



**CERAMIC FUEL CELLS LIMITED**

*Clean power for your home*

30 April 2010

## **VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT ORDERS THIRTY CERAMIC FUEL CELLS' BLUEGEN UNITS**

Ceramic Fuel Cells Limited (AIM/ASX: CFU) – a leading developer of high efficiency and low emission electricity generation units for homes and other buildings – has received a conditional order for 30 BlueGen gas-to-electricity generators from the Victorian Government's Office of Housing.

The Office of Housing will install the units in public housing properties in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria. The project will demonstrate the operation of the units and the benefits to tenants, via the generation of low emission power and hot water for the home.

The Victorian Government announced the \$1.35 million project on Friday 30 April as part of its Jobs for the Future Economy: Green Jobs Action Plan. The funding for the Green Jobs package, including the purchase of the BlueGen units, is conditional on the Victorian Parliament approving changes to the landfill levies proposed by the Government. The project is also conditional on the Office of Housing and Ceramic Fuel Cells jointly agreeing a model for the delivery of future BlueGen maintenance services. Provided these conditions are met, the 30 BlueGen units would be installed from late 2010 to early 2011, for an initial two-year project period.

BlueGen units generate electricity in the home at almost three times the efficiency of current Victorian coal-fired electricity generators, cutting energy bills and reducing carbon emissions by up to two-thirds.

About the size of a dishwasher, BlueGen uses fuel cell technology to convert natural gas into electricity. Over a year, each BlueGen can produce twice the electricity needed to power an average Victorian home – the excess power can be exported to the power grid. BlueGen also produces enough heat to meet the average home's daily needs for hot water.

"We are delighted with the Victorian Government's significant order for our BlueGen units and we look forward to deploying the units across the state," said Ceramic Fuel Cells managing director Brendan Dow. "We are confident the Victorian Government will become an important strategic customer of Ceramic Fuel Cells, and that their involvement will assist with building momentum for the take-up of our units, both in Australia and overseas.

"The Federal Government recently suggested that Australia will need to invest at least \$100 billion in electricity infrastructure during the next decade in order to meet growing demand for electricity and replace ageing infrastructure. Under the current system of centralised electricity production and distribution, the primary reason for increases in electricity prices is the cost of power production and distribution infrastructure.

"A smarter alternative, one that is gaining traction particularly in Europe, is distributed generation – the creation of power close to where it is used. A network of highly efficient gas-powered electricity generators installed in homes, offices, buildings and factories is significantly less expensive because it dramatically reduces reliance on large capital cost infrastructure."

Announcing the project, Victorian Housing Minister Richard Wynne said “The truly exciting thing about BlueGen is that it is highly energy efficient and produces very low levels of greenhouse gases. That’s not only a win for the environment, but also a win for public housing tenants through lower gas and electricity bills.”

Ceramic Fuel Cells has achieved electrical efficiency of 60 percent, far higher than any other technology in the rapidly expanding global market for small scale power and heating generators. When heat is recovered from the electricity production process, total efficiency is up to 85 percent – more than twice as efficient as the average among current Australian power stations.

Ceramic Fuel Cells is continuing to build its order book for BlueGen units from major utilities and other foundation customers in Europe, Japan and Australia. Ceramic Fuel Cells is also installing BlueGen units with VicUrban in Melbourne and Energy Australia in Sydney.

Using the same fuel cell technology, Ceramic Fuel Cells is also developing fully integrated power and heating products with leading energy companies E.ON UK in the United Kingdom, GdF Suez in France and EWE in Germany.

## **ENDS**

For further information please contact:

### **Ceramic Fuel Cells**

Andrew Neilson

Tel: +61 419 950 771

Email: investor@cfcl.com.au

### **Nomura Code Securities (AIM Nomad)**

Juliet Thompson / Chris Golden

Tel: +44 (0) 207 776 1200

### **UK Media enquiries**

Sarah MacLeod, Hogarth Partnership

Tel: +44 7747 602 739

### **Australia Media enquiries**

Richard Allen, Oxygen Financial Public Relations

Tel: +613 9915 6341

## **About Ceramic Fuel Cells Limited**

Ceramic Fuel Cells Limited is a world leader in developing fuel cell technology to provide highly efficient and low-emission electricity from widely available natural gas. The Company is developing micro combined heat and power and distributed generation units that generate electricity and heat for homes and other buildings. Ceramic Fuel Cells is developing products with leading appliance partners and utility customers in Germany, France, the United Kingdom and Japan. In 2009 the company launched its BlueGen gas-to-electricity product.

Ceramic Fuel Cells is headquartered in Melbourne, and has operations in the UK and Germany. In October 2009 the Company opened its fuel cell stack manufacturing plant in the Industriepark Oberbruch in the North Rhine-Westphalia region of Germany. The Company is listed on the London Stock Exchange AIM market and the Australian Securities Exchange (code CFU).

[www.cfcl.com.au](http://www.cfcl.com.au)



The Place To Be

# Media release

From the Minister for Housing

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Friday, 30 April, 2010

## REVOLUTIONARY NEW ENERGY SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC HOUSING

A revolutionary new combined heating and power system for Victoria's public housing residents will reduce carbon emissions and energy bills for vulnerable Victorians, Housing Minister Richard Wynne announced today.

Mr Wynne today said under the world-first scheme, the Brumby Labor Government would work with Ceramic Fuel Cells Limited (CFCL) to install 30 BlueGen ceramic fuel cells in homes later this year.

"We are working in partnership with CFCL to reduce carbon emissions as well as energy costs for vulnerable Victorians," Mr Wynne said.

"This is the world's first installation of BlueGen units in public housing.

"This \$1.35 million investment will see 30 BlueGen units installed later this year in homes across regional Victoria and in metropolitan Melbourne."

The units are designed to last 15 years and their effectiveness and energy efficiency will be evaluated after two years.

"The initiative will also create six new green jobs and will sustain a further 90 jobs at CFCL's research and production facility in Noble Park," Mr Wynne said.

The BlueGen unit is a mini-generator that converts natural gas into electricity and heat. The electricity supplies power to the house and generates heat to create hot water, removing the need for a separate household hot water unit.

"The exciting part of BlueGen is that it is highly efficient, generating electricity with only about a third as much greenhouse gas emission compared to the current Victorian system," Mr Wynne said.

"That's not only a win for the environment, but also a win for public housing tenants through lower gas and electricity bills."

Mr Wynne said he was delighted to make this important announcement as a part of the Brumby Labor Government's *Jobs for the Future Economy Action Plan*.

"It demonstrates once again that Victoria is leading the way when it comes to clean, green technology," he said.

CFCL managing director Brendon Dow welcomed the Government's practical support for this world-leading clean energy technology that has been developed here in Victoria.

"We are delighted with the Victorian Government's significant order for our BlueGen units and we look forward to deploying the units across the state and evaluating the benefits," Mr Dow said.

**Media contact: Rebecca Tucker – 9651 5799 or 0408 031 269 Contact [www.vic.gov.au](http://www.vic.gov.au)**