

1. I am in support of OPALCO'S mission to bring down greenhouse gasses with the implementation of new renewable energy projects. I think in order to maintain energy independence and bring down prices to existing and future cooperative members, it is important that OPALCO look into the effectiveness and overall costs of new energy projects and find ways to implement them within reasonable time frames. To accomplish this OPALCO must work with community government and local organizations, in order to find pathways to completion that focus on expediency over congestion.

2. a. In order to fund future projects, Opalco needs to find a balance between maintaining existing utilities, adding new utilities without raising current energy costs, and looking into local, federal and state funding that help fund renewable energy projects. Currently Washington state is raising billions of dollars for renewable energy projects through its CAP program, on the federal level the Department of Energy provides funding for new energy projects around America. These grants along with collaborations with our local government will hopefully provide us with new avenues that lead to the creation of new energy projects in San Juan County.

b. As said above, in order to maintain affordability for existing OPALCO members we need to look at all the appropriate avenues of funding available. If prices are to go up we need to create timelines that show that the initial investment in a particular energy project will be paid off over time and eventually lead to a lowering of energy costs. The projects that should be avoided are the ones that prove to be an overall high initial investment that ultimately don't lead to savings over an extended period of time.

3. While maintaining our agrarian and natural beauty is important here on San Juan Island, ultimately I think it is more important that we prioritize the placement of future energy projects here in San Juan County. If we plan to become more energy independent in the future we need to greenlight the construction of future renewable energy projects. In order to do this we need to communicate a sense of urgency to San Juan County and its citizens that the creation of alternate energy sources, and the promotion of renewable energy projects, in order to lower our electric rates and lessen our dependence on fossil fuel energy sources, is of much greater importance than "preserving our local character." Through working with the county and private residences OPALCO should be able to find appropriate land to place future energy projects on, while also looking into current zoning laws to see what areas are most viable in creating easy pathways to completion.

4. I think the most obvious path to get shareholders in support of future OPALCO directives is through effective communication. The dissemination of information has very much changed over the past 15 years. While before people were more likely to come to in person meetings to get information about the future of OPALCO projects, now people are more

inclined to get their information from social media forums and word of mouth. In order for Opalco to control their narrative and get support from the local citizenry, they need to create more avenues of outreach that helps relay good information to the greater community as a whole. I think OPALCOs ability to reach the community as a whole with information about current and future projects has been severely lacking as of late, this has created a climate of "Us vs. Them" mentality between OPALCO and its stakeholders. Good communication along multiple avenues will be the key to OPALCO finding greater support from the community and the local government as a whole.

5. a. Ideally opalco is creating a roadmap that shows the completion of a multitude of energy projects over the next 25 years. This energy which is ideally produced through solar, hydro, biochar incinerator, geothermal, or even small scale nuclear will ultimately take away some of , if not all of our independence on external energy production, and will allow us to create our own energy at rates that compete with existing energy producers. I also think battery production will be highly important in keeping down energy costs for OPALCO members. By storing energy during months of low demand we can in effect buy electricity at lower rates and store it for use during high demand months when costs per kilowatt hour is very high.

b. New renewable energy projects should be placed in accordance with existing zoning laws, ideally if we can place energy projects in spots that are in lower visibility areas or that are the on site of pre existing projects, there will be less pushback from the greater island community. This entails finding large structures that can hold solar arrays, or placing solar arrays at public sights like the local landfill or the gravel pit near jacksons beach. Also collaborations with existing entities like the Port of Friday Harbor and the Town of Friday Harbor, will potentially open up access to more energy development sights.

c. there will always be local resistance to limit sighting and permitting, this is why it is so important to be completely transparent with the island population through the opening of new avenues of communication which help dispel any myths regarding the sighting of future energy production.

d. I think a combination of funding from the stakeholders, along with the sourcing of state and federal grants, in culmination with local governments and non profit organizations, along with major fundraising efforts will help create funding opportunities for OPALCO going into the future

6. Creating incentive structures that promote personal production of renewable energy will create energy that we can sell back to the grid at higher rates, which can offset the customers' rates, while also producing income for OPALCO. In order to promote these

small scale energy projects, it's ideal that opalco is able to loan out money for these projects at fixed interest rates that bring in profit over time. I think this loan program could be greatly expanded to the point where the majority of income coming to Opalco is generated through interest made off of small personal loans.

7. I personally would love to learn more about small scale nuclear. If we had the possibility to create an energy resource that is extremely safe and effective which could also power all of San Juan County, I think that is definitely something worth looking at. I would also like to know what improvements need to be done to our transmission lines in order to expand our current grid capacity. I would also like to learn what are the underlying costs that are required to maintain our current energy infrastructure, and what are the best ways to improve efficiency in order to create savings over an extended period of time.

8. The creation of affordable housing is huge in retaining current and future employees in San Juan County, I think it would be in Opalcos interest to partner with our local affordable housing organizations. This partnership would not only be valuable in creating long term affordable housing for future OPALCO employees but could also provide opportunities in the sighting of new energy projects.

9. When it comes to a severe winter event my questions to opalco would be. Are we making plans to store energy during the summer when the electricity prices are low and then disseminating this power to our local population when energy is in high demand and costs are high? how much battery storage would it take to offset the overall high costs incurred during high demand. also looking into the retrofitting of existing high energy use technologies is highly important to bringing down demand. Communicating to members the ways they can use less energy during high demand months is also important in bringing down our overall energy use.

10. I think the most important way to get members involved is through an ongoing good dissemination of information. I think there needs to be more attention put into media training, and social networking, OPALCO would benefit from having someone on staff who is primarily involved with media relations and social outreach. OPALCO not only needs to be throwing town hall meetings, internet forums, and information related events, but also needs to start focusing on the fun stuff that creates positive impacts on the community, this includes meet and greets, public dinners/concert/event series etc. Right now OPALCO has a major public outreach issue that is really making it hard to garnish support from its stakeholders in the creation of new energy projects.

Rockisland

11. I think access to communication technology is hugely important, but with competition from satellite based internet companies the overall costs of running high speed internet to peoples properties is not cost effective and is now in direct competition with these satellite based internet companies. If the price of bringing broadband to peoples doorsteps is not greatly reduced i don't think Rockisland communications will have any effective way to compete with current internet providers eventually making its services obsolete.

12. I think that Rockisland needs to create easier access to high speed internet to its user base. A majority of Rockisland users are connected to Rockisland's Wifi network (low speed internet for many users) which in my opinion doesn't have enough towers to be competitive with other internet providers. The only way in my opinion for Rockisland to remain a competitor in the high speed internet world is to create more affordable broadband options for its user base.

13. The cost of internet connections should be paid by both OPALCO and the customer, ideally opalco can provide low interest loans for hard line broadband connections. Costs for individuals to connect are often much too high leading them to go with other high speed internet service providers.

14. I personally would advise Opalco to commit less funding to the Rockisland portion of its businesses. I think they are beginning to compete in a market that will always provide high speed internet at lower rates. In order for OPALCO to remain competitive in the realm of high speed internet it will have to make millions of dollars of investments that i personally think should go to alternative energy projects instead.