

Energy technology developer wins \$2.4m grant to build cutting-edge power generation units

The revolutionary GenX units, which provide power for decades without a fuel source, are designed for use in space and remote defence sites

A rapidly emerging Australian energy technology company is on the cusp of supplying revolutionary power generation units for use in space and remote defence/civil applications after securing a \$2.4 million Australian Government grant to build prototypes.

PhosEnergy has developed the GenX power generation technology, which can provide power for decades without any human intervention, maintenance or continuous fuel source.

The GenX technology is designed to meet the rapidly growing and complex power demands of the space and defence industries. These markets are estimated to already be worth several billion dollars a year and are forecast to increase rapidly.

The Federal Government's Cooperative Research Centres Projects (CRC-P) grant will underpin a \$6 million development program utilising specialist skills from PhosEnergy's partners at the University of South Australia, the University of Adelaide and the University of Western Australia as well as important contributions from industry partners Duromer and DEWC Systems.

The program is aimed at establishing a highly efficient, economically-robust manufacturing process for the GenX units. This will involve building numerous units which will be used in field tests anticipated to start in less than three years.

GenX energy units uniquely combine metals, semiconductors and beta-radiation to produce constant DC power over very long periods.

The GenX technology was invented by PhosEnergy Managing Director Bryn Jones and Chief Scientist Dr Julian Kelly, with the collaborative project being led by General Manager, Dr Scott Edwards.

Mr Jones said the burgeoning space industry and increasingly sophisticated remote defence sites were creating enormous demand for long-life, fuel-free power sources.

"The market for power generation in space is already estimated to be worth \$2.8 billion a year and is forecast to continue double-digit growth for the foreseeable future on the back of commercial and government space programs focus on extended missions, lunar occupation and resource recovery," he said.

"Demand from the defence industry is also soaring as more power-hungry technology is installed in remote locations. Secured integrated communications and sensor developments are driving the requirement for a portable and autonomous long term power source.



“GenX is technology targeted to meet the critical and rapidly growing power needs of the space and defence industries.

“Both these industries need smart power generation capability which can continue to supply energy across long time frames in remote locations where there are no other options for power. GenX ticks all these boxes.”

Mr Jones said the development program was aimed at commercialising Australian-designed, world-leading technology.

“There are very few if any, competitors to GenX,” he said. “We stand to unlock what is a truly huge opportunity on a global scale.”

Media

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