

# Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday 12 August 2010

## Wave power to be trialled at Lorne Pier

Lorne Pier is to be the focus of an innovative alternative energy trial over the next few months with the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee and Department of Sustainability and Environment granting permission for a small, temporary demonstration of wave power technology to proceed.

“It made perfect sense for us to support a proposal to trial an alternative sustainable energy source that offers the potential to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions,” explained Coast Committee Chief Executive Officer Richard Davies.

Developed by AquaGen Technologies Pty Ltd, the new technology harnesses the power generated by waves to produce electricity and desalinated water. The technology’s effectiveness has already been proven in laboratory tests at Monash University with the Lorne Pier trial providing the first opportunity to test it in a real-life environment.

“As a small, start-up company with very limited resources, we appreciate the opportunity provided by this trial to field test our technology,” stated AquaGen’s Managing Director Nick Boyd.

The trial (as demonstrated in the attached diagram) involves a wave power device connected to a small vessel moored safely to Lorne Pier along with two underwater buoyancy units connected to the pier and a power take-off module bolted to the pier.

The visible components (i.e. the boat and the module) will have minimal impact on pier users and will be removed from the pier each night during the trial.

“The committee is pleased to be playing a small role in something that could potentially make a real contribution to producing a reliable, sustainable and renewable energy source to equal the likes of wind and solar power,” said Mr Davies.

The trial is expected to start in September and run through to November 2010. A public information session will be held this Saturday, 14 August 2010, from 3pm to 5pm at the Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club (near the Lorne Pier) to enable the local community to find out more about the trial.

[ENDS – DIAGRAM ON NEXT PAGE]

**For media enquiries please contact:**

Richard Davies  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Great Ocean Road Coast Committee  
Ph: 5220 5055; 0458 988 166  
Email: [richard.d@gorcc.com.au](mailto:richard.d@gorcc.com.au) Website: [www.gorcc.com.au](http://www.gorcc.com.au)

*Caring for the coast and community*

PO Box 53, Torquay, Vic 3228  
Phone: 03 5220 5055 Fax: 03 5264 7763  
Email: [info@gorcc.com.au](mailto:info@gorcc.com.au) Web: [www.gorcc.com.au](http://www.gorcc.com.au)

### Diagram of Lorne Pier Wave Power Trial

