Green ETFs: Technology in Disguise

Solar, wind, and other green-energy stocks have fallen along with oil and natural gas. But these companies are really tech firms. Time to buy.

Green-energy companies have been drowned in cheap oil, and the exchange-traded funds that own them have been punished along with the rest of the energy sector. ... and PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy (PBW) are both down in excess of 30% in the past year, about the same as the Vanguard Energy ETF's (VDE) 32.6% tumble. But that's a mistake—one that can prove to be very profitable for investors.

Oil dominates the energy sector—the Vanguard Energy ETF has a 22% stake in ExxonMobil (XOM), for...

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