

Biography: Mark Madsen. (OPALCO director election – 2022)

Mark has lived on San Juan Island since 2006 and has served as a Director of OPALCO since 2014, now seeking re-election in District 1.

Mark has served as a Trustee for the SJI Library District since 2009 and is a director for the SJI Food Cooperative. He is past President and director with the SJC Economic Development Council and was co-chair of the SJI Agricultural Guild while developing the Brickworks in Friday Harbor. Mark recently retired as a director and past President of Seattle Arts and Lectures, which places professional writers in public schools to teach the craft and joy of writing.

Mark has a Ph.D from the University of Washington, M.S. from Wisconsin-Madison, and a B.A. from the UW (and is a proud Husky!). Mark has worked at companies such as Realnetworks, Microsoft, and Internap Network Services. Mark was a co-founder of AllRecipes.com, and currently serves as CTO at WattIQ, a startup which uses sensor technology to help companies improve the sustainability of their equipment assets.

“I firmly believe that OPALCO is the community’s strongest asset. Our cooperative gives us a way to help control our destiny as we face a changed energy landscape and the effects of climate change.”

“The transition to carbon-free power in Washington will be difficult, even with fossil-fuel free hydropower helping us get most of the way there. But this region has more demand than electricity supply. We are creating local renewable energy, as a cooperative and by supporting member generation. And we should work regionally with other cooperatives on the mainland resources that will be necessary to support our demand for clean power.”

“OPALCO has a strong plan to meet these challenges, and I ask for your vote in order to continue my work helping our Cooperative make those plans a reality.”