

# Media Backgrounder and Fact Sheet

Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources  
Government of British Columbia

## ***CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY IS POWERING B.C.***

British Columbia is supporting the spirit and vision of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games as the most sustainable Games in history by leading the way in clean, renewable energy solutions. With an abundance of renewable energy sources, including tidal power, B.C. is fast becoming a low carbon energy powerhouse.

- Canada's first free-stream tidal power project is located at the Race Rocks Ecological Reserve, a unique ecosystem located at the eastern entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca, ten nautical miles southwest of the provincial capital Victoria, B.C.
- This B.C.-built, 65kW pilot project, which started generating power in 2006, taps into surrounding tidal currents, which can run at up to seven knots, and convert the tidal energy to electric power.
- These swift waters are the lifeblood of breathtakingly diverse plant and animal life – recognized internationally as a treasured ecosystem.
- A partnership between Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific, EnCana Corporation and Clean Current Power Systems Incorporated, the project has already dramatically reduced the dependence of the college's isolated research station on diesel generation and ultimately aims to eliminate it.

## CONTACTS

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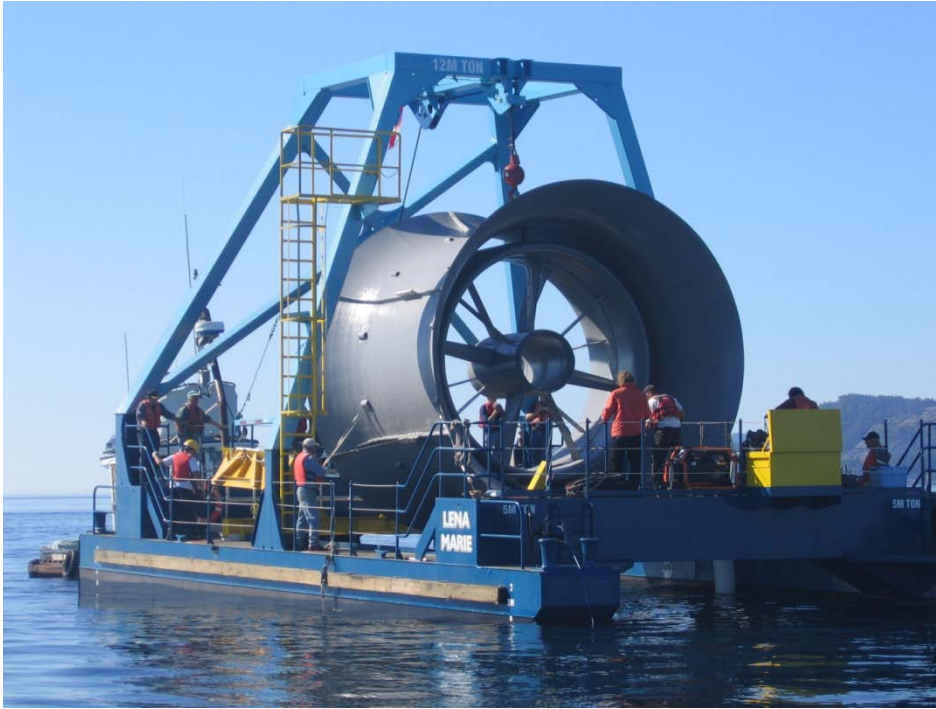
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## VISUAL RESOURCES

- Photographs of tidal power – contact Jake Jacobs ([jake.jacobs@gov.bc.ca](mailto:jake.jacobs@gov.bc.ca)) for more – contact details below.



## WEB RESOURCES

- Race Rocks ecological reserve and marine protected area - [www.racerocks.com](http://www.racerocks.com)
- Clean Current Power Systems - [www.cleancurrent.com/](http://www.cleancurrent.com/)
- The Ocean Renewable Energy Group (OREG) aligns industry, academia and government to ensure that Canada is a leader in providing ocean energy solutions to a world market - [www.oreg.ca/](http://www.oreg.ca/).
- In April 2009, the Province released an Energy Plan Report on Progress detailing the work that has been done to date in achieving the goals and targets set out in the BC Energy Plan: A Vision for Clean Energy Leadership - [www.energyplan.gov.bc.ca](http://www.energyplan.gov.bc.ca).

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### **For assistance or more information:**

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