Orcas Power & Light Cooperative
OPALCO - Background

• San Juan County in Washington State since 1937
• Distributes energy to 20 islands
• Employs approximately 50 people in the County, plus 36 at subsidiary
• Rock Island Communications - wholly-owned broadband subsidiary
• 15,235 meters connected
• 238 GWh purchased in 2021
• 15 distribution submarine cables
• 10 transmission submarine cables
Switch It Up!

Switch It Up! on-bill financing program:
• Began utilizing USDA’s RESP program funding
• Initial design assistance from EESI & Collaborative Efficiency
• $46.8M aggregate RESP fund availability
• Since 2019, financed over 220 member EE projects totaling over $2M in relending

Expanding Program Measures:
• DHP, HPWH, EVSE
• Fiber to the Premise (FTTP) / EE bundle
• Community Solar subscriptions
• In-home battery storage & residential solar
• Weatherization measures

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RESP’s impact on the Co-op Role

• Expanding co-op role within community
• Increasing equity & inclusivity
• Positioning for the future
• Fostering partnerships
• Sharing lessons learned