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The Many Shades Of Green ETFs

November 06, 2007 by Tom Lydon

Have you ever considered an exchange traded fund (ETF) that mimics the color of money? Solar, biofuels, energy efficiency, wind and water are only a few shades the stocks come in, so why not an ETF that covers clean-tech or green? These ETFs offer a low-cost, diversified option of a basket of stocks that track a certain index. **Kenneth Stier for CNBC** reports that after 2006, around a dozen of these types of funds came on the market. Don't be fooled, green comes in many shades as every ETF has different components.

PowerShares Wilderhill Clean Energy (PBW) is the first of the funds, coming to market in March 2005. It is the largest with \$1.3 billion under management, and is up 15.71% since its launch. The 42 stocks are mostly small-caps, and include companies like Suntech Power and Evergreen Solar.

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Although investors may feel enlightened investing in the future of their planet, there is risk to be endured because of the narrow focus of these ETFs. If you are seeing green, take the time to research what makes up a particular green ETF.

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