

Green Island Energy is conducting preliminary work on the site of the old **Bowater Pulp Mill** in Gold River in preparation for a new, \$180 million thermal power plant.

The 90 MW power plant will burn refuse-derived fuel, which is considered a green energy source because it is derived from municipal solid waste which is then cleaned, shredded, baled and combusted.

Current work involves the demolition of existing facilities on the 430-acre property, site clean-up and other preparatory work. Once begun, construction is expected to take approximately three years to complete.

Power project for Gold River

Green Island Energy plans to use as much of the existing infrastructure as possible, including structural steel, utilities and the deep sea port.

Tenders have been recently awarded for the electrical, HVAC and plumbing and the roofing portions of the work for the new aquarium building in Ucluelet.

The **Ucluelet Aquarium Society** has received a grant

building links BUSINESS

CLARICE COTY



for \$270,500 from the federal **Western Economic Diversification** fund. The grant is the final installment of funding toward completion of construction of the new aquarium.

Island Coastal Economic Trust has also contributed \$515,000 for the Aquarium project. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$1.57 million. The new aquarium is located just a few meters from the current aquarium near **Whiskey Landing**. Construction of the building began in May.

It will house interactive

displays including touch-tanks demonstrations and teaching stations, a lecture and seminar room, a marine observation area and an office and gift shop. Completion of the new facility is expected in May or June of 2012.

The new **Vancouver Island and Comox Valley Visitors Information Centre** is nearing completion.

The finishing work is still being completed on the \$4 million building which is located on Small Road, just off of the Cumberland exchange on the

Inland Island Highway. It is expected to be officially open to the public on April 1, 2012.

A building permit has been issued from the City of Courtenay for \$8 million for the renovation and expansion of the existing **Walmart** store in Courtenay.

The expansion will include approximately 28,700 square feet and will be built to the southeast of the existing building toward **Staples** to create a **Walmart Supercentre**, which includes a full grocery department. Additional renovations may include a garden centre expansion and enclosure and the addition of a loading bay area. Work is expected to begin in the New Year.

- Clarice Coty is the owner of **Building Links & 1stView.ca**. www.1stView.ca