COMMON CORE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR 
THE NEXT WAVE BY ELIZABETH RUSCH

R.1 Text inferences
What does the text say explicitly about how long it might be before wave energy is powering our lives? What can you infer?

R.2 Central Ideas/Themes
What does it take to invent, test, and roll out a new renewable energy source?

R.3 Development/interaction of people, events, or ideas
How does Rusch tell one story (about the development of wave energy) through multiple people? Why does she include a number of inventors instead of just one?

R.4 Word Choice
What words does Rusch use to build excitement for her topic in Chapter 1? What sensory details does she include in Chapter 6 to make the readers feel like they are on the expedition?

R.5 Structure
Is the story told in chronological order? What order did Rusch use? Why? Does the story follow a narrative arc? If so, what is the problem? What is the climax? The resolution?

R.6 Point of View
Why do you think Rusch wrote this book? How did the purpose affect what was included and the points of view used?

R.7 Diverse Media/Formats/Pair with:
Check the companies’ websites for videos of their works.
CPT’s Puget Sound test:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_cK8uz4J-cU&fmt=18
A video on a number of wave energy projects:
http://youtu.be/3KP_4jM46uY

R.8 Argument/evidence
What evidence does Rusch give that burning fossil fuels causes global climate change? Are you convinced? Why or why not?

R.9 Multiple Texts/Pair with:
Other titles on renewable energy.

R.10 Text Complexity
Have students study and explain sidebars in their own words.
Primary sources used in book: interviews and news articles

Teaching resources available at:

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