Solar Companies Help Clean, Green ETF Shine

September 26, 2007 by Tom Lydon

The **PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy (PBW)**

exchange traded fund (ETF) has been attractive to many investors because of its **socially responsible roots**. PBW invests in companies that support renewable and cleaner sources of energy and technologies that facilitate cleaner energy. Currently, PBW is up 28.2% year-to-date.

One factor behind PBW's strong performance, besides environmentally-conscientious investors, could be the increase in solar stocks' performance earlier this week. Yingli Green Energy Holding, which is PBW's third largest holding at 3.7%, rose 10.5% Monday, according to the **Associated Press**. Another PBW holding, Evergreen Solar (**ESLR**), rose 6.9%. In addition, the ETF's second-largest holding, Emcore, gained almost 9% late last week. Emcore (**EMKR**), which makes up 4.3% of PBW, produces solar cells, panels and chips used in the communications industry, the **Associated Press** reports.

