

Carnegie Clean Energy eyeing moored vessels to generate own wave energy



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WA wave energy company Carnegie Clean Energy has embarked on its first major project in two years — demonstrating moored vessels could generate their own renewable energy.

The \$3.4 million MoorPower scaled demonstrator project is partially funded from the Blue Economy CRC and in collaboration with aquaculture industry juggernauts Huon Aquaculture and Tassal Group.

Carnegie chief executive Jonathan Fievez said initial targets for the technology were offshore vessels such as feeding barges for the aquaculture sector, but the future market was broader and included other offshore operations requiring energy.

MoorPower is a spin off of Carnegie's core CETO wave energy technology, which involves a submerged buoy that sits a few metres below the surface of the ocean, moving with the waves.

This orbital motion drives a “power take-off system” that converts the wave motion into electricity energy.



Mr Fievez said that over the next two years Carnegie would design, install and operate a scaled demonstrator for the technology, which would be deployed into waters off North Fremantle.

“The technology is aimed at vessels stationary for a long period of time and consuming energy. If there are waves about and the vessel is bobbing around, why not use that motion to create energy,” Mr Fievez said.

“What we are deploying is a smaller version of what will go onto a classic aquaculture feed barge.

“The feed barges Huon and Tassal use have more than one megawatt of generation on board currently in the form of diesel.

“The idea is this project will demonstrate the feasibility and performance of our system at a small scale.

“We intend to then do a follow on project which would then integrate the system at a larger scale with these commercial vessels.”

Carnegie, which has a market cap of \$14.42m, made a comeback to the ASX two years ago after going into voluntary administration eight months earlier, following blowouts and losses in subsidiary microgrid business Energy Made Clean.

Around the same time the WA government terminated its support for a \$16m Albany wave farm project.