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<http://www.benzinga.com/10/10/541257/4-socially-responsible-investments>

## 4 Socially Responsible Investments

Investing is not just about making money by any means possible. It's about trying to generate a return by investing in industries that engage in business practices that coincide with your morals and values. I am a big advocate for ethical investing and never invest in any asset that is at odds with my values. I avoid companies that exploit workers or derive their income from sketchy business practices. In keeping with that theme, here are a few investments for the socially responsible investor.

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### **2. Alternative Energy ETF's**

The BP oil spill has illustrated the problem with relying on crude oil for energy. Oil is unfriendly to the environment due to pollution, the potential for oil spills and disasters.. There is also the country's growing dependence on oil from many foreign sources. Investors that want to invest in alternative energy sources can do so through stocks and ETF's. ETF's like the Powershares WilderHill Clean Energy ETF (PBW) or the iShares S&P Global Clean Energy Index (ICLN). Both are a nice way of investing in green energy. Investors that want to get long an individual stock can buy companies like First Solar (FSLR) and Trina Solar (TSL).

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### **Final Thoughts**

There are a plethora of investments available to socially conscious investors. Not only can you invest in causes that you believe in but you can make yourself some money as well.