

Wave, tidal & hydro power

Carnegie installs CETO pumps and investigates wave energy farm at Albany

Three CETO II pumps have been installed at Carnegie Corporation's Wave Energy Research Facility at Fremantle, Western Australia.

The units are fully instrumented and connected to the onshore facilities, which include a demonstration pelton wheel hydro-electric turbine. This is the first time that multiple CETO II pumps have been installed and operated together in an array format, and the units are performing within their design specification.

Carnegie Managing Director Michael Ottaviano said "Having multiple units operating in a small array is a significant step forward in the development of the technology and may be the first time anywhere in the world that multiple wave energy units have been connected in an array. The instrumentation and recording of the array allows us to understand in detail the performance of each pump and the array as a whole."

Data from these units along with the feasibility data from potential commercial project sites will be used to develop the final commercial scale CETO III design in 2009.

Furthermore, an independent Preliminary Environmental Constraints Review on the feasibility of a CETO Wave Energy Farm at Albany in southwest Australia has delivered encouraging results, concluding that it appears unlikely there would be any significant environmental constraints to the wind farm at Albany.

The report was conducted by environmental consultants RPS Environment and was commissioned as part of the feasibility activities at the recently granted Albany license area. The site is located 15 km southwest of Albany and consists of approximately 30,000 hectares of offshore wave resource and an adjacent onshore area.