Bombora eyes Indonesian Markets

Energy News Bulletin 25th June 2015

Press Media



Thursday, 25 June 2015 Haydn Black

PERTH-based Bombora Wave Power has signed a Technology Evaluation Agreement with Indonesia's Anoa Power that could see the Bombora Wave Energy Collector technology manufactured and sold in Indonesia.

Bombora says Indonesia's extensive archipelago faces challenges with its complex power network, so the deployment of the Bombora WEC in the remote coastal regions would vastly improve access to electrical power.

Indonesia's average wave energy resource level is somewhat less than that available in regions such as southern Australia, so Bombora says its technology, which collects wave energy from a wide wave front, is attractive for the Indonesian requirements.

The firm says it offers a low-cost form of power generation with good storm resistance and a low ow environmental impact.

Bombora's low cost of energy arises from its simplified construction – concrete base with a sloping membrane wall. This feature allows the WEC to be lengthened in low wave energy resource regions at low incremental cost.

"The Bombora WEC rests on the sea floor allowing large waves to pass over the top of the device with minimal interruption," the firm explained.

It uses a relatively light weight flexible membrane system to reduce the cost of wave energy that is more responsive than heavier unites that are less responsive to the complex wave movements

In stormy conditions the membrane can also be deflated to protect the Bombora WEC from damage from large or rogue waves.

"Storm resistance has proved to be a significant challenge for the wave energy industry up to now," Bombora said.

Bombora was started by engineers Glen Ryan and Shawn Ryan, and aims initially to develop a 1.5MWe unit suitable for installation in the near-shore environment.

The firm is working on a trail site at the Como Jetty, south of Perth, before scaling up towards trial wind farm, and ultimately a commercial operation.