

Underground Construction Equipment Operator

Are you someone who comes alive when there's a powerful piece of equipment at your fingertips and a project that needs precision? Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative is looking for an Underground Construction Equipment Operator who's ready to dig in—literally—to help build and maintain the systems that keep our communities powered. If you take pride in craftsmanship, enjoy mastering specialized machinery, and believe safety and teamwork are the bedrock of great work, you'll fit right in at our member-focused cooperative. Join us as we keep power flowing underground and bring reliable energy to the people who count on us every day.

Job duties include completing construction, maintenance or repairing underground distribution lines while working primarily with motorized equipment such as a trencher, backhoe, ground rod driver, directional bore rig and others. The position requires a high school diploma or equivalent. The successful candidate must possess a valid Minnesota Class A and medical card. See a full job description below.

This position is an hourly, union position.

The starting pay range for the position is \$35.17 - \$39.08 per hour.

Benefits offerings include:

- Paid vacation and sick leave
- 8 holidays each year
- Medical, prescription drug, dental, life insurance and long-term disability plans
- Retirement plan
- Health Savings Account and tax-free expense account for dependent care
- Resources that provide support and promote physical, emotional, social and financial well-being



3366 Bridge Avenue, PO Box 611
Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007



(507) 373-6421
(800) 734-6421



info@fmec.coop
www.fmec.coop

Interested parties should complete the application form found on this page and submit or mail, along with a current résumé to:

Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative
Attn: Human Resources
PO Box 611, Albert Lea, MN 56007

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Thursday, March 26, 2026

Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

POSITION TITLE: UNDERGROUND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Objectives

Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative is dedicated to providing exceptional service and support to our members. We are a dynamic and innovative cooperative that values teamwork, integrity and excellence.

Complete construction, maintenance or repair of underground distribution lines while working primarily with motorized equipment. Assist Tree Crew during the winter season.

Work is performed under the supervision of the Underground (URD) Construction Foreman, Powerline Tree Trimmer Foreman or Manager of Operations.

Responsibilities

These examples illustrate the various types of work performed in this position. The omission of specific duties does not exclude them if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.

- Operates motorized equipment such as trencher, backhoe, ground rod driver, directional bore rig, and any other equipment as may be designated.
- Maintains an adequate supply of materials, tools, safety equipment, rigging and first aid supplies on the equipment at all times.

- Prepares daily time sheets, other reports and records as required.
- Reports any equipment issues to the immediate supervisor. Performs minor repairs and adjustments as needed.
- Is familiar with hazardous materials used in the performance of the job. Observes all safety and environmental rules and regulations that pertain to the use, handling, and disposal of these hazardous materials.
- Services equipment with fuel, oil, grease, fluids and keep equipment clean as necessary. Prior to equipment operation each day inspects and checks tires, lights, signals, brakes, horn, wipers, safety equipment, and all fluids.
- Keep abreast of developments in the industry through attendance and participation in training sessions, schools and seminars.
- Stays familiar with and observes all safety rules as set forth in the adopted Safety Manual.
- Practices good housekeeping habits at the job site, around equipment and at all properties.
- Communicates on two-way radio as necessary.
- Additional tasks may be assigned based on your knowledge, skills, and abilities, or for which you have received training.
- This position may require work outside of normal business hours.

Position Requirements

Education

This position requires a high school diploma or equivalent.

Abilities and Skills

- Sufficient hearing and vision to perform all required tasks. Impaired hearing and/or vision must not present a safety hazard to the employee, other employees and/or the general public.
- Possess a valid Class A Minnesota Commercial Driver License.
- Ability to communicate on the telephone and two-way radio system.
- Ability to perform job tasks that involve bending, stooping, and lifting heavy objects up to 75 pounds.
- Manual dexterity and mechanical ability to use hand tools such as wrenches, screwdrivers, pliers, etc.
- Able to read and interpret staking sheets and be familiar with underground facilities assemblies.
- Effective communication skills.
- Ability to operate motor vehicles and equipment with both automatic and manual transmissions.
- Ability to stand for prolonged periods of time during the work shift.

Physical Characteristics

Must be able to perform the essential functions of this position with or without reasonable accommodations.

FLSA Status

This is a union position and is governed by the union agreement. This position is full-time with a minimum of 40 hours per week. Daily timesheets will be maintained.

Physical Demands

Activity - Percentage of Time

Bending	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Squatting	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Crouching	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Pushing/Pulling	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Reaching above shoulder level	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Sitting	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Standing	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Twisting	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Walking	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Must Be Able To - Percentage of Time

Reach Overhead	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Consistently move on your feet	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Wear PPE	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Climb Ladders	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Lifting in Awkward Positions	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

<u>Lifting</u>	<u>From Floor</u>	<u>From Waist</u>	<u>Overhead</u>
Up to 10 lbs.	Frequently	Frequently	Frequently
11 - 24 lbs.	Frequently	Frequently	Frequently
25 - 34 lbs.	Frequently	Frequently	Frequently
35 - 50 lbs.	Frequently	Frequently	Frequently
51 - 75 lbs.	Occasionally	Occasionally	Rarely

<u>Carrying</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Hours/Day</u>	
Up to 10 lbs.	100 ft	6	Frequently
11 - 24 lbs.	100 ft	6	Frequently
25 - 34 lbs.	100 ft	4	Frequently
35 - 50 lbs.	50 ft	1	Occasionally
51 - 75 lbs.	50 ft	0.25	Rarely

<u>Pushing/Pulling</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Hours/Day</u>
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Up to 10 lbs.	10 ft	6	Frequently
11 - 24 lbs.	10 ft	6	Frequently
25 - 34 lbs.	10 ft	6	Frequently
35 - 50 lbs.	10 ft	6	Frequently

Simple Grasping Right Hand Yes
Left Hand Yes

Firm Grasping Right Hand Yes
Left Hand Yes

Pushing/Pulling Right Hand Yes
Left Hand Yes

Fine Manipulation Right Hand Yes
Left Hand Yes

Repetitive Movements Right Hand Yes
Left Hand Yes
Right Foot Yes
Left Foot Yes

Work Environment

Outside	Frequently
Inside	Rarely
Air Conditioned	Rarely
Smoke-Free Area	Frequently
Fumes	Occasionally
Ground Level	Frequently
Use of Stairs	Occasionally
Work in dusty conditions	Frequently
Work with computers	Rarely
Work with other persons	Frequently
Work with member	Occasionally