



Press Release – for immediate use

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NEX defies market upheaval as clean energy fundamentals boost shares

The WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index, or NEX, continued its strong performance in the third quarter of 2007, gaining 8.2% to finish at 408.22. This left it 41% higher than at the beginning of the year, in spite of global turmoil in the markets that hit returns on other indices. It comfortably outpaced NASDAQ, which rose 3.8%, the S&P500's 1.8% increase and the 2.1% gain for AMEX Oil, suggesting that investors believe the fundamental drivers for the sector – including concerns over climate change and regulatory pressures – remain strong, and likely to remain so for the foreseeable future.

Solar stocks were once again the strongest performers, gaining 25.09% in the third quarter, following a rise of 53.9% in the first half of 2007, as the continuing shortage of silicon lifted margins. Eight of the top 20 gainers in the NEX were solar stocks, led by LDK Solar, the NYSE-listed Chinese maker of photovoltaic wafers, which more than doubled. Its shares gained 128% as it followed its June market debut with increased production targets and a massive increase in capacity.

However, Biofuels, Biomass and Waste-to-Energy continued to suffer the hangover from last year's exuberance, ending the three months to the end of September 14.14% lower, with the worst performer being Schmack Biogas, the German biogas project developer. Its profit warning was punished with a 67% fall in the value of its shares, showing that investor sentiment for the sector remains fragile. The sector provided seven of the 10 worst-performing shares in the NEX and only three of the 16 NEX companies in the sector were in positive territory. Chinese bioethanol producer Anhui BBKA produced the sector's best returns as it rose 21.8% despite reporting widening losses for the first half, but the malaise gripping the sector appeared to be global, as fears over sustainability and crowding out of food crops combine with high corn prices and the weak dollar cancels out the effects of oil price rises. The companies whose shares fell represented markets from Sao Paulo to Madrid to Tokyo via New York, Mumbai and Sydney.

The Demand-Side Energy Saving Sector illustrated the volatility that continues to be a feature of the clean energy sector, providing the second biggest jump in share price for the quarter as well as the second biggest faller. Echelon, a US-based smart metering company, saw its stock rise 77.4% as it announced a series of orders in Russia, Austria and with global restaurant chain McDonald's. Shares in German building energy-saver Centrotec lost 60.1% in spite of an increase in sales as the company issued new shares. The sector continues to garner government and investor support, with one of the first half's best performers, lighting systems developer Color Kinetics, leaving the index after being bought by Philips for \$732m.

Renewables – Other, which is chiefly made up of geothermal companies, enjoyed a positive three months as the market took heart from the prospects for the technology. Energy generator Ormat Technologies led the way with a 22.6% increase. Among Power Storage companies, Byd, the Chinese maker of recyclable batteries, rose 32.8% as first half profits jumped 47% while a series of orders pushed shares at US-based Ultralife Batteries 22.1% higher. Following the takeover battle for Germany's Repower Systems in the first half, the Wind sector enjoyed a quieter period, gaining just 5.43%.

Meanwhile, the regular quarterly rebalancing of the NEX sees the number of shares it covers rise to 88 from 86. Five stocks enter the index – Zhejiang Yankon, a Chinese producer of energy-saving lamps; Enernoc of the US, a maker of software systems that help utilities manage distributed energy networks; the German biogas project developer EnviTec Biogas, which raised €141m in a July initial public offering; Solaria Energia y Medio Ambi, a Spanish PV module and passive system manufacturer and installer; and Roth & Rau of Germany, a maker of equipment for the manufacture of solar cells.

Leaving the index are Washington State utility Puget Energy, Marubeni, the Tokyo-listed Japanese trading and wind power development company, and SGL Carbon, the Frankfurt-listed manufacturer of carbon, graphite and composite products for industrial and aerospace applications.

After the reshuffle, the NEX boasts 19 Asia- or Australasia-listed stocks, 35 listed in Europe, the Middle East or Africa, and 34 listed in the Americas.

About the WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index (NEX)

The WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index is published by WilderHill New Energy Finance, LLC, a partnership between New Energy Finance Limited, based in London, Joshua Landess based in the U.S., and Robert Wilder based in the U.S.

The NEX index represents all significant sectors of the low-carbon energy industry, including renewable energy, biofuels and emerging low-carbon technologies.

The NEX is a rule-based index and uses an equal-weighting methodology modified by sector and market capitalization. It is carefully designed to provide diversification across the different sectors of the clean energy industry and across size of company. It has an extensive global representation including Europe, Asia-Pacific, and the Americas. Components are limited to five percent (5%) of the index by weight at rebalancing.

The NEX is calculated and disseminated by Dow Jones Indexes. Live price-return information is available in U.S. Dollars: Euro, Pounds Sterling and Yen. Total return indexes in all four currencies are also provided once per day. The index is rebalanced quarterly in March, June, September and December. It was initially determined to yield a benchmark value of 100.00 at close of trading December 30, 2002.

The NEX has been licensed for the creation of various structured products and is tracked by the Powershares Global Clean Energy Portfolio (ticker PBD).

For more information on the NEX global clean energy stock market index:

www.nex-index.com

About New Energy Finance:

New Energy Finance is the world's leading independent provider of research to investors in renewable energy, biofuels, low-carbon technologies and the carbon markets. The company's research staff of 50 (based in London, Washington, New York, Beijing, Shanghai, New Delhi, Tel Aviv and Perth) tracks deal flow in venture capital, private equity, M&A, public markets, asset finance and carbon credits around the world.

New Energy Finance covers all sectors of clean energy: renewables (wind, solar, marine, geothermal, mini-hydro, biomass); biofuels; energy architecture (supply-side and demand-side efficiency, energy-smart buildings smart distribution, power storage, carbon capture & sequestration); hydrogen & fuel cells; carbon markets and services.

Services include news, newsletters and reports. The New Energy Finance Desktop is the world's most comprehensive subscription database of investors and investments in clean energy. New Energy Finance's Insight Services provide deep market analysis to investors in Wind, Solar, Biofuels, Biomass, China, VC/PE, Public Markets and the US.

New Carbon Finance, a division of the company, provides analysis and price forecasting for the European, global (Kyoto) and emerging US carbon markets. The company also undertakes bespoke research and consultancy, and runs senior-level networking events.

New Energy Finance published the world's first global index of clean energy companies, the GEIX, from December 2004 to January 2006. It was discontinued when the company teamed up with Messrs Landess and Wilder to create the NEX.

About Joshua Landess

Josh Landess is a pioneer in the creation of alternative energy stock market indexes, creating his first in February 2000. In September 2000, he and Rob Wilder teamed up and renamed one of Josh's indexes as The WilderHill Fuel Cell Index, collaborating in researching, maintaining and improving that index.

In 2004, Landess and Wilder, with the help of the American Stock Exchange, led the team that created the WilderHill Clean Energy Index® (ticker: ECO). This was the first clean energy stock market index to be distributed over tape. In January of 2006, Landess and Wilder collaborated with New Energy Finance to create The WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index. It was the first global index of activity in New Energy that was put out over the tape. Index development was again assisted by the American Stock Exchange.

About Dr. Rob Wilder

Dr. Wilder is also Manager of the WilderHill Clean Energy Index® (ECO), the first index of companies quoted on the US exchanges for renewable energy, better energy efficiency and low-carbon solutions. It is tracked by the PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy Portfolio (PBW),

which has amassed over \$1 billion in assets since its launch in 2005,
<http://www.wildershires.com>

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Disclaimer Note

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