



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
WWW.STATE.MA.US/DOS

JANE SWIFT
GOVERNOR

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DIRECTOR

ROBERT J. PREZIOSO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

January 02, 2002

Mr. Bruce M. Trager
Assistant Attorney General
Office of The Attorney General
200 Portland Street
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Classification between Telecommunications Technician and Electrician

Dear Mr. Trager:

You have requested that the Division of Occupational Safety ("DOS") make a prevailing wage classification determination concerning the difference between a Telecommunications Technician and an Electrician. You state that the project in question is the Flagg-Adams Middle School in Holliston, MA and that a sub-contractor was retained to perform the following work:

Furnish and install the automatic temperature control systems, including direct Digital controls, wiring, conduit, transformer controls, thermostats, sensors, damper actuators, control valves with actuators.

In addition, you also state that the Electrician's rate on the project was \$42.40/hr., the Telecomm rate was \$31.65/hr. and you ask which rate would apply to the work mentioned above.

As you know, DOS administers the prevailing wage law for construction of public works in the Commonwealth (M.G.L. ch. 149, sec. 26-27D). Sections 26 and 27 of the statute authorizes DOS to classify public works jobs and set the rate of pay for such classifications in accordance with established collective bargaining agreements in the construction industry.

The applicable language of existing collective bargaining agreements between electrical unions and the electrical industry in Massachusetts clearly encompasses the installation of electrical systems and devices for heating purposes. It should be noted that the uniform language of the corresponding teledata agreements does not claim such work within its scope. I am including an applicability determination from former DOS Program Manager Benjamin Tymann dated May 17, 2000, to Wayne J. Griffin, which addresses the appropriate occupational classification for installers of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) controls on public works construction projects.

DOS has already determined that "Electrician" is the proper prevailing wage occupational classification for the installation of automatic control systems, including direct digital controls, wiring, conduit, transformer controls, thermostats, sensors, damper actuators, and control valves with actuators.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald E. Maranian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ronald E. Maranian
Program Manager

cc: Robert J. Prezioso, DOS Deputy Director
Kathryn Palmer, DOS General Counsel