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波力発電 海のエネルギーが地域を豊かにする

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周りが海に囲まれた日本において、有望なエネルギー源と考えられるのが海のもつ波の力です。自然を壊さず、地域に利益をもたらす再生可能なエネルギー源として、波力発電の技術開発を進めていく必要があります。

Because Japan is surrounded by the sea, one of its most promising energy resources is wave power. It is becoming increasingly necessary to promote development of technologies for wave power generation as a renewable energy that can give benefits to local communities without destroying their nature.

Wave Power Generation: Ocean Energy Can Make Local Communities Wealthy

For years Japan has used nuclear power and fossil fuels such as oil and coal without cleaning up their wastes. Those wastes have caused serious environmental problems such as climate change and radioactive wastes that threaten all living beings on Earth including human beings. To achieve a sustainable society we must change from dirty power generation methods to renewable energy that will not produce dangerous wastes.

Japan is a large country if one includes its surrounding seas. The total length of Japan's coastline is longer than either that of the United States or of Australia; it boasts the world 6th longest in ranking. That is why many experts believe wave power is a very promising energy resource. It will mean great wealth for Japan if we can develop technologies to use our wave power. It has often been said that Japan lacks much in the way of natural resources. But we may have an unlimited energy resource right in front of us to enable development of a sustainable society.

Of course, right now, we do not have advanced technologies that can fully utilize wave power. It is very important to note that we must establish a system to protect nature which is precious resources for local communities as well as a system that benefits local residents not just corporations.

The best way to achieve those goals is for our national government to energetically promote technological development for the wave power generation and to establish a system to buy wave power energy at a fixed price, Feed-in Tariff system, to encourage more and faster wave power production.

Currently in Japan, because it is a mountainous island country with relatively little in the way of flat land areas, there are some problems with renewable energy production such as mega-solar panel sites require open land and clear cut, deforested sites or wind turbine blades that sometimes kill rare birds.

We should not construct any facilities that will destroy nature even if it will produce renewable energy that does not create dangerous waste. Even if it is for renewable energy industries are concerned, we must establish a fundamental principle not to destroy nature and cultures that are important resources and wealth for the local communities. Also, we must establish a system that allows local ownership, operation, and management in order to benefit local economies.



It is necessary to move away from our unsustainable energy strategy



Wave power is potentially Japan's most valuable and vast natural resource



It is necessary to do research in maintenance and life cycle regarding commercialization of wave power generation



Our national government must support and promote an energy policy of 'Local Production and Local Consumption' (Kuji Wave Power Plant in Iwate Prefecture)

禁無断転載 海外との情報交流促進のため要約を英文で掲載しています