## Solar ETF Funds are Shining Bright A rising stock markets and higher oil prices help these ETFs

The performance has been stellar in many of the key solar stocks out there over the last two months. A rising stock market and higher oil tends to help. Many companies are raising guidance or are calming fears that margin compression is escalating and that orders are dropping.

We have taken a look at some of the solar ETF products on the market to which offer the best alternatives on investing, although there are also some broader ETF products via alternative energy and clean energy ETFs that of course include heavy weightings in solar stocks. ....

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Another play on the future of solar energy is actually a partial solar play, because it is diversified in all forms of green and alternative energy sources. That is the PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy ETF with a market cap of more than \$500 million at last look. This alternative energy ETF tracks the WilderHill Clean Energy Index and solar is not the sole weighting here. Even with First Solar's \$11.5 billion market cap, the weighting for that component was under 3% at last look. Some companies even have a larger weighting than other larger companies by market cap because the index tries to give a higher weight to "other" forms of alternative energy like wind, monitoring, smart-grid, and other technologies. The fund even notes that the modified equal-weighted index is rebalanced and

reconstituted each quarter.

Many sources show that the 52-week trading range of the PowerShares' is \$4.00 to \$11.95, although if you eliminate the Flash Crash then the real range has a low close to \$8.00.

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As you can see, there are many ways to skin a cat when it comes to solar investing and then broader alternative energy investing. These are just some of the broader options out there when you consider the open-end mutual funds and the focused private investment pools that have been started in the last decade.

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