Who are the Co-ops?

Electric cooperatives are:

• Private, independent, non-profit electric utility businesses
• Owned by the customers they serve
• Governed by a board of directors elected from the membership which sets policies and procedures that are implemented by the cooperatives’ management
Who are the Co-ops?

Compared with other electric utilities:

- Co-ops serve an average of 7.4 consumers per mile of line
- Investor-owned utilities average 34 customers per mile of line
- Municipals average 48 consumers per mile
Agenda

1. Technological Advances
2. A New Regulatory Model?
3. The Co-op Model
New and Cheaper Technologies

Growth in Solar led by Falling Prices

Blended Average Solar PV Price ($/Watt)

Solar PV Installations (MWdc)

- Solar PV Prices
- Solar PV Installations

January 20, 2015
A New Market-Based Model?

- Competitive Markets at the Retail Level: The Distribution System Operator (DSO)
- New York’s Reforming the Energy Vision (REV)

Goals of Proponents:
1. Give consumers energy service options
2. Increase DER Penetration
The Co-op Model

- Co-ops: the original DSO
- Truly consumer-centric
- Looks at the entire system holistically to ensure reliability and affordability
- Long-term thinking
Co-ops Integrating DER

- Co-ops pursue DER in ways that meet member needs
- Economic benefits remain in the local community
- Example: Co-op AMI penetration rates are highest in industry
Example: Okanogan County Electric Cooperative

OCEC Community Solar Project
Launched in 2010
Fully subscribed within 2 weeks

Winthrop Community Solar Project
Partnered with local non profit
Questions?

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