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## Green Energy ETFs Regain Lost Shine

Alternative-energy ETFs rallied on a sudden 5% spike in crude oil, buyout rumors and new deals in the works this week.

The most popular and liquid ETF of its kind, **PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy (PBW)** climbed 5.44% Tuesday and Wednesday and broke above its 10-week moving average.

PBW has \$727 million in assets and 157 institutional investors. The other ETFs in the group have \$8 million to \$172 million in assets and 50 or fewer institutional holders.

It has advanced 21% year to date vs. 15% for the S&P 500.



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PBW has rallied 76% and GEX 66% off their March lows vs. 50% for the S&P 500. But on a 12-month basis, they've underperformed the benchmark by about 22 percentage points.

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"If crude breaks out over the August highs of \$75 per barrel, I would expect these names to continue to garner investor support," said Peter Reznicek, chief equity strategist at ShadowTrader.net. He recommends buying pullbacks in green ETFs. He prefers PBW because unlike others in the group, its August low did not undercut its July low.

## Industry Developments

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The largest solar energy company by market cap, **First Solar** ([FSLR](#)), is a top holding in GEX and KWT. It said Wednesday that it secured a \$300 million, three-year loan for general corporate purposes.

Shares surged 10% in double average volume Tuesday on news the company struck a deal with the Chinese government to build a two-gigawatt solar power plant in Inner Mongolia. The first phase will start in June 2010. The fourth, or final, phase will be done by 2019.