

Blue Power

The OREG Newsletter

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June 2008

Message from the Executive Director Chris Campbell

The *Largest Dedicated Renewable Ocean Energy Association* in the world!

This has been OREG for a while, but our growth beyond 100 members has made it more obvious. In 2008 we have steadily added new recruits and broadened the ocean energy community.

Along the same thought line, OREG's Spring Symposium in Quebec attracted 110, almost twice what we had initially expected for a meeting focused on tidal and in-stream only.

This stimulated Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba provincial interests and saw enhancement of the *French Connection*.

You can expect OREG to push for appropriate treatment of in-stream hydrokinetic energy as the Ontario Power Authority reviews and renews their Renewable Electricity Standing Offer Programme. This programme accelerated solar electricity project proposals with the \$0.43/kWh offer.

In Atlantic Canada, the leadership continues with the government's positive response to the Strategic Environmental

Assessment reports in Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick moves ahead with Irving Oil and the Huntsman Marine Science Centre to evaluate 11 potential tidal sites.

In British Columbia, attention is focused on the results of the first applications for wave and tidal energy projects to the *Innovative Clean Energy Fund*.

While BC Hydro's Standing Offer Programme has experience thresholds (too high!), and prices (too low!) to help ocean energy, OREG is hoping that a Utility Commission focus on Implementing the Energy Plan could open prospects for a more usable Standing Offer Plus.

A national renewable ocean energy research network building workshop in May drew on experience from UK Energy Research Centre, Supergen Marine and the Peninsula Research Institute for Marine Renewable Energy (clustered around the Wave Hub).

Dalhousie led the initiative and Dr Mo El-Hawary is leading a multi-investigator (coast to coast, including Manitoba!) approach to secure funding.

While many of our

supporters would like us to move to a single large event each year, the need to promote the ocean energy opportunity on both coasts argues for two. This is an issue we will continue to discuss, but we have decided to tie the AGM to the Fall Symposium, since it has consistently been our biggest event each year.

This year's Fall Symposium is in Whistler, BC on November 19th and 20th. The focus is *Building the Business of Ocean Energy*.

Sessions include:

- *Marketplace and Business Creation*
- *Establishing the Operating Environment*
- *Regulatory Experiences*
- *Project Development and Technology Pathways*
- *Building the Supply Chain*
- *Pursuit of Ocean Energy: Green Energy and Economic Solutions.*

With sector progress, an overlap with PNWER's Economic Leadership Forum, and the potential for the ski slopes to be open, we expect a high turn out for another successful renewable ocean energy event.

See you there.

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Canadian Industry Update



New Energy's EnCurrent Power Generation System in Manitoba

The Nova Scotia government has released their response to the Bay of Fundy SEA.

The province has committed to continuing support for tidal energy demonstration and development and to exploring legislation pertaining to commercial development.

The province has committed:

- Up to \$2 million for tidal energy research
- To ensuring that

- devices are removed if there are any adverse effects
- To ensuring that developers make agreements with fishermen; and
- To encouraging local, aboriginal, provincial, federal and international collaboration.

Further information can be found on the Nova Scotia government [website](#).

The Government of Canada has committed \$20 million to participate in and fund projects through the Asia-Pacific Partnership (APP).

The program is designed to aid in demonstration and deployment of clean

technologies in the partner countries. These include Canada, the USA, Australia, China, India, Japan and Korea.

Projects can include anything from feasibility studies to commercial scale demonstration, and are to proposed under the Renewable Energy and Distributed Generation Task Force.

If anyone is interested in submitting a project proposal please contact OREG. More information on the partnership can be found [online](#).

“commercial availability of 25 kW EnCurrent Power Generation System”

OREG Member Updates

Marine Current Turbines Ltd has successfully completed the installation of its 1.2MW SeaGen tidal energy system in Strangford Narrows in Northern Ireland.

The company will complete the commissioning and testing process regularly feeding power into the Northern Ireland grid.

New Energy Corp. has announced the commercial availability of its 25 kW EnCurrent Power Generation System which

was installed in Pointe du Bois Manitoba on June 16, 2008 at a site being managed by the University of Manitoba upstream from a Manitoba Hydro generating facility.

The system was connected to the Manitoba grid on June 18 following the connection of a 5 kW EnCurrent Power Generation System at the same site on June 6.

The 25 kW model continues New Energy's commercialization strategy for water-to-wire in-stream hydrokinetic power generation systems. The company currently has 5 and 10 kW models of the EnCurrent Power

Generation System available.

WWTurbine Inc. is presently conducting a second experimental project to demonstrate the efficiency with which Water Wall Turbine Technology can extract energy from fast flowing currents, and to demonstrate the adaptability of the technology to cater to various currents carrying unexploited energy potential.

The experiment takes place using a WWTurbine with a diameter of 1.8 m in a 1200 mm wide canal with a current depth of around 300 mm and speed of 5 m/s



The MCT SeaGen turbine raised in Northern Ireland.

OREG Member Updates Cont.

Gulfstream Technologies, Inc. has announced that they have successfully developed and tested their renewable energy free-flow hydro turbine.

The Haynes Coastal Engineering Laboratory of Texas A&M University performed 3rd party validation testing of Gulfstream Technologies renewable technology on March 18, 2008.

Gulfstream Technologies is currently in discussions with potential clients about the installation of a commercial scale project.

Hydrovolts' president

Burton Hamner has been appointed as the chair of the Renewable Energy Committee of the Marine Technology Society.

Marine and hydrokinetic energy will be featured in a session and a workshop at the [Oceans '08 MTS / IEEE](#) conference in Quebec City, Sept 15-18, 2008. The workshop will include a special focus on the Bay of Fundy tidal power projects and the proposed St Lawrence Seaway tidal power project nearby.

Hydrovolts has announced the production of a "demo reel" documentary film on ocean and river energy.

Burton Hamner teamed with video producer Darrick Morrison to make a 18-minute program covering wave, wind and tidal power using original and "found" footage.



Gulfstream Technologies turbine testing and validation.

Sponsors are now being sought to fund a commercial broadcast-quality production of a 30 minute documentary. The demo reel can be downloaded and viewed at www.hydrovolts.com/showtime.htm.

“international seminar series with a key theme on marine energy”

OREG Event Participation

OREG will be participating in and profiling ocean energy at a number of upcoming events.

On July 22nd and 23rd the [PNWER Annual Summit](#) will take place in Vancouver. Sessions are being held on the basics of ocean energy, current updates from technology developers, and action items for the Pacific Northwest.

July 22nd will also be a clean energy technology showcase day at PNWER with displays from a number of OREG members.

Chris Campbell will be moderating a session in the ocean energy track at the

[HydroVision](#) conference this July in California. The conference is one of the largest hydro power gatherings in the world and will cover technology progress to policy development.

In September OREG will be attending the StatoilHydro Research Summit in Trondheim, Norway.

The Summit is an international seminar series with a key theme on marine renewable energy.

The [2nd International Ocean Energy Conference](#) is currently being organized by EDF and Ifremer for October 15 - 17 in Brest, France.

Chris Campbell is assisting with the abstract review and conference organization.

Jessica McIlroy will be participating in a panel discussion at the [Marine Law Symposium](#) in Rhode Island.

The two-day event will explore the means to achieve a viable marine renewable energy industry for the US. Panels will discuss possible solutions for the sector's legal, economic and policy challenges.



OpenHydro's turbine installed at EMEC.

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Upcoming OREG Event

OREG will be holding their 8th Symposium and AGM in Whistler BC on November 19th and 20th, 2008.

We will again bring together the Canadian and international ocean energy community to explore the business of ocean energy and what needs to be done to build the ocean energy marketplace.

The agenda is currently being finalized and registration is open. Early-bird registration rates will be in effect until July 31st.

Sponsorship opportunities are also open at the following levels:

- \$10,000 Host
- \$5,000 Platinum
- \$3,000 Gold
- \$1,000 Silver

• \$500 Bronze

The event will be held at the Fairmont Chateau Whistler. A block of rooms is available, with room rates of \$159.00. Book early as rooms are limited!

Information on room bookings, registration and sponsorship can be found [online](#).

We will be holding the 2008 OREG AGM in Whistler on November 19th or 20th, details will be released soon.

We encourage members to attend the AGM and vote for this year's new board members and hear of upcoming plans and directions for the organisation.

An online voting system will be established for those members who are

unable to attend.

OREG will be working with others to create a bigger ocean energy week in Whistler to grow the ocean energy community and engage as many as possible.

On November 20th and 21st, PNWER will be holding their Economic Leadership Forum in Whistler with delegates from government and business throughout the PNW.

Garrad Hassan is currently planning for the first wave energy training course in Canada to be held in Whistler that week. Stay tuned for more information, and have a look at the UK course [agenda](#).

And of course, the slopes may be open!

JOIN OREG TODAY!

OREG's Board invites you to join them in making the wave and in-stream tidal energy an economic, energy and environmental win.

OREG offers:

- Communication, meeting and collaboration opportunities for those working on development of renewable ocean energy;
- A voice for the sector in creating an enabling regulatory, innovation, development and financing environments;
- Growing visibility for the emerging energy and economic opportunity;
- Access to information, resources and business opportunities in the world of ocean energy.

[ONLINE MEMBERSHIP FORM](#)

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.