NERC Certified System Operator Information

Thank you for your interest in learning about the role of a NERC Certified System Operator (NCSO)

**Overview**

The accreditation process for obtaining a NERC System Operator Certification is described on this site: <https://www.nerc.com/pa/Train/SysOpCert/Pages/default.aspx>

 The process involves studying for and passing a test and then maintaining a required number of continuing education hours over the course of 3 years.

**Classes for Exam Prep**

There are several vendors that offer NERC exam preparatory materials. Typically, at PNM Power Operations, we use SOSIntl. A link to their Exam Prep information is here: <https://www.sosintl.com/nerc-certification/>.

*The educational reimbursement for such a program would be subject to the PNM Educational Reimbursement policies.*

**Resources for Learning More**

A great resource for learning about the role of a system operator and also for test preparation is the book, EPRI Power System Dynamics Tutorial. This comprehensive book is free to download from the EPRI website, <https://www.epri.com>. From the homepage search for the product ID, 1016042.

Another resource for test study and job information are the NERC standards themselves, which are published here: <https://www.nerc.net/standardsreports/standardssummary.aspx>

**NCSOs at PNM**

PNM Power Operations has 19-20 NCSO positions. The majority of these positions work 12 hour rotating shifts to support three “desks” with different roles: 1) Transmission Operations 2) Reliability/Generation 3) EIM (Energy Imbalance Market).

Currently all positions are filled. All future openings for NCSOs at PNM will be posted to the Job Posting link on the PNM iConnect site.

 \*\* *Nationwide, all utilities that operate transmission system follow the same certification requirements.*

**Job Shadowing**

If you are interested in coming to Power Operations for a job shadow experience, please pick a few weekday options and call Kelsey Martinez at (505) 241-2432 or Don Lacen at (505) 241-2409.

Thank you,

Kelsey Martinez & Don Lacen

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