Excerpt from Zack's, August 12, 2013 http://www.zacks.com/stock/news/106359/clean-energy-etf-investing-101

Clean Energy ETF Investing 101

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Clean Energy Outlook

New research by analysts at Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF) shows that annual investment in new renewable power capacity is set to rise by anywhere from two and a half times to more than four and a half times between now and 2030.

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PowerShares Wilderhill Clean Energy ETF (PBW...)

Launched in March 2003, PBW tracks the Wilderhill Clean Energy Index and invests almost 90% in companies related to cleaner energy. The fund charges 70 bps in fees and holds 52 stocks. The product is tilted more towards growth stocks and is well diversified across various sectors. Information Technology takes the top spot with 43% allocation followed by Industrials (20.43%) and Materials (11%). The top 10 holdings jointly contribute 30% towards the fund. The fund leads the space with an AUM of \$203.5 million

PBW has rewarded investors with its solid returns of 32.43% as of June 30 on a year-to-date basis.

The Bottom Line

The alternative energy sector has been performing extremely well, crushing the broad market in the past few months by a pretty wide margin. By and large, most of the gains have actually happened in the past few weeks. Strong data from solar companies and bullish reports from emerging companies have carried the sector sharply higher.