



Wave energy project for Albany

TWO areas in the South-West have been earmarked as potential sites for Carnegie Corporation's wave energy projects.

Carnegie expects to decide mid-year which site – one off the coast of Torbay near Albany or the one at Garden Island – it will develop first.

But ultimately it plans to have multiple projects across Australia, Carnegie managing director Michael Ottaviano said.

"I can see a project happening in Albany, irrespective of when," he said.

The project has been buoyed by the

recent support of WA's largest electricity retailer, Synergy.

Synergy and Carnegie signed a Memorandum of Understanding this week, showing their commitment to renewable energy ventures in WA.

The partnership with Synergy will go a long way to support Carnegie's application for State Government backing, Mr Ottaviano said.

Support from the State Government was crucial to developing the wave farm projects, he said.

There have been no other confirmed backers in other States, making WA the most likely State to have the

first project.

Carnegie is planning its first large-scale commercial wave energy plant, using its "CETO" wave technology.

This process uses wave energy to create electricity with no carbon footprint.

During the first stage, the project will generate up to 6mW of power, enough to power 3000 homes, but later, at a capacity of 50mW, it can power 50,000 homes, Mr Ottaviano said.

Synergy will purchase the energy and environmental rights produced from the first stage of the project.