Energy Stocks Get Energetic

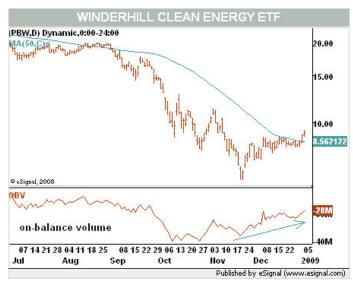
Oil, coal and even solar power ETFs are attracting buyers again after a brutal bear market.

WITH THE PRICE OF CRUDE oil cascading down from \$147 to \$35 per barrel in just five months last year, many had given up on this commodity. Their argument stems from the global economic slowdown and the attendant "demand destruction" has been thrown around quite liberally.

The market's emotional pendulum swung too far to the greed side early last year and then too far to the fear side in the final quarter. Even if we never see those peak prices again, energy markets are technically oversold and ripe for a rally. That means we can look forward to a reversion to a mean price that is higher than what we see today.

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For those looking for a bit more diversity in the alternative energy area, the Powershares Wilder Hill Clean Energy ETF (PBW) has a similar chart to that of the solar ETF (see Chart 4). The clean energy ETF covers solar, wind, and other "green" energy companies and also sports such positive technical features as a move above its 50-day average, rising trend and rising on-balance volume.



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