



PRESS RELEASE

Nov. 11, 2002

Clallam PUD Board to Hear Update on Wave Energy Project

Monday, November 11, 2002, Port Angeles -- Clallam County Public Utility District invites the public to hear an update on AquaEnergy's wave energy project at its regularly scheduled Board meeting on **Monday, November 18, 1:30PM, Board Room, PUD office, 2431 Highway 101 East, Port Angeles**. The presentation features an update from Alla Weinstein, CEO of AquaEnergy Group Ltd., about the progress of new research and testing being conducted in Makah Bay.

"On October 28 we installed oceanographic measurement equipment, including a buoy that will be collecting wave energy data for the next three months. We are analyzing ocean characteristics, using collected sediment samples and ocean floor imagery to determine the best route to bring generated power to shore," said Ms. Weinstein. "We are working closely with the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary to obtain permits and to determine the most environmentally responsible manner to use this. We have had wonderful support from the community in our quest to be the first in the world to deploy an offshore wave energy power plant. We gathered over 800 signatures from the local public in support of the project at the Clallam County Fair and Makah Days."

AquaEnergy seeks to harness the power of offshore wave energy for conversion into electricity. The goal is to produce one megawatt of power from the pilot plant in 2003, which is equivalent to servicing 150 homes. With adequate funding from federal grants AquaEnergy technology would be the first offshore wave energy deployment of its kind in the world.

The Makah Indian Nation assisted in deploying the monitoring buoys and oceanographic equipment, said Ms. Weinstein. The Makah are part of a consortium that is conducting research and assisting in development of wave energy from Makah Bay. Other consortium members include Washington State University, Energy Northwest, and Clallam County PUD. Companies participating in the environmental assessment and permitting are Thales Geosolutions (Pacific), Inc., San Diego; Evans-Hamilton, Seattle; Axys Environmental, Victoria, BC; Parametrix, Seattle; and Battelle, Marine Science Lab, Sequim.

"Our strategic plan emphasizes acquiring energy from renewable resources especially within our service territory," said Fred Mitchell, Telecommunications & Power Resources Manager for Clallam PUD. "We are looking forward to hearing from Aqua Energy about this important new phase of research."

Since 1944 Clallam County PUD has supplied the county with reliable and affordable water and electric services. In 1990 Clallam PUD was authorized to offer sewage system services. In 2002 Clallam PUD added a fourth utility, telecommunications, for its own benefit and public access. Clallam PUD serves 25,000 customers with electric service and has offices in Port Angeles, Sequim, Forks, and Clallam Bay/Seki.

###

Contact: Fred Mitchell
Telecommunications & Power Resources Manager
360-565-3235
fredm@clallampud.net