Clean energy offers many stock and fund options

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Q: Is there a way for investors to bet on clean energy?

A: Clean energy used to be an oxymoron. But some optimistic investors think developments in clean coal, solar and wind power might actually pan out.

Investors willing to dabble in these highly nascent and speculative areas have a mind-numbing number of options. One that comes to mind first would be an exchange traded fund that tracks clean energy stocks.

A few options would include ... PowerShares Global Clean Energy Portfolio or PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy Portfolio.

There is also a wide array of clean energy mutual funds. A few examples include

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