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Sargas Proposing to finance carbon negative plant

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Norwegian technology company Sargas is proposing to finance a power plant that would be set up in Delimara and would operate on a carbon capture and storage technology, meaning that 95% of carbon dioxide emissions would be captured. By means of its solution, Sargas also promises to generate energy at half the cost of that produced by Enemalta.

Martin Roden from Sargas told this newspaper in an interview yesterday that the company's solution is based on the concept of carbon capture under pressure. It is a patented combination of proven technologies that came about as a result of the need for clean energy solutions.

"The plant would be assembled in Korea, transported to Malta on a heavy lift vessel and installed next to the Delimara power station. We use biopaste, which is essentially a mixture of crushed olive stones – which contain a lot of energy – and fossil fuel. This would be burnt and the flue gas produced would be captured, placed in a pressurised vessel and shipped to Denmark, where it will be stored in old oil wells."

Because the solution involves the capture of carbon dioxide produced from biomass, it is carbon negative, explained Mr Roden, adding that EU rules that are set to come into force in 2013 stipulate that every country would need to buy carbon allowances by means of an auctioning mechanism.

This means that it will be very expensive to release carbon dioxide into the atmosphere in two years' time, said Mr Roden.

Sargas is proposing to set up a 180-megawatt or a 360-megawatt plant, which it would finance using an open tender procedure.

at €0.19 per kilowatt hour. Our price would be €0.07,5 per kilowatt hour.”

Mr Roden said Enemalta is extremely excited about the opportunity and it has made a proposal to the government for a feasibility study to be carried out.

Sargas CEO Henrik Fleischer will be giving a presentation about the company's proposal during an event at the Westin this morning.


Further details on the proposed solution will be published in tomorrow's newspaper

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