



Mary Sullivan District 4 Candidate

Member/Owner since 2002

Education: B.S. Agriculture Washington State University

Employment: Washington Grain Commission, Vice President

Affiliations: WSU Alumni Association; Spokane Ag Expo/PNW Farm Forum Board Member; Spokane Conservation District, Past Supervisor; Washington Association of Conservation Districts, Past SE WA Area Director; National Barley Growers Association & National Barley Improvement Committee

Candidate statement:

Service to my community is something I feel strongly about. I have lived in the Inland Northwest for more than 33 years and have overlap on many issues and strategies through my work on behalf of wheat and barley farmers. As a board member for the Inland Power, I will bring a science-based approach to address the various concerns facing the utility industry. Our power grid and dams provide a sustainable way to not only provide power to our and other regions, but also efficient ways to irrigate and transport the region's crops. I am dedicated to uphold Inland Power's commitment to providing safe, reliable power at some of the most affordable rates in the nation. It would be an honor and privilege to serve as a board member on your behalf.

Why do you want to serve on the board of trustees?

This position takes a time commitment that I want to make. I would like to give back to my community and Inland Power is an organization that I respect and would like to be more involved with. Knowing that we have to be proactive in order to protect our resources, I am committed to listening to the needs of the membership and will work to take action, beyond the board room. I would like to expand my network of people within my community and focus of the needs of the organization.

What strengths would you bring to the board of trustees?

Through a number of activities, I have worked to promote agriculture and the grain industries throughout the 30 plus years of working for the Washington Grain Commission. Traveling to Washington, D.C. and Olympia to educate and inform members of congress and our state legislators on various issues is something that I thoroughly enjoy and would want to continue to do on behalf of Inland Power. I understand many of the issues that Inland Power has addressed over the years and am excited to learn more about the industry to help develop policy and be an advocate for the membership. In addition, I have served and provided leadership to various boards and realize the importance of good governance, financial oversight, and strategic planning for an organization.

Of the challenges Inland may face, what would you focus your attention on?

It is essential to maintain focused to provide safe, reliable and affordable power for our membership. To that end, I will support retaining all four Snake River dams as part of a large hydropower, irrigation and transportation systems that provides direct benefits to the members of Inland Power and to other Northwest states. Removing barging as an option for agriculture producers and manufacturers throughout the Pacific Northwest would vastly increase carbon emissions and increase diesel fuel consumption by nearly 5 million gallons each year. Combined with the loss of clean, carbon-free power, the impacts would be felt far beyond our region. No other renewable power source is a viable option in order to maintain our focus, so removing the dams is not an option. With limits on coal and natural gas, we cannot rely exclusively on wind and solar power for our renewable energy source.

What else would you like the membership to know about you as a candidate?

I care about the people and the area that Inland Power represents and the power of advocacy that we have as a group. I am committed to being involved and willing to do the work to listen to our membership, identify the needs of the organization and do the work to implement those needs.



Our mission is our members