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MUTUAL FUNDS

Options Grow for Green Investors

*Alternative-Energy Indexes
May Fuel More Sector ETFs;
'It Is About Making Money'*

By **JONATHAN KEEHNER**

In a cycle that often disappoints green investors, renewed focus on alternative energy has once again followed skyrocketing oil prices.

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Wilderhill Clean Energy—an Encinitas, Calif., alternative-energy index launched in 2004 and the first to trade as an ETF on the American Stock Exchange—was positively correlated with crude-oil futures during the past 12 months, while having an inverse relationship with natural gas. The index, which focuses on pure-play renewable-energy companies with market capitalizations of more than \$200 million, is up 24% over the same period. For this period, crude-oil futures were up 28%, natural gas was down 14% and the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index rose 4%.

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