the position. A candidate entering the program is eligible for a maximum of three

(3) consecutive promotions up to the GS-12 grade-level, based upon training received as part of the program. The individual(s) selected for this position will be required to enter into a training agreement prior to reporting for work. Although the intent of the program is to advance an employee, promotions are not guaranteed and will depend on acceptable performance as well as the availability of higher-level work.

*Example of Plan Application:* A candidate enters the program at the GS-07 grade level with promotion potential to the GS-12 grade level. The candidate is eligible for promotion to the GS-09 grade level after a six-month period provided all training requirements are met and performance is at an acceptable level. The candidate is eligible for subsequent promotions to the GS-11 and GS-12 grade levels after six-month periods, respectively, provided all training requirements are met and performance is at an acceptable level. Therefore, if the candidate successfully completes each phase of training, he/she may advance from GS-07 to GS-12 in 18 months rather than the standard 36 months it would take without the benefit of the accelerated training program.

**MAJOR DUTIES:** Serves as a BPA technical expert in the installation, operation and maintenance, troubleshooting, and failure analysis of Power System Control equipment (electronic control and communications equipment) including District/System integration (e.g.: modification, redesign, troubleshooting, etc). Participates in planning, organizing, and directing activities of PSC Engineers and Craftsmen. Supervises, as necessary, the more difficult and non-routine types of maintenance activities. Analyzes monitored system parameters including periodic on-site equipment testing and measurement. Plans the resources to be used and is responsible for determining methodology of restoration of degraded or impaired equipment in the district (e.g., new, upgraded, and specially designed equipment). Applies electronic engineering concepts and techniques to the operation of wideband communications and operation of a power system. Prepares technical reports to resolve engineering issues with other organizations and contractors. Participates with District and Regional Management team to identify equipment replacements. Performs troubleshooting and engineering studies to determine cause of equipment failures and prepares troubleshooting instructions for others to avoid equipment failures.

**BASIC REQUIREMENTS:**

- A. Degree: professional engineering. To be acceptable, the curriculum must: (1) be in a school of engineering with at least one curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as a professional engineering curriculum; or (2) include differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics: (a) statistics, dynamics; (b) strength of materials (stress-strain relationships); (c) fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (d) thermodynamics; (e) electrical fields and circuits; (f) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (g) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics.

OR

- B. Combination of education and experience – college-level education, training, and/or technical experience that furnished (1) a thorough knowledge of the physical and mathematical sciences underlying professional engineering, and (2) a good understanding; both theoretical and practical, of the engineering sciences and techniques and their applications to one of the branches of engineering. The adequacy of such background must be demonstrated by one of the following:
  - 1. Professional Registration – Current registration as a professional engineer by any State, the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico. Absent other means of qualifying under this standard, those applicants who achieved such registration by means other than written test are eligible only for positions that are within or closely related to the specialty field of their registration.
  - 2. Written Test – Evidence of having successfully passed the Fundamentals-In-Engineering (FE) examination, or the written test required for professional registration, which is administered by the Boards of Engineering Examiners in the various States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico. Applicants who have passed the examination and have completed all the requirements for either (a) a bachelor's degree in engineering technology (BET) from an accredited college or university that included 60 semester hours of courses in the physical, mathematical, and engineering sciences, or (b) a BET from a program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) may be rated eligible for certain engineering positions at the GS-5 level. Eligibility is limited to positions that are within or closely related to the specialty field of the engineering technology program.
  - 3. Specified Academic Courses – Successful completion of at least 60 semester hours of courses in the physical, mathematical, and engineering sciences and in engineering that included the courses specified in the basic requirements. The courses must be fully acceptable toward meeting the requirements of a professional engineering curriculum as described in paragraph A.
  - 4. Related Curriculum – Successful completion of a curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree in engineering technology or in an appropriate professional field, e.g., physics, chemistry, architecture, computer science, mathematics, hydrology, or geology, may be accepted in lieu of a degree in engineering, provided the applicant has had at least 1 year of professional engineering experience acquired under professional engineering supervision and guidance.

**Education obtained outside the United States**

If your education has been obtained outside the U.S., you must submit proof with your application that your transcripts have been evaluated by a private organization that specializes in interpretation of foreign educational credentials and have been deemed at least equivalent to that gained in conventional U.S. education programs.

**In addition to meeting the basic requirements listed above, Applicants must have had a total of 1 year specialized experience that has equipped them with the particular knowledge's, skills and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically related to the work of this position. Specialized Experience for each grade level is defined below:**

**GS-11 –**

Experience as a professional engineer in a position that involved running a telecommunications/control maintenance program and experience using at least 4 of the test equipment types as identified in KSA#3 and interpreting test results.

**GS-12 –**

Experience as a professional engineer in a position that involved running a telecommunications/control maintenance program and experience using at least 6 of the test equipment types as identified in KSA#3 and interpreting test results.

**GS-13 –**

Experience as a professional engineer in the implementation of engineering, construction, and maintenance programs and procedures for telecommunications/control applications as well as experience interpreting and applying engineering and maintenance standards.

**Substitution of Education:**

3 full years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a Ph D or equivalent doctoral degree may be substituted for specialized experience at the GS-11 grade level.

**TIME-IN-GRADE RESTRICTION(s):** Applicants must have served 52 weeks next grade level in the Federal service.

For GS-11, 52 weeks at GS-09

For GS-12, 52 weeks at GS-11

For GS-13, 52 weeks at GS-12

**Note:** In order to be rated as qualified for the position, we must be able to determine that you meet the specialized experience requirement - please be sure to include this information in your application. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to the next lower grade of the position to be filled. Applicants who have qualifying experience performed on less than a full-time basis must specify the percentage and length of time spent in performance of such duties.

**BASIS OF RATING:** No written test is required. If qualified, ratings will be based on an evaluation of the quality and extent of experience, education, and training in relation to the following knowledge's, skills, and abilities. "It is **strongly recommended** that applicants provide a narrative response to the following knowledge's, skills, and abilities list below. Failure to do so may result in a lower score **and** non-referral to the selecting official".

- 1. Knowledge of professional engineering concepts and practices sufficient to plan, organize, and implement construction and maintenance programs for telecommunications/control applications.** (Please describe your experience planning, organizing, and/or implementing construction and maintenance programs and procedures. Include such experience as interpreting and applying engineering and maintenance standards and include the types of analyses and calculations you've performed.)
- 2. Ability to test, install, operate, and maintain telecommunication/control equipment sufficient to support power system operation.** (Please describe your experience installing, testing, operating and/or maintaining the following equipment: 1) VHF Radio; 2) UHF Radio; 3) Fiber Optics Lightwave Equipment; 4) Submultiplex; 5) Microwave Transfer Trip; 6) Operational Networks LAN/WAN 7) General Purpose and Fiber Optic Modems; 8) Supervisory Equipment; 9) Digital Telemetering; 10) Central Timing Systems; 11) SCADA; 12) Telemetering; 13) Fault Alarm; 14) Telephone Equipment; 15) DATS (automatic telephone switch); 16) Telephone Line Protection; 17) Analog and Digital Microwave; 18) Frequency/Time Division Multiplex; 19) Microwave Base band Equipment; 20) Emergency Engine Generators; 21) Batteries and Battery Chargers.)
- 3. Ability to perform tests and interpret test results using sophisticated communications test equipment.** (Please describe your experience using the following test equipment to identify and interpret test results 1) Optical Time Domain Reflectometer; 2) SCADA test kit; 3) Microwave Link analyzer; 4) Microwave Noise Loading equipment; 5) Analog or Digital Oscilloscope; 6) Frequency Selective Voltmeter; 7) Digital T-1 test equipment; 8) Dynamic Signal Analyzer; 9) VHF-UHF

Service Monitor; 10) Transmission Impairment and Measurement Set (TIMS); 11) Protocol Analyzer; 12) Network Analyzer; 13) Spectrum Analyzer; 14) Cable Tester; 15) Signal Generator; 16) Multimeter.)

**4. Ability to present highly technical information in written or verbal form to individuals both inside and outside of the organization on a variety of controversial or complex issues.** (Please describe your experience communicating technical information or issues to individuals inside and outside of your organization. Include whether the presentation was written or verbal and to whom you were presenting the information and for what purpose.)

**CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:**

If selected, you will be required to complete a Declaration for Federal Employment (OF 306, revised 1/01) to determine your suitability for Federal employment and to authorize a background investigation. You will be asked to sign and certify the accuracy of all information in your application. If you make any false statement in any part of your application, you may not be hired; or you may be fined, jailed, or fired after you begin work. The correct version of the OF-306 form is available at: [http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf\\_fill/of0306.pdf](http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/of0306.pdf)

**APPLICATION INFORMATION:**

There is no specific required application form. There is specific information that you are required to submit. For further information on completing your application, please refer to the statement below "Required Information on Resumes."

- Applicants may, at their choice, submit a resume, the Optional Application for Federal Employment (OF 612), a copy of the obsolete Application for Federal Employment (SF 171), or any other written application format.
- All applications must contain sufficient information to determine eligibility for the position.
- **Applicants will not be contacted for missing information. Material received after the closing date will not be accepted.**

**HOW TO APPLY:** Submit your application with supplemental information. It must be received with the application. Your application package should include the following:

1. Your resume, or other application, that fully describes your education and experience.
2. Narrative responses to Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities.
3. **(REQUIRED** if you are not currently in a GS-800, Professional Engineering, series. Copies are acceptable. If education has been obtained outside the U.S. you must also submit proof that that your transcripts have been evaluated by a private organization that specializes in interpretation of foreign educational credentials and have been deemed at least equivalent to that gained in conventional U.S. education programs.)
4. **If you are applying as a reinstatement or status candidate from another Federal agency, please include a copy of your most recent Standard Form 50, Notification of Personnel Action.**
5. If you are applying for consideration as a 30% or more disabled veteran, you must provide a copy of your DD-214 (Member 4), Standard Form 15 (Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference), and documented proof of claim as specified on the SF-15.
6. If you are applying for consideration as a VEOA, you must be either a preference eligible or have substantially completed an initial 3-year term of active duty military service. You must provide a copy of your DD-214 (Member 4).
7. If you are applying for Veteran's Readjustment Appointment (VRA) you must provide a copy of your DD-214 (Member 4). For more information on VRA, see website [www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov) or [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).
8. All non-BPA applicants are encouraged to complete and submit DOE F 1600.7e, Applicant Disability, Race/National Origin and Sex Identification form (attached).
9. OF-306 (revised 1/01), Declaration for Federal Employment

**REQUIRED INFORMATION ON RESUMES:**

1. Announcement number, title, and grade of the position for which you are applying.
2. Your full name, mailing address, and day and evening telephone number.
3. Your e-mail address (please provide if available – failure to provide will not effect the processing of your application.)
4. Your Social Security Number.
5. Country of citizenship.
6. High school attended which includes name of high school, location (city/state), and date of diploma or GED.
7. Work experience (Paid and non-paid experience related to the job for which you are applying. Include job title (**YOU MUST INCLUDE SERIES AND GRADE IF FEDERAL JOB**), duties and accomplishments, employer's name and address, supervisor's name and phone number, starting and ending dates (**including month and year**), hours worked per week, salary).
8. Indicate if we may contact your current supervisor.
9. A list of other job related training, skills (for example, languages, tools, machinery, typing speed, etc.), certificates and licenses, honor societies, awards, professional membership, publications, leadership activities, performance awards, etc.

**\*\*Please note that if your resume or application does not provide all the information requested in the vacancy announcement, you may lose consideration.**

**FORMS AVAILABILITY:** All application materials may be obtained from all Bonneville Power Administration Human Resources offices (2401 NE Minnehaha, Construction Services Building, Vancouver, WA 98663; or 905 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue,

Portland, OR 97232), or by calling 360-418-2090 or 503-230-3055. You may also download a copy of this announcement, including all forms from our website at <http://www.jobs.bpa.gov/>

If you have questions, you may call the Staffing Center, 360-418-2090 or 503-230-3055.

**Applicants should retain a copy of their application as BPA does not return applications or provide copies.**

**WHERE TO APPLY:**

If **mailing** your application, please send to the following address: Bonneville Power Administration, ATTN: Personnel Services – CHP/CSB-2, PO Box 491, Vancouver, WA 98666, (street address): 2401 NE Minnehaha Street, Vancouver, WA 98663

If applications are delivered in person, they can be delivered to the address above **OR** to: Bonneville Power Administration, Personnel Services, 905 NE 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland, OR 97232.

**RECEIPT OF APPLICATION:**

Your complete application must be received no later than 12 midnight Pacific Standard Time (PST) of the closing date to be accepted. Applications submitted by fax or e-mail must be time/date stamped or electronically postmarked at point of origin no later than 12 midnight PST.

Applicants will be notified of receipt of their application package.

**FAX APPLICATIONS:**

Faxed applications should be sent to **360-418-2063**. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that application materials transmit successfully.

**EMAIL APPLICATIONS:**

Applications should be sent as email attachments to: [jobs@bpa.gov](mailto:jobs@bpa.gov). The Announcement Number must be included in the subject line of the email. Required forms may be sent as email attachments, may be faxed, or sent as hard copy. Application materials provided by different means must be cross-referenced so they may be combined at BPA. Applicants who apply by email will receive an email confirmation. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that application materials are formatted in a manner that will transmit successfully.

**THE BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION IS A HARASSMENT FREE WORKPLACE.**

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<a href="http://www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a>	<a href="http://www.jobs.bpa.gov/">http://www.jobs.bpa.gov/</a>	<a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a>	<a href="http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/index.htm">http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/index.htm</a>
Veterans Administration	Bonneville Power Administration	Office of Personnel Management Jobs	<a href="#">Office of Personnel Management</a>

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18a. When did you leave your last Federal job?	DATE: MM / DD / YYYY		
18b. When you worked for the Federal Government the last time, did you waive Basic Life Insurance or any type of optional life insurance?	<b>YES</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>NO</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>DO NOT KNOW</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
18c. If you answered "Yes" to item 18b, did you later cancel the waiver(s)? If your answer to item 18c is "No", use item 16 to identify the type(s) of insurance for which waivers which were not cancelled.	<b>YES</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>NO</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>DO NOT KNOW</b> <input type="checkbox"/>

U.S. Office of Personnel Management

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Optional Form 306  
 Revised January 2001  
 Previous editions obsolete and unusable  
 FILE CODE: PE-20-12  
 RETENTION: CHR/CF = 2 YRS; OTHERS = A