Benton REA

2015 Washington State Solar Summit

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Cooperatives & Mutuals

- 20 Mutual & Cooperative in WA
- Serve 280,000 members
- One-fourth of WA surface area
About Benton REA

- Electric Cooperative
  - Member Owned, Not-for-profit
- 78 years of operation
- Benton, Yakima, into Lewis Counties
- 11,500+ members, 15,500+ accounts
- Average 7 accounts per mile of power line
Benton REA Solar

- 64 Net Metered Systems
  - 62 Solar, 2 Wind
  - 416 kW (492 kW is N.M. Threshold)
  - Just Reached Benton REA’s Projected State Incentive Cap ($200,000+)

- No Community Solar
Benton REA Solar

- Net Metering Classes
  - Demonstration Project
  - Policies Review
  - Installer Presentation
  - Financial Analysis
Obstacles to Growth

- High Up Front Costs
- State Incentive Amended
  - Cap Increased
  - 2020 Sunset
  - Utility Participation
- Cost Shift
- Storage
Questions?