



# Methodology Change | WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index (NEX) | Effective Date June 20, 2019

**San Diego, June 11, 2019** – Today, on June 11, 2019, WilderHill New Energy Finance announces the following changes to the methodology of the WilderHill® New Energy Global Innovation Index (NEX).

WilderHill New Energy Finance (WHNEF) had decided, inter alia, to amend the Index methodology and therefore, due to the fact that certain amendments are deemed to be materials changes, to initiate a market consultation. WHNEF has received the feedback of the market and has decided to change the methodology NEX Index.

Taking this into account, WHNEF has decided to amend as follows:

At Methodology the following two paragraphs:

*“The Index is calculated using a modified equal-dollar weighting methodology. At the time of rebalancing each Index sector is assigned an overall weight in line with that sector’s market capitalization within the NEX’s component selection universe, adjusted if necessary to avoid problems of illiquidity or over-concentration on any individual sector.*”

*Each sector’s components are divided into two categories, large and small. Large components are given three and half times the weight of small components within their sector, and are defined as having an individual market capitalization over \$750 million. Components may be reassigned between large and small categories within their relevant sectors at the discretion of the Index Committee in order to alleviate concerns of individual component liquidity or restricted availability. Components quoted on those markets that restrict ownership or trading by foreign investors will not be excluded altogether but may be allocated to the small component category within their respective sectors (currently China and India impose restriction on foreign ownership and trading).”*

shall be deleted and replaced as follows:

*“The Index is calculated using a modified equal weighting methodology. At the time of rebalancing components generally are all equally weighted; respective sector weightings are in accordance with number of Index components assigned to each NEX sector, components and sectors adjusted if necessary as determined by the Index Provider and reviewed each quarter.*”

*(Between 2006-2019, sector components were previously divided into two categories, large and small; and sector weights had been based on external surveys of market capitalizations of companies deemed active in new energy)."*

Also, at Index Dissemination:

The Chart showing the NEX Index Tickers is changed: Ticker dissemination is replaced – going from 4 currencies/variants in US Dollars, in Euros, GB Pounds, & Japanese Yen – to dissemination in US Dollars alone.

Also at About Us:

Individual biographical information is deleted, removing:

“About Us

WilderHill New Energy Finance LLC

The WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index is published by WilderHill New Energy Finance LLC, a partnership between Mr. Josh Landess, and Dr. Robert Wilder.

Dr. Rob Wilder

Dr. Wilder is co-creator & Manager of the WilderHill Clean Energy Index<sup>®</sup> (ECO), the first and leading index of companies quoted on the US exchanges for renewable energy, better energy efficiency and low-carbon solutions. ECO went live in 2004 and it is tracked by an independent portfolio that launched in 2005.

Rob is co-creator & Manager of WilderHill Progressive Energy Index (WHPRO), the first capturing opportunities for reducing carbon, greenhouse gases and harms from coal, oil, and natural gas; it addresses climate change and the need for improving the still-dominant energy sources of today. WHPRO is tracked by an independent portfolio launched in 2006.

He has J.D. and Ph.D. degrees, is a Fulbright Senior Specialist, has been a Fulbright Fellow, AAAS/EPA Fellow in Environmental Science & Technology, a National Academy of Sciences Young Investigator (twice) and a California Sea Grant Fellow. He's a book author and widely published such as in Nature, Institutional Investor, Stanford Law & Policy Review, UCLA Journal of Environmental Law and Policy, Engineering News-Record, the American Society of Civil Engineers Press, Scientific American, Yale E360, University of Chicago Press, Journal of Alternative Investments and elsewhere. He often lectures globally and has been on the faculty at University of California at Santa Barbara, University of Massachusetts, has been with The Nature Conservancy, a Trustee for Society for Conservation Biology, and is Member Emeritus on the Director's Council at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego. He lives in a solar-powered home in Encinitas, California.

Josh Landess

Josh Landess is a pioneer in the creation of alternative energy stock market indexes, creating his first in February 2000. In September 2000, he and Rob Wilder teamed up and renamed one

of Josh's indexes as The WilderHill Fuel Cell Index, collaborating in researching, maintaining and improving that index.

In 2004, Landess and Wilder, with the help of the American Stock Exchange, led the team that created the WilderHill Clean Energy Index® (ticker: ECO). This was the first clean energy stock market index to be distributed over the tape.

In January of 2006, Landess and Wilder collaborated with New Energy Finance to create The WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index. It was the first global index of activity in New Energy that was put out over the tape. Index development was again assisted by the American Stock Exchange.

Josh is based in Rio Rico, AZ, and owns First Energy Research, LLC. Aside from indexing work, he seeks to maintain, as time permits, an advocacy and learning role in areas including transportation efficiency, sustainable development and consumer rights.

Important Links	
WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index (NEX)	<a href="http://www.nexindex.com">http://www.nexindex.com</a>
Solactive (Calculation Agent) - Profile for the NEX Index	<a href="https://www.solactive.com/?s=wilderhill&amp;index=US96811Y1029">https://www.solactive.com/?s=wilderhill&amp;index=US96811Y1029</a>
Solactive (Calculation Agent) - Index Composition page	<a href="https://www.solactive.com/?s=NEX&amp;indexmembers=US96811Y1029">https://www.solactive.com/?s=NEX&amp;indexmembers=US96811Y1029</a>

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and is replaced as follows:

WilderHill New Energy Finance LLC

The WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index is published by WilderHill New Energy Finance LLC.

Important Links	
WilderHill New Energy Global Innovation Index (NEX)	<a href="http://www.wildershares.com">http://www.wildershares.com</a>
Solactive (Calculation Agent) - Profile for the NEX Index	<a href="https://www.solactive.com/?s=wilderhill&amp;index=US96811Y1029">https://www.solactive.com/?s=wilderhill&amp;index=US96811Y1029</a>

The rationale behind the changes are the following:

This modified equal weighting methodology allows for components at the rebalance generally to be all equally weighted; with respective sector weightings to be made in accordance with number of components assigned to each NEX sector, components and sectors adjusted if necessary as determined by Index Provider and reviewed each quarter. This is altered so that subjective aspects of dividing sector components into 2 categories, large and small, is removed. This change retains comparability, integrity and reverts to original Index methodology, which did not have large/small divisions in weightings. Additionally it allows for a clearer tabulation of sector weightings: rather than by external surveys of market capitalizations of companies that may be subjectively deemed active in new energy, it is based on number of components assigned in the NEX to each sector. This ensures more objectivity towards weightings of sectors at rebalance, to goals of an equal-weighting, and gives all parties more reliability on selections that take place.

Separately calculations of Index Tickers also in EUR, GBP, and JPY aren't necessary- and ended. Biographical Information is deleted since referencing individuals is unnecessary, and becomes outdated; and the Contact Information that directs inquiries to one email address is clearer.

WHNEF is of the opinion that the suggested methodology changes do not compromise the Index integrity and comparability. The changes were deemed material.

The Index guideline will be modified accordingly and changes will be effective on June 20, 2019; the new Index guideline will be available on this date.