

# KBIGI Energy Solutions Strategy

## Summary Details

Assets under Mgmt.	\$101.8m
Strategy Inception Date	28 Feb 2006
Benchmark	Wilderhill New Energy Gbl Innovation Index
Number of Stocks	54
<b>Risk Characteristics</b>	
Beta (10 Yrs)	0.84
Information Ratio (10 Yrs)	-0.03

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 06/30/20. The risk characteristics are calculated using monthly gross returns over a 10 year period relative to the Index as at the 06/30/20. The AUM listed above is Energy Solutions AUM. This is the combined AUM of KBI Global Investors Ltd and KBI Global Investors (North America) Ltd. Weighted Avg. Mkt. Cap figures are in US Dollars.

## Investment Thesis

There are compelling investment opportunities in companies providing solutions to resource scarcity across water, food and energy driven by five long term trends.

- Inadequate supply of water, cleaner energy and arable land for farming
- Increasing demand for resources, driven by population growth, industrialisation and urbanisation
- Increasing regulation and government support
- Increasing investment in infrastructure to address urgent global requirements
- Increasing investment in technology to create solutions and facilitate the more efficient use of resources

## Strategy Overview

The KBIGI Energy Solutions Strategy is a long-only, high-conviction global equity portfolio investing in 30-60 global companies providing low carbon solutions to the world's accelerating demand for energy. The strategy can invest across the full range of renewable sources including wind, solar, biomass, and fuel cells as well as smart technologies that facilitate the integration of renewable energy and/or use energy more efficiently.

KBIGI's Energy Solutions Strategy provides exposure to a number of dominant and persistent themes:

- Global growth
- Natural resource scarcity
- Infrastructure spending
- Emerging market growth
- Mergers and acquisitions

Energy Solutions brings new sources of alpha to a global equity allocation. Specialist active management is the best way to capture this alpha, carefully qualifying a universe of stocks to assure exposure to energy solutions and then identifying companies with strong fundamentals, leading products, and attractive valuations.

## Annualised Performance (\$)

	3Mths	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs	10Yrs
Strategy (Gross)	30.1	0.0	11.9	11.7	7.2	4.3
Strategy (Net)	29.9	-0.4	11.0	10.9	6.4	3.5
Benchmark	35.8	11.0	27.7	12.1	6.5	4.6

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream as of 06/30/20.

Returns are gross of fees in USD. Our firm claims GIPS compliance and is annually verified by an independent verification firm to be so. The verification report from our verifier and our GIPS composite presentation are available upon request. The performance record disclosed here is that of the firm's composite for this strategy. The strategy invests in an internationally diversified selection of shares in companies active in the clean energy sector. These companies are active in both producing, manufacturing, providing equipment or supplying power from renewable sources and those active in energy efficiency end markets. Renewable sources include technologies such as wind power, solar energy, hydro-power, biomass and geothermal. Energy efficiency end markets covers a wide range of end markets including the automotive sector (through the use of fuel efficient parts and electric vehicles), LED lighting and building insulation products for construction end markets, software and hardware devices for industrial and utility end markets. The portfolio contains circa 40-60 publicly traded stocks. The rapid ascendance of decarbonisation and the increased demand for both clean energy and energy efficient products is directly linked to five key drivers; increasing global energy demand to meet growing population and industrialization, limited supply of oil and natural gas, climate change – growing political and regulatory support for decarbonisation, falling costs of renewable energy through technological advancement and security of fuel supply is enhanced by local sources of energy. The benchmark is the Wilderhill New Energy Global Innovation Index, inclusive of gross income. The benchmark is comprised of companies worldwide whose innovative technologies and services focus on the generation and use of cleaner energy, conservation and efficiency. These companies have a low-carbon approach and provide technologies that help reduce emissions relative to traditional fossil fuel use. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; but not materially so. See disclaimers for further information.

## Investment Process

Our investment process is designed to use our specialist skills to precisely define each theme, construct a proprietary investment universe and then build a concentrated, high conviction portfolio designed to outperform the broad market and passive alternatives

### Investment Universe Definition

- Precisely defined opportunity set for investment to ensure exposure to drivers of resource scarcity
- Companies for inclusion: Pure Plays and Market Leaders

### Weighting Sector

- Focus on bottom up fundamentals and valuation with an overlay of top down influences

### Stock Selection

- Focus on stocks with exposure to key themes driving earnings growth, strong fundamentals, competitive advantages, strong management and attractive valuation

## Investment Team

Energy Portfolio Management Team	Role	Investment Experience
Colm O'Connor	Lead Portfolio Manager	17yrs
Treasa Ni Chonghaile	Co Portfolio Manager	21yrs
Andros Florides	Co Portfolio Manager	25yrs
Investment Team	Title	Investment Experience
Noel O'Halloran	Chief Investment Officer	32yrs
Catherine Cahill	Senior Portfolio Manager	20yrs
Matt Sheldon	Senior Portfolio Manager	18yrs
Martin Conroy	Portfolio Manager	16yrs
Eoin Fahy	Head of Responsible Investing	32yrs
Ultan O'Kane	Trader	14yrs

## Contact Details

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## Portfolio Positioning

### Segment Breakdown

Sector	%
Energy Efficiency	41.0
Renewable Energy	38.2
Utilities	20.8

### Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
North America	55.5
Europe	37.3
Emerging Markets	7.2

### Top 10 Holdings

Stock	Country	%
First Solar Inc	US	5.2
Vestas Wind Systems A/S	Denmark	4.3
National Grid Plc	UK	3.6
Greencoat Renewables PLC	Ireland	3.5
ABB Limited - CHF	Switzerland	3.2
ASML Holding NV	Netherlands	3.1
Covanta Holding Corporation	US	3.0
Owens Corning	US	3.0
ON Semiconductor Corp	US	3.0
ltron Inc	US	3.0

*Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. The above information represents the top 10 largest positions in the strategy as of 06/30/20 based on the aggregate USD value. Each quarter KBI Global Investors uses this same objective, non-performance based criteria to select the ten largest holdings. The specific securities identified and described do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for the strategy, and the reader should not assume that investments in the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable. All information is provided for informational purposes only and should not be deemed as a recommendation to buy the securities mentioned.*

## Overview

We are positive on the prospects of the Energy Solutions strategy as the push towards cleaner energy sources and more efficient use of energy will provide a supportive backdrop for our investible universe. This view has been strengthened by the various post-Covid stimulus packages announced by governments which have put the transition to clean energy as a central theme. The push for increased infrastructure spending will help our companies by focusing on strengthening electricity grids and networks, either through installation of smart meters/software or more efficient hardware. Construction markets are building ahead of efficiency standards, be it in residential, industrial or commercial, driving the need for efficient lighting, HVAC, and insulation. The auto sector's transition towards a more efficient and more electric future will also be a driver of the strategy. The pace of adoption of electric vehicles has picked up significantly and we expect the falling costs of batteries as well as increased subsidies to continue to drive it forward. We now have the reality of renewable energy sources being a cost competitive source of electricity in many regions. We believe this can improve and will continue to drive installation growth globally. We remain constructive on the prospects of the Renewable Energy segment. While the global pandemic has caused short-term demand disruptions, we believe the long-term nature of clean energy demand will overcome this. This has been confirmed by the resilience of companies' earnings as recent commentary from companies noted no cancellations of orders, only project delays. We favour the high quality, cash rich, technology leaders who can withstand near-term volatility. The Energy efficiency segment is the most exposed to cyclical end markets which can bounce back the most as economies recover. We believe this strategy's focus on several secular growth trends including building technologies, smart grid infrastructure, auto electrification, and disruptive technology such as energy storage, means it can also benefit from clean- energy-specific stimulus packages. Our utilities and renewable energy infrastructure holdings remain a core defensive pillar of the strategy. We are encouraged by the resilience of these business models due to the majority of their cashflows being supported by long-term fixed power purchase agreements.

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The firm definition has been re-defined on two occasions over recent years; on 30 September 2010 to reflect the firm's sale to RHJI by our previous parent firm KBC Asset Management NV, and on 1 October 2016 to reflect the firm's sale to Amundi Asset Management. No change in investment process arose as a result of these sales. To receive a copy of the compliant presentation and/or a list of composite descriptions, please contact sales@kbigi.com. Gross results shown do not show the deduction of Adviser's fees. A client's actual return will be reduced by the advisory fees and any other expenses which may be incurred in the management of an investment advisory account. See Part 2 of Adviser's Form ADV for a complete description of the investment advisory fees customarily charged by Adviser. 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