

KBIGI Energy Solutions Strategy

Summary Details

Assets under Mgmt.	€165.2m
Strategy Inception Date	28 Feb 2006
Benchmark	Wilderhill New Energy Gbl Innovation Index
Number of Stocks	51
Revenue Alignment SDG Score	79.1%
Risk Characteristics	
Beta (10 Yrs)	0.71
Information Ratio (10 Yrs)	-0.26

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 31/12/20. The risk characteristics are calculated independently by KBI Global Investors using monthly gross returns of a representative account managed to the same strategy over a 10 year period relative to the Index as at the 31/12/20. The AUM listed above is Energy Solutions Strategy AUM. Weighted Avg. Mkt. Cap figures are in US Dollars. The Revenue Alignment SDG Score measures the portfolio contribution to the achievement of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Calculations are based on KBIGI's own methodology and are not independently verified as at 12/31/2019 (annually).

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

Annualised Performance (€)

	3Mths	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs	10Yrs
Fund (Gross)	30.5	50.9	50.9	26.6	17.1	9.7
Benchmark	52.5	124.7	124.7	39.4	24.1	12.5

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream as of 31/12/20.

KBI calculate both NAV returns and benchmark returns. Returns are gross of fees in Euro. 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.

Portfolio Positioning

Segment Breakdown

Sector	%
Energy Efficiency	45.1
Renewable Energy	31.6
Utilities	23.3

Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
North America	53.0
Europe	37.0
Emerging Markets	10.0

Top 10 Holdings

Stock	Country	%
Livent Corp	US	4.7
Samsung SDI Co Ltd	South Korea	4.5
First Solar Inc	US	4.3
Greencoat Renewables PLC	Ireland	4.2
Vestas Wind Systems A/S	Denmark	4.1
National Grid Plc	UK	3.6
NXP Semiconductors NV	Netherlands	3.4
ON Semiconductor Corp	US	3.3
Owens Corning	US	3.1
Ormat Technologies Inc	US	3.0

Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. Data as of 31/12/20

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.

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	18yrs
Treasa Ni Chonghaile	Co Portfolio Manager	22yrs
Andros Florides	Co Portfolio Manager	25yrs
Investment Team	Title	Investment Experience
Noel O'Halloran	Chief Investment Officer	33yrs
Catherine Cahill	Senior Portfolio Manager	20yrs
Matt Sheldon	Senior Portfolio Manager	19yrs
Martin Conroy	Portfolio Manager	17yrs
Eoin Fahy	Head of Responsible Investing	32yrs
Ultan O'Kane	Trader	15yrs

Contact Details

Address: KBI Global Investors Ltd.
3rd Floor, 2 Harbourmaster Place
IFSC
Dublin 1
Ireland

Phone: +353 1 438 4400 Email: info@kbigi.com

Web: www.kbiglobalinvestors.com

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 increased commitments of governments globally to decarbonize their electricity sources and new long-term commitments to reach net zero emissions.

The US presidential election outcome has increased the likelihood of a more positive regulatory backdrop for renewables in the US. It also has positive implications for energy efficiency as President Biden's green deal proposes substantial investment in energy efficiency for buildings and tighter emissions standards for vehicles.

Overall, the strategy should benefit from exposure to key structural growth trends such as decarbonisation, smart building technologies, smart grid infrastructure, increased use of energy storage and disruptive technologies. 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.

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