

# THE IRISH SEA WAVE AND TIDAL CLUSTER

The maritime energy sector together with other renewable energy sectors are being supported by a new project called BUCANIER

Aimed at creating networks and sharing best practice, BUCANIER is led by Pembrokeshire County Council in conjunction with Welsh and Irish partners.

## WHAT DO WALES AND IRELAND HAVE TO OFFER THE MARINE ENERGY SECTOR?

A new third wave of energy companies are locating to Pembrokeshire to exploit the combination of the County's natural resources, supply chain companies, skilled labour and access to the national grid. This builds on the County's 60 plus years of experience in playing an important role in providing a significant proportion of the UK's energy needs. The region is at the forefront of the Welsh push to develop marine energy and is now attracting developers to build and deploy test devices both in the Haven waterway and around the coast.

### Pembrokeshire can offer marine energy companies...

- » Excellent maritime energy resources in the form of wave energy, tidal flow and tidal range (maximum 7.34 in Milford Haven)
- » An experienced energy supply chain including mechanical and marine engineering companies
- » A deep water port with no restrictions on access and facilities for building and deploying very large devices
- » Available connections to the 400 KV national grid
- » Potential access to €100.4 million of EU Structural Funds prioritised by the Welsh Government for marine energy

Still in its infancy, it will be a number of years before marine energy becomes the mainstream source of power. Hopefully, when this recognition is achieved Pembrokeshire based companies will be seen as world leaders. In the meantime



Image courtesy of: Welsh Government

the region has already assured its position as an important base for the development and exploitation of this exciting new industry.

## IRELAND'S RESEARCH CENTRE – ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

MaREI is a research, development and innovation centre, supported by Science Foundation Ireland, which operates across the fields of marine research, marine renewable energy and renewable energy. The Centre's activities are motivated by the need to address global challenges such as blue growth, climate action and the energy transition, resulting in the development of a dynamic research ecosystem that is responsive to the needs of academia, industry, government and society.

MaREI's strengths lie in the multi-disciplinary nature of its research teams, allowing it to combine insights across areas such as Marine Renewable Energy Technologies, Materials & Structures, Observation & Operations, Coastal & Marine Systems, Bioenergy, Energy Policy & Modelling and Renewable Energy Management. As a driver of collaboration, the Centre comprises over 200 world-class researchers who are collaborating with stakeholders located across more than 36 countries and who have a proven track-record in academic excellence, consistently publishing in high-impact journals and participating in major EU and international initiatives.

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES

In addition to fundamental scientific research, the Centre provides targeted research and consulting services to a wide range of companies, including over 48 active industry partners, which has established it as a preferred research and development partner for both academia and industry worldwide. In doing so, MaREI seeks to maintain the forward momentum of the MRE sector through the development of technologies, tools and processes that will accelerate the progress of wave & tidal energy devices towards open-sea deployment and commercialisation.

MaREI also offers unique world-class infrastructure and testing facilities that allow the systematic identification and reduction of development risks through a structured 'Technology Readiness Level' (TRL) development cycle. These include: the Lir National Ocean Test Facility (Lir-NOTF); Limerick Docks tidal tow-testing facility; Structural Research Laboratory; Coastal Observing Radar System; and Mace Head Atmospheric Research Station, amongst others

### Bucanier



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