Social, Green Indexes For Activist Investors

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Socially responsible investing, or SRI, funds had grown to 9.4% of the \$24.4 trillion invested in mutual funds in the U.S. by 2005, according to the Social Investment Forum, an industry group in Washington.

A handful of SRI exchange traded funds cater to investors who want to put

their money where their values are.

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Environmental Investments

Powershares Wilderhill Clean Energy (PBW) commands \$546 million in assets, making it the largest environmentally focused ETF. It invests in energy firms that produce clean energy or technologies leading to that. The 42-stock ETF ended 2006 with a 7% gain.

It has been oscillating along its 50-day moving average and rests 29% below its all-time high.

PowerShares Cleantech Portfolio (PZD) and Powershares WilderHill Progressive Energy Portfolio (PUW) hold only about \$30 million each. The 61-stock Cleantech basket holds "any technology firm making a positive environmental impact." Progressive Energy holds 37 companies that are "significantly involved in transitional energy bridge technologies, with an emphasis on improving the use of fossil fuels."