

## **ORPC Congratulates Eastport and Washington County on \$1.4 Million Award to Establish Marine Renewable Energy Manufacturing Facility**



**Future home of the Maine Marine Energy Center in Eastport**  
Photo © Jim Lowe

Portland, ME - ORPC applauds the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration for its \$1.4 million grant to the City of Eastport and Washington County to establish the Maine Marine Energy Center, an advanced composite material manufacturing facility that could produce the complex components and sub-assemblies required by the ocean energy industry. The center will be the first of its kind in the United States.

"With this project, an exciting and essential new chapter begins in ORPC's continuing relationship with the communities of Eastport and Lubec, and Washington County," said ORPC President and CEO Chris Sauer. "As ORPC's tidal power systems advance to commercial scale, it will be a huge boost to our efforts and to the region's economy if essential composite components can be manufactured in close proximity to our project sites in the Bay of Fundy area."

Tidal energy has the potential to be a billion dollar industry in Maine within the next seven to ten years, creating hundreds of quality local jobs. The realization of the Maine Marine Energy Center represents a crucial step forward for Maine's energy future.