



Winnie Adams

District 2 Director

Home Island: Orcas

Appointed to fill a vacancy in 2010

Elected: 2012

BIO (2012):

Winnie Adams moved to the San Juans in 1977, where she has served the community as a public school teacher, environmental educator and yoga instructor. She holds an M.A. from Stanford University. In 2010, she stepped onto the OPALCO Board to fill out Roger Crosby's term.

For many years she lived on Waldron Island and now divides her time between Waldron and Orcas. While living on Waldron she became interested in renewable energy technology. Since joining the OPALCO board she has been the board liaison with the MORE committee, a volunteer group of members who designed the program for locally generated renewable energy.

The chief challenges Adams sees as important to us in shaping our future involve:

- Better engaging our members in individual energy choices that help hold our load growth steady, thereby avoiding Tier II pricing.
- Expanding our fiber network to make use of the new technology for smart grid and AMR (automated meter reading) information. With this information we can increase our awareness of energy use patterns and reduce peak use spikes.
- Exploring the feasibility of greater broadband availability for community use.
- Continuing to offer good conservation and alternative energy programs.

Excited by this time of transition in OPALCO, Adams has worked to support policies and changes that favorably position our Co-op to effectively respond to current challenges. The OPALCO membership is especially well served by the following strengths:

- OPALCO is in sound financial condition.
- We have a strong management team and well-trained, ambitious staff capable of making bold steps. Linemen are extremely proficient. We have excellent engineers.
- We have improved our ability to make accurate local use forecasts.
- During the last few years, our new Energy Services Department developed a record that shows our membership is capable of making good use of energy conservation programs.
- Our excellent web page and social media presence inform our members of the programs we offer.