

GOING THE EXTRA MILE

DISTRICT 5: Candidate
IPL MEMBER: Since 2011
EDUCATION: BSEE, MBA, PhD
EMPLOYMENT: Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
AFFILIATIONS: Registered Professional Engineer, Washington
MISC INFORMATION: Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Jason Pope



Candidate Statement:

Like it or not, our energy landscape is changing. Rapidly expanding demand fueled by AI growth is resulting in new power generation and system changes across the west. The cost of electricity from these new assets will be more expensive than our existing fleet. Competition for energy resources will increase. We are blessed to have rates at Inland Power less than half the national average. I will work for our customers and with our partners to keep rates low and reliability high. We depend on electricity to make our community work.

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

I want to represent you as an informed voice for sensible solutions. A career spanning decades in the energy industry gives me the opportunity to bring lessons learned from peers around the world to our local co-op. I want to share these ideas and experiences as we work together to secure our energy future.

What strengths would you bring to the board of trustees?

Experience and perspective are the strengths I will bring to the Board. Growing up in an electrical family, I watched my father, uncle, and grandfather all work in the electrical trade. After high school I completed a formal apprenticeship through the IBEW and a Master Electrician certification. I went on to study engineering at WSU and registered as a Professional Engineer (PE). I have worked hands-on at the hydroelectric and nuclear plants where our power is generated. I have also sat across the table from energy executives on three continents to craft solutions for their secure energy future. After more than 25 years in the energy industry working in technical, managerial, and research capacities, my perspective will uniquely complement those of our other trustees.

The utility industry faces many challenges. Where would you focus your attention?

My priorities will be to deliver reliable electricity now and in the future at the lowest rates possible. To do this we need to engage our partners and lawmakers to maintain continued access to hydropower, the basis of our low rates. Inside the co-op, we cannot ignore the challenges facing the entire industry. My top priorities will be to:

- plan for growth,
- invest in a qualified workforce, and
- ensure our systems are secure and maintained.

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

I will represent you as an active and dedicated member of our board. I live, work, and play in our community with my beautiful wife and growing family. You'll find us on Badger Lake this summer and might catch us at a Liberty Lancers game or an Eagles tailgate come fall. Please say hello! I am excited to share ideas as we chart the course for our energy future together.