

Carnegie gets cash for UK wave project

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Carnegie Wave Energy has been granted \$15.5m from the European Regional Development Fund to unlock the first phase of its commercial wave energy project at Cornwall in the UK.
Picture: Carnegie Wave Energy



WA renewable energy company Carnegie Wave Energy Limited has been granted £9.5 million (\$15.5 million) to proceed with a new project on the English coast.

The European Regional Development Fund gave the local operation the money to kickstart the £60 million wave energy project at Wave Hub in Cornwall — a site which is billed as the world's biggest and most technologically advanced area for the testing and development of offshore renewable energy technology.

Carnegie is pioneering a way to convert wave energy to electricity by harnessing the movement of giant metal buoys in the ocean to drive onshore turbines. Work on phase one of the Cornwall project, which will generate 1MW, has begun and commissioning is set for 2018.

Carnegie managing director Michael Ottaviano said stage two, which was planned for 2020-21 and would deliver a further 15MW, would yield a commercial return on the investment.

“We are pleased that stage two is set to offer a commercial return on investment with its 15MW array which will allow third party investment in this stage,” he said.

George Eustice, Minister of State at Britain’s Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said he was happy that Carnegie would take advantage of Cornwall’s “academic and industrial expertise, world-class test facilities, infrastructure and resources, and ensures it is well positioned to play a significant role in securing the UK’s continued reputation as a market leader in offshore renewables”.

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