



Water Research Commission
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Water Research Commission support for the Wave Energy Reverse Osmosis Pump (WEROP)

This letter serves to confirm that the WRC is aware of and in full support of the development of the Wave Energy Reverse Osmosis Pump (WEROP), developed by Impact-Free Water (Pty) Ltd.

As the Research Manager responsible for the wave energy reverse osmosis pump (WEROP) in its research project years, I selected the WEROP as the most suitable candidate technology within my portfolio for WRC to take forward into implementation and application. The WRC has worked with the WEROP desalination project for a number of years now and is excited by its potential. We are happy to assist where applicable to deploy this technology.

The WEROP is a home-grown technology that has the potential to provide clean, safe drinking water and electricity from renewable resources. It was invented and researched in the Western Cape and is as great an opportunity for South African Science and Technology as the SKA, in many ways, as it can answer the call of coastal communities both small and large, both rural and developed, for clean, green supplies of water and electrical power. Our tiny South African SMME is in a race against teams from the USA, the UK and Australia to provide the first truly sustainable wave-driven power. Currently the WEROP's predicted cost is around one-fifth of that of its closest competitor. A first ever installation at Robben Island would be a truly compelling, global exhibition of South African science and engineering for the next century.

Implementation of WEROP for potable water and renewable electricity supplies would launch South Africa to the forefront of the renewables sphere and do for water science and engineering what the SKA has done for South African astronomy: a tangible demonstration of our science, technology, and engineering capability. This in addition to the potential for the very real benefits, especially to unserved rural communities of bringing light and drinking water to houses where there is none.

I most sincerely and wholeheartedly urge you to not only consider the WEROP seriously as a part of our future, but consider taking part in making it become so. If you would like clarity on any of my comments above, or have any questions relating to the WRC, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. J.E. Burgess

Research Manager: Water Use and Waste Management

