

RISK

This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the Prospectus, Supplement and KID/KIID for the Funds (available on our website), which contain detailed information on their characteristics and objectives and full information on the risks, before making any final investment decisions. The Funds are equity funds. Investors should be willing and able to assume the risks of equity investing. The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise as a result of market and currency movement, and you may not get back the amount originally invested. The Funds invest at least 80% in companies in the sustainable energy sector and can be volatile. Past performance does not predict future returns.

ABOUT THE STRATEGY

Launch	19.12.2007
Index	MSCI World
Sector	IA Commodity/Natural Resources
Managers	Will Riley Jonathan Waghorn Jordan Patel Jamie Melrose
EU Domiciled	Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund Guinness Sustainable Energy UCITS ETF
UK Domiciled	WS Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund

INVESTMENT POLICY

The Guinness Sustainable Energy Funds are managed for capital growth and invest in companies involved in the generation, storage, efficiency and consumption of sustainable energy sources (such as solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, biofuels and biomass). We believe that over the next twenty years the sustainable energy sector will benefit from demand growth, improving economics and both public and private support, offering attractive investment opportunities. The Funds are actively managed and use the MSCI World Index as a comparator benchmark only.

CONTENTS

June in review	2
Managers' comments	3
Performance	10
Portfolio	12
Outlook	16
Important information	25

COMMENTARY

1H REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Sustainable energy equities performed well in the first half of 2026. The Middle East energy shock reinforced the case for the energy transition through the lenses of energy security and flexibility, while the underlying drivers of secular electricity demand growth remained strong. Meanwhile, policy shifted from the uncertainty of 2025 to a more stable and supportive backdrop. This month, we review the key macro developments of 1H 2026 and offer an outlook for the rest of 2026 and beyond.

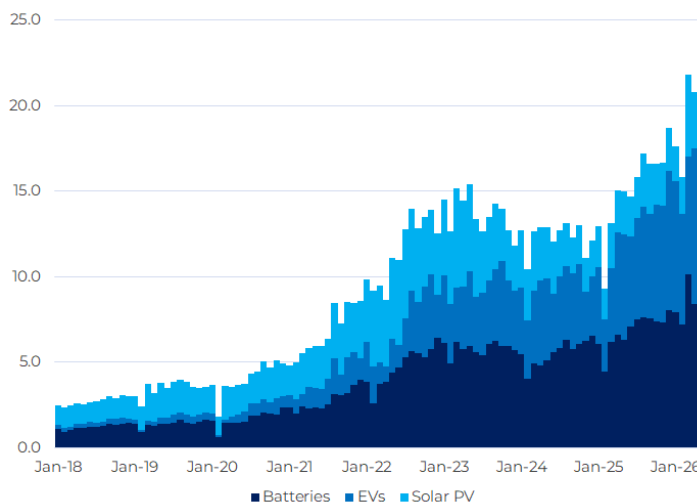
EQUITIES

The Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund (Class Y) delivered a return of -2.1% (in USD) in June, underperforming the MSCI World Index, which returned -0.7%. Amphenol and Hubbell were among the Fund's top performers, supported by AI infrastructure investment and growth in grid capital expenditure. Ameresco and Enphase were among the weakest performers as higher bond yields and lower oil prices weighed on sentiment towards renewable energy stocks.

CHART OF THE MONTH: CHINA CLEAN-TECH EXPORTS

Higher energy prices following the Middle East supply shock have boosted Chinese clean technology exports, echoing the surge seen after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in early 2022. Exports of batteries, EVs and solar panels have exceeded \$20 billion for three consecutive months since late February, up 45% year-on-year over the same period.

Chinese clean-tech exports (\$'bn)



Source: Guinness Global Investors, Ember, June 2026

JUNE NEWS AND EVENTS IN REVIEW

In this section, we review the key news items and their impact on our various portfolio sub-sectors over the last month.

News	Sub-Sector	Impact
More than 100 global businesses, representing around \$1.5 trillion of annual revenue, have called on governments to accelerate electrification, arguing it will improve energy security, reduce exposure to volatile fossil fuel prices and strengthen industrial competitiveness. The coalition urged policymakers to increase grid investment, streamline permitting and provide stable policy frameworks to support deployment. The announcement reflects a broader shift in priorities for businesses as rising electricity demand and the recent Middle Eastern supply shock bring energy security and affordability into focus.	Electrification	
The UK's National Energy System Operator (NESO) has reaffirmed the need for significant investment in the country's electricity network, estimating that around £89bn of transmission upgrades will be required beyond 2030. The investment is needed to accommodate rising electricity demand from electric vehicles, data centres and industrial electrification, while supporting continued growth in renewable generation. The updated plan includes a substantial increase in offshore transmission infrastructure and more than 900km of upgrades to the existing network, reinforcing the scale of the long-term investment opportunity across grid infrastructure.	UK Grid Investment	
Global electric vehicle (EV) sales rose 3% year-on-year in May to 1.8 million units, according to research house Benchmark Mineral Intelligence. Europe remains the strongest growth market, with sales increasing 23% as supportive government incentives and higher fuel prices continued to encourage EV adoption. China, the world's largest EV market, saw sales decline 9% amid weaker domestic demand following the withdrawal of subsidies, although exports remained robust. North American sales fell 26% following changes to US EV incentives, while the rest of the world continued to deliver strong growth, with sales rising 80% as EV adoption accelerated across a broader range of emerging markets.	EV Sales Growth	
Higher fossil fuel prices following the recent energy shock have reinforced the importance of energy security, driving a renewed acceleration in renewable energy deployment. India installed around 2.7 GW of rooftop solar capacity in the first quarter, more than double the level seen a year earlier, while the US added almost 1.2 GW of residential solar. In the Philippines, imports of rooftop solar panels increased 145% in the three months through May as consumers sought to reduce their reliance on expensive grid electricity. Although the conflict now appears to be easing, we believe the renewed focus on energy security will remain a structural driver of renewable energy adoption.	Renewable Adoption	
Germany continues to make steady progress towards its energy transition goals, awarding support contracts for a further 2.5 GW of onshore wind, bringing the total capacity awarded since 2023 to almost 38 GW. The latest auction was heavily oversubscribed, highlighting continued developer appetite, while successful bid prices fell to their lowest level since 2017, reflecting improving project economics. Germany also added 1.9 GW of new renewable capacity in May, including 1.3 GW of solar and 544 MW of wind, taking wind and solar additions to more than 8 GW in the first five months of the year.	Germany energy transition	

MANAGERS' COMMENTS

Sustainable energy equities performed well in the first half of 2026. The energy shock as a result of the conflict in the Middle East has strengthened the case for the energy transition through the lenses of energy security and energy flexibility. Meanwhile, the underlying secular drivers of rising electricity demand continue to build, creating a greater need for both renewable power and efficiency solutions. After the tariff and tax credit uncertainty of 2025, policy has moved from a source of great uncertainty to relative stability. Against this backdrop, the sector has outperformed markets over the last six months, and we remain optimistic for the second half of the year. In this report, we review macro developments in the first half of 2026 and offer an outlook for the rest of 2026 and beyond.

In the first half of 2026 the Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund delivered a total return (USD) of +14.8%, outperforming the MSCI World Index (net return) at +9.7%. The key events that have affected the energy transition, company profitability and share price performance so far this year are discussed below.

The backdrop to the global energy transition in the first half of 2026 has been constructive as a result of the Iran shock, secular growth and policy stability.

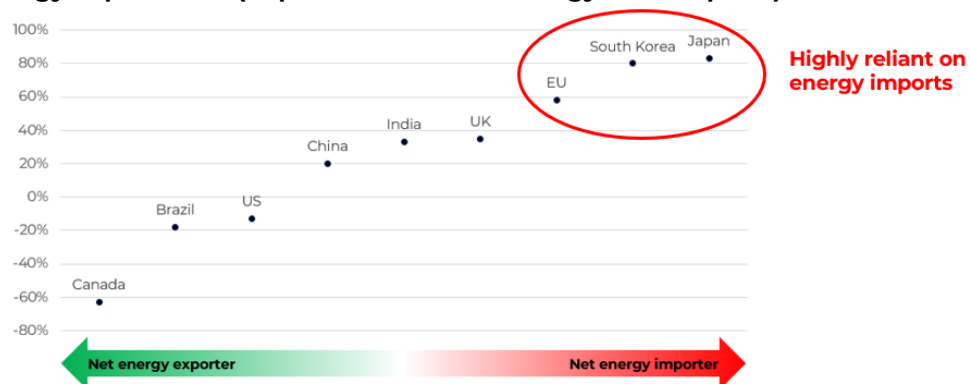
Iran shock

The Middle East crisis triggered a material disruption to global energy markets, removing around 14 million barrels per day of oil and oil products from global supply with no easy alternative route to market. While the peace deal agreed in mid-June has allowed the gradual reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, with vessel transits recovering to pre-conflict levels (c.30/day as of late June), the pace of the recovery remains uncertain. Tankers remain dislocated globally, field restarts must be handled with extreme care, and infrastructure damage in the Gulf, notably to liquefied natural gas facilities, will take time to repair.

By the time oil flows normalize, we estimate that around 2.3bn bls of oil and oil equivalent will have been lost because of the conflict, around a quarter of global inventories. This represents the second global energy shock in just four years, strengthening the case for sustainable energy technologies as a way to improve both energy security and energy flexibility, especially in economies reliant on energy imports such as Europe.

- **Energy security:** reducing reliance on energy imports. This is of particular importance to the EU, which still imports nearly 60% of its energy from outside of the bloc.
- **Energy flexibility:** building a more diverse and adaptable energy system through distributed renewables, storage, and greater interconnectivity of energy assets.

Energy dependence (imports as % of total energy consumption)



Source: BofA Global Investment Strategy, Energy Institute Statistical Review of World Energy, June 2026

Secular growth: Demand for electricity continues to rise. Having grown at 2.8% per annum over the past decade, global electrification is expected to cause it to accelerate to 3.6% per annum to 2030. According to the International Energy Agency

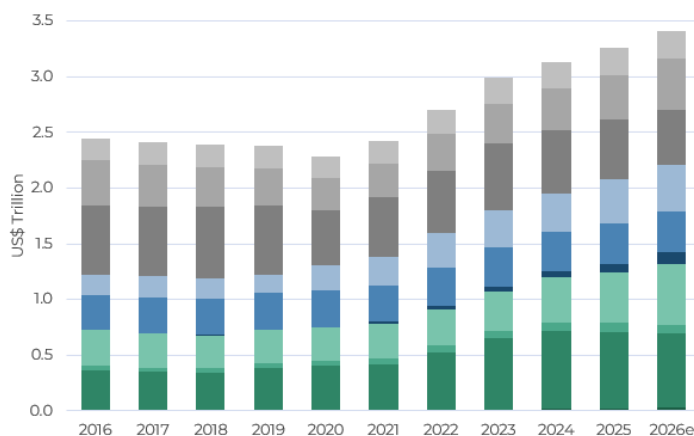
(IEA), 2024 was the first year in three decades that global electricity demand outpaced GDP growth, and this gap is expected to persist over at least the next five years thanks to three structural drivers.

The first is **regional**. Developed markets are seeing the return of electricity demand growth after nearly 20 years of stagnation. In Europe, electricity demand growth was close to 0% between 2003-2023, but is forecast to average 2.3% growth annually from 2026-2030. The United States faces a similar trajectory; after averaging electricity demand growth below 1% per annum between 2016-2025, power consumption is now expected to grow at closer to 2% per annum to 2030.

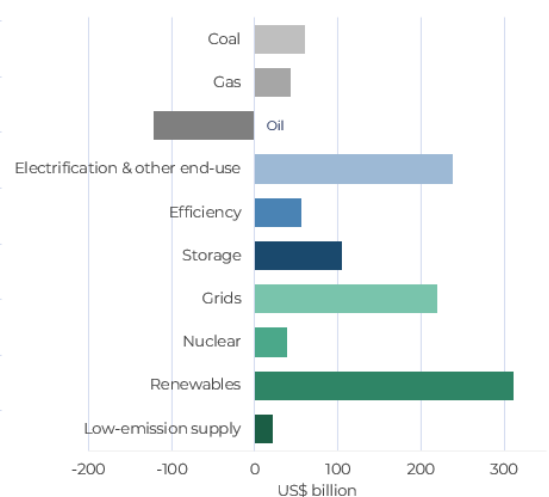
The second is **sectoral**. New, durable sources of demand are complementing established ones. Data centres and AI are an important driver, particularly in the United States, where they are expected to account for 50% of incremental demand growth until 2030. However, at a global level they account for little more than 8% – less than the electrification of transport, which accounts for almost 1.5x the growth of data centres over the same period at around 12% of incremental demand growth. Industry and buildings are the largest contributors at 36% and 27% respectively, reflecting the electrification of industrial processes and the greater intensity of electrification within buildings (heating, cooling, internet of things, and automation).

The third is **transitional**, with electricity winning share from hydrocarbons in the global energy mix. Electricity consumption is now projected to grow at least 2.5 times faster than overall energy demand to 2030. This is reflected in investment into sustainable energy technologies now accounting for almost two-thirds of total energy spending in 2026, totalling \$2.2 trillion across clean energy generation, grids and efficiency technologies.

Annual global energy investment, 2016-2026e (USD tn)



Change in investment 2016-2026e (USD bn)



Source: IEA, May 2026

Policy stability

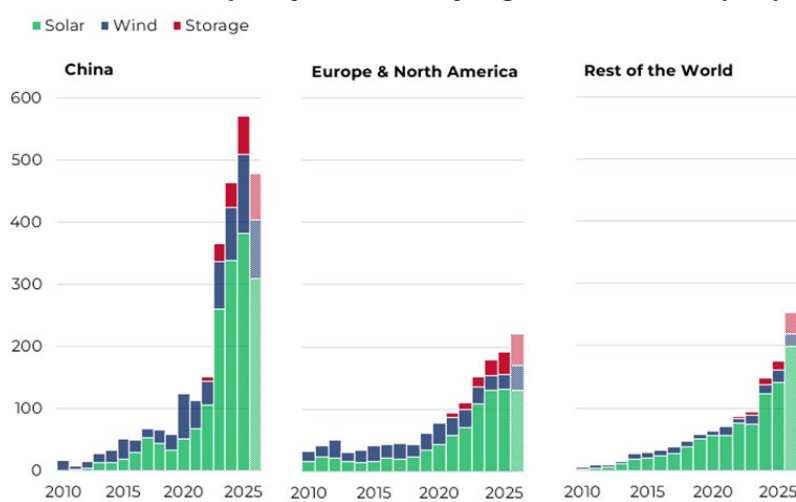
After the tariff and tax credit uncertainty of 2025, policy headwinds in the **United States** have eased. A year ago, sustainable energy equities faced pressure from both tariffs and the downsizing of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) into the One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB). This year, the threat of structurally higher US tariffs was mitigated by a Supreme Court judgment in February which deemed them to be unlawful under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act. While there are other routes for the executive to impose replacement tariffs, these are much more cumbersome to implement (Section 232 and 301) or are more temporary in nature (Section 122).

The resolution of the OBBB has also provided the industry with much needed clarity. Although the bill is objectively less favourable to clean energy than the IRA (eliminating EV and residential solar tax credits and speeding up the phase-out of utility solar and wind tax credits) the final cuts were not as bad as expected, with support for solar and battery manufacturing even being enhanced. With policy clarity, developers have returned to the market, resulting in strong orders for clean energy equipment names such as Vestas, which reported one of its highest-ever order intakes in North America in the second quarter of 2026.

In **Europe**, policy remains supportive. In late April, the European Commission published AccelerateEU, its response to the energy crisis, building on the existing REPowerEU and Clean Industrial Deal frameworks. Of its five pillars, three directly support the energy transition: 'more homegrown clean energy', 'stepping up our energy system', and 'boosting investment'. The plan reaffirms existing EU ambitions, including installing around 100 GW of renewable capacity annually and increasing economy-wide electrification to 32% by 2030, up from 23% today, with more detail to come from the Electrification Action Plan due later this summer. AccelerateEU also introduces a new objective to expand installed energy storage capacity from around 55 GW to 200 GW by 2030.

In **China**, June saw the release of the Energy Sector's 15th Five-Year Plan (FYP), setting out national targets including reaching 50% non-fossil electricity generation (renewables, biomass, hydro, nuclear) by 2030, compared with just over 40% today with energy security stated as the plan's primary objective. On the demand side, electricity's share of final consumption is targeted to rise from 30% to 35% by 2030, alongside a 30% increase in transmission and distribution spending. The new targets sit alongside China's ongoing 'anti-involution' drive to replace years of destructive price competition with more stable industry structures, supportive for both the size and profitability of its clean energy industry.

Annual renewable capacity additions by region 2000-2026E (GW)



Source: BNEF; Guinness Global Investors; June 2026

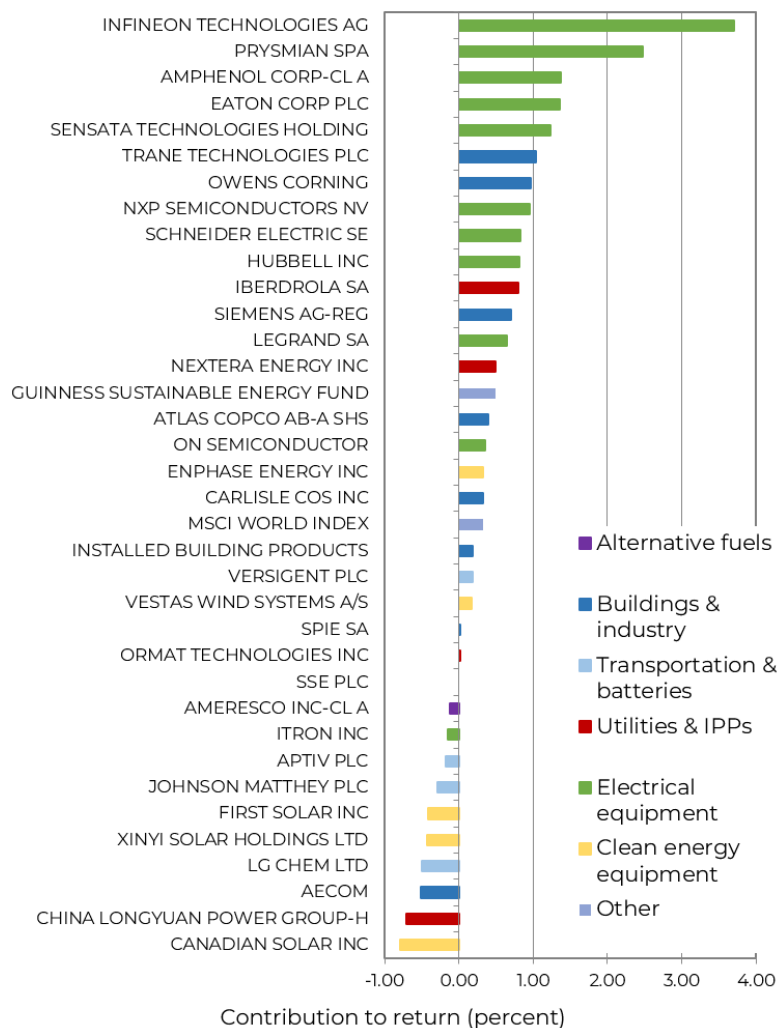
The Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund

The Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund delivered a return of +14.8% during the first half of the year, outperforming the MSCI World Index (+9.7%). Within our portfolio, while the majority of our top performers have benefited from rising data centre spending during the period, we are encouraged by the diversity of business models which they represent, spanning chip makers, electrical equipment manufacturers, and building product names. Key discussion points were as follows:

- Our power electronics names (**Infineon**, **NXP**, **Amphenol**, **Sensata**) performed well on account of substantial growth in their AI data centre offerings and order intake, supplemented by recovering automotive and industrial end markets. Over the last 12 months, top performer **Infineon** has emerged as a key AI beneficiary with AI and data centre revenues expected to grow from approximately €700m in 2025 to €2.5bn in 2027.
- The electrical infrastructure companies all performed well, driven by an acceleration in global electrification activity, grid spending and, in certain cases (such as **Schneider** and **Legrand**), exposure to the data centre sub-sector. Top contributor **Prysmian** saw a data centre-driven recovery in its telecom fibre business and announced three contract awards for large subsea high-voltage cables.
- Buildings names demonstrated resilience in the half, in spite of new build activity in the US and Europe remaining subdued. **Trane Technologies** continued to demonstrate strong order intake for its efficient commercial cooling solutions in the US, while **Owens Corning** rallied sharply after receiving a \$10bn takeover offer from fellow portfolio holding **Carlisle** to create a 'one-stop shop' for commercial and residential roofing and insulation products.

- Poorer contributors covered various themes and end markets. Chinese clean energy names (**Canadian Solar**, **Xinyi Solar**, **China Longyuan**) continue to suffer the aftereffects of China's transition from fixed feed-in tariffs to market pricing mechanisms for renewables, putting downward pressure on generator margins and reducing demand for equipment. **AECOM** (added in April) has performed poorly year-to-date despite record margins and strong bookings due to fears that its use of AI tools might interfere with its current business model based on billable hours.

1H 2026 contribution for the Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund

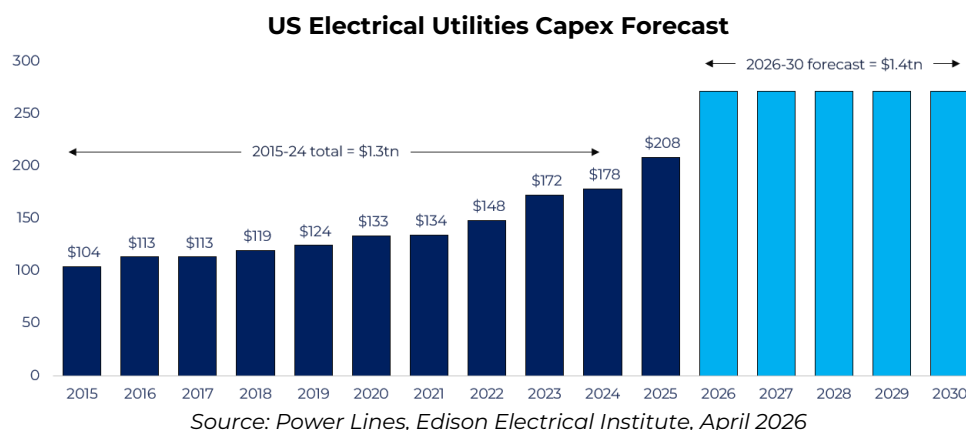


Source: Bloomberg, Guinness Global Investors estimates net of fees; 30 June 2026

Outlook

Looking to the remainder of 2026 and beyond, we expect momentum to continue for energy transition equities, with macro and market conditions supportive of robust longer-term growth:

- Renewable power generation** is expected to grow by around 1,000 TWh per annum through 2030 with solar PV representing around 60% of incremental output. This translates into clean energy production growth of 8% per year out to 2030 with renewables and nuclear expected to account for around half of global power supply by 2030.
- Grid** investment will increase to support this growth in renewables globally, driven by both corporates and governments alike. In the US, whilst utility capex growth is expected to revert back to its long run average of 7% per annum in 2026 after a material step up in 2025, the quantum of spending is substantially higher. Utilities are expected to spend as much in the next five years (\$1.4tn) as they did in the preceding decade, with distribution and transmission now making up 50% of the budget, up from 45% a decade ago.



- **Building efficiency and electrification** spending is expected to rise 5% from around \$370bn last year to over \$390bn in 2026, marking a return to growth following a year of weak construction activity in 2025. Europe remains the largest market for building efficiency spending, making up 30% of global demand. Here, we continue to see encouraging signs of growth, with heat pump sales increasing by 17% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2026.
- **Electric vehicle** sales are expected to grow by around 11% to 23 million units, with EV penetration reaching 27% globally despite the removal of purchase tax credits in the US and scrappage schemes in China. After a material slowdown in Chinese vehicle purchasing in late 2025, early 2026 data shows signs of stabilisation with a return to growth expected in 2H 2026. Longer-term, we see global EV penetration continuing to increase, reaching 45% by 2030.
- **Battery** prices remain supportive to our electric vehicle forecasts, with average pack prices expected to fall 3% in 2026 to \$105/kWh – just above the \$100/kWh threshold at which electric vehicles become cost competitive with internal combustion engines – continuing on a journey to \$70-80/kWh by 2030.
- **Solar** installations are expected to fall for the first time on record as the Chinese market, responsible for just under 60% of demand, transitions from feed-in-tariffs to a market-based pricing system for generators. Despite weakness in China, we continue to see growth in North America, the Middle East and in Africa with stronger module prices supported by higher raw material costs (e.g. silver) and China's anti-involution efforts to curb excess supply. Beyond 2026, we expect solar PV's positioning at the bottom of the cost curve to drive continued share gain in the energy mix, with BNEF forecasting solar energy to grow from 11% of global power supply in 2026 to 21% by 2032 (Economic Transition Scenario), overtaking coal as the largest source of electricity supply in the world.
- The global **wind** industry is on track to deliver c.154 GW of installations in 2026. Whilst headline installations are set to contract by around 10%, this is primarily driven by China, where installations are expected to fall by around a quarter this year. This follows a surge in Chinese deployments in 2025 to lock in more favourable power price guarantees under the previous regime. European wind installations are set to rise by around 60% in 2026, reaching a new record high of over 27 GW. We expect similarly strong growth in North America as developers return to the market following the passing of the OBBB.

The outlook we summarise here is broadly consistent with current government activity and observable investment plans. To be clear, however, the growth described falls well short of the energy transition activity needed to achieve a **net zero / 1.5 degree scenario** in 2050, as targeted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and reiterated at COP28. In a net zero scenario, the deployment of renewable generation capacity, penetration of EVs and battery storage, use of alternative fuels and implementation of energy efficiency measures will need to accelerate markedly.

At 30 June 2026, the Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund traded on a 2026/27 price-earnings ratio of 22.0x/18.2x. On a 12-month forward view, the Fund trades at about a 5% P/E premium to the MSCI World Index, with consensus forecasts suggesting it will deliver similar earnings growth (15.3%pa vs the MSCI World at 15.1%pa). Despite offering comparable valuation and earnings growth characteristics in the near term, we continue to believe that the durability of our portfolio's

earnings growth is underappreciated, as we expect companies providing decarbonisation solutions to benefit from multi-decade growth tailwinds caused by the energy transition.

Valuation and earnings growth of the Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund

As at 30 June 2026

	PE			EV/EBITDA			Dividend Yield		EPS Growth (%pa)		Cash return	
	2025	2026E	2027E	2025	2026E	2027E	2026E	2027E	2019-24	2025-28	2026E	2027E
Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund	24.6x	22.0x	18.2x	14.3x	14.0x	11.2x	1.3%	1.2%	7.5%	15.3%	10.5%	11.7%
MSCI World Index	24.5x	20.3x	17.9x	15.2x	12.7x	11.1x	1.6%	1.7%	6.8%	15.1%	10.2%	10.9%
Fund Premium/(Discount)	1%	8%	2%	-6%	10%	1%						

*2025 P/E = Latest month-end price / 2025 earnings; Portfolio = median CFROI; Index data = HOLT MSCI World ETF median CFROI, EPS derived from consensus, adjusted for Canadian Solar

Source: Guinness Global Investors (30 June 2026)

Portfolio company **NextEra Energy** is a prime example of this durability, having in the first quarter reaffirmed its long-term earnings growth outlook of 8% and above annually through 2032 and 2035, underpinned by management's confidence in a "golden age of power demand" in the US. This inflection in the US power market is undoubtedly a contributing factor to the record pace of US power and utilities M&A: deal value in the first five months of 2026 alone already exceeded \$200bn – surpassing the whole of 2025 (\$143bn) in under half the time, itself already nearly four times the 2017–23 average. NextEra announced its own move to join the acquisition spree with a \$67bn offer to acquire Dominion Energy, expanding the company's regulated utility footprint whilst bolstering its exposure to data centre-driven demand growth.

Following almost two years of de-rating, the 12-month forward P/E of the Fund has now re-rated to trade at a small premium to the MSCI World Index, reflecting improving policy clarity in the United States, the structural inflection in electricity demand, and the demonstrated improvement in sector profitability.

12-month forward P/E relative of Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund vs MSCI World Index

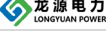


Source: Guinness Global Investors (30 June 2026)

Catalysts for the rest of the year include potential funding announcements related to AccelerateEU. The sector would also be a beneficiary of looser monetary policy, lower inflation and lower US Treasury yields, while any disruption to the normalization of energy flows in the Middle East and the higher fossil fuel prices that may accompany it would further improve the relative economics of renewable technologies. Further, the sector continues to benefit from the deployment of data centres and further AI capex announcements, which add to the electricity demand pool.

We believe that the Guinness Sustainable Energy portfolio of 30 broadly equally weighted positions, chosen from our universe of around 300 companies, provides concentrated exposure to the theme at attractive valuation levels relative to both near-term and long-term earnings growth expectations.

Key themes in the Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund

Theme	Example holdings	Weighting (%)
1 Electrification of energy demand	 	25.6%
2 Modernising the power grid	 	10.8%
3 Rise of the electric vehicle and auto efficiency	 	10.5%
4 Power semiconductors	 	7.8%
5 Wind & solar equipment manufacturing	 	8.4%
6 Low carbon power generation: regulated producers	 	12.3%
7 Low carbon power generation: independent producers	 	6.4%
8 Building and industrial efficiency	 	14.5%
9 Other (inc cash)		3.7%

Source: Guinness Global Investors (30 June 2026)

PERFORMANCE

Past performance does not predict future returns.

The **Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund** (Class Y, 0.74% OCF) delivered a return of -2.1% in the month, while the MSCI World Index (net return) delivered -0.7% (all in USD terms).

Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund	Ytd	1 Yr	3 Yrs	5 Yrs	10 Yrs*
Fund (Class Y)	14.8%	30.4%	16.9%	15.6%	193.3%
MSCI World NR Index	9.7%	21.3%	69.6%	72.1%	243.6%
Out/Underperformance	5.1%	9.1%	-52.7%	-56.6%	-50.3%

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Fund (Class Y)	26.9%	-11.8%	-0.4%	-12.5%	10.4%
MSCI World NR Index	21.1%	18.7%	23.8%	-18.1%	21.8%
Out/Underperformance	5.8%	-30.4%	-24.2%	5.6%	-11.4%

	2020	2019	2018*	2017*	2016*
Fund (Class Y)	84.1%	31.4%	-15.2%	20.2%	-15.4%
MSCI World NR Index	15.9%	27.7%	-8.7%	22.4%	7.5%
Out/Underperformance	68.2%	3.7%	-6.5%	-2.2%	-23.0%

The Fund was launched on 19.12.2007. *Simulated past performance prior to the launch of the Y class on 16/02/2018. The Performance shown is a composite simulation for Y class performance being based on the actual performance of the Fund's E class, which has an OCF of 1.24%. On 31/12/2018, the benchmark became the MSCI World NR. Prior to this, the benchmark was the Wilderhill Clean Energy Index (ECO Index).

The **WS Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund** (Class Y, 0.67% OCF) delivered a return of -1.7% in the month in GBP, while the MSCI World Index (net return) delivered -0.8%.

WS Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund	Ytd	1 Yr	3 Yr
Fund (Class Y, 0.67% OCF)	15.0%	33.6%	13.0%
MSCI World NR Index	11.2%	25.3%	62.4%
Out/Underperformance	3.8%	8.3%	-49.4%

	2025	2024	2023
Fund (Class Y, 0.67% OCF)	18.5%	-10.4%	-5.8%
MSCI World NR Index	12.8%	20.8%	16.8%
Out/Underperformance	5.7%	-31.2%	-22.6%

The Fund was launched on 30.12.2022.

The **Guinness Sustainable Energy UCITS ETF**, under our management since 25 July 2024, delivered a return of -1.9% in the month in USD, while the MSCI World Index (net return) delivered -0.7% (all in USD terms).

Total return in USD	Ytd	1 Yr
Fund (Class A Acc, 0.65% OCF)	14.7%	29.9%
MSCI World NR Index	9.7%	21.3%
Out/Underperformance	5.0%	8.6%

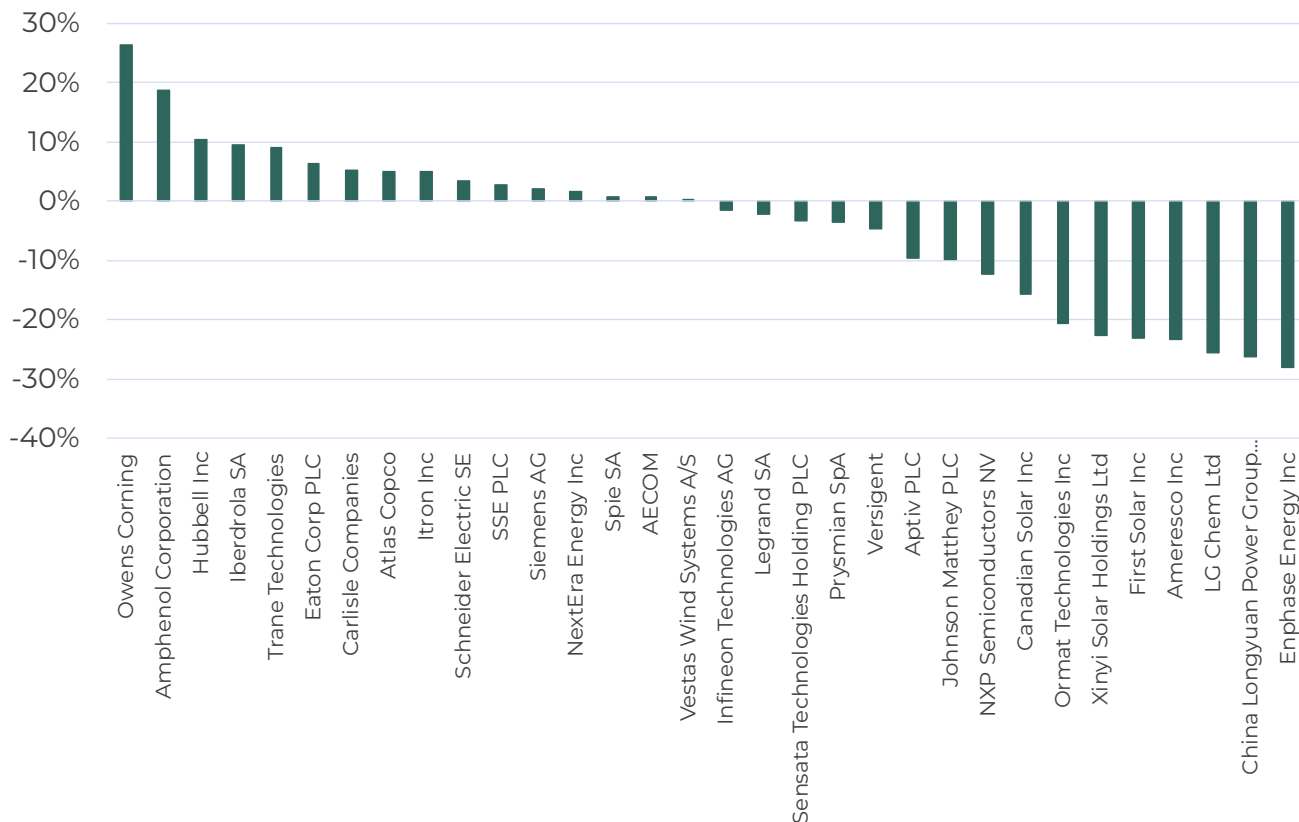
	2025
Fund (Class A Acc, 0.65% OCF)	26.3%
MSCI World NR Index	21.1%
Out/Underperformance	5.2%

Data as of 30.06.2026. Source: FE fundinfo, bid to bid, total return net of fees. Investors should note that fees and expenses are charged to the capital of the Funds. This reduces the return on your investment by an amount equivalent to the Ongoing Charges Figure (OCF). The performance shown has been reduced by the current OCF shown. Returns for share classes with different OCFs will vary accordingly. Transaction costs also apply and are incurred when a Fund buys or sells holdings.

Guinness Sustainable Energy

Within the Fund, the strongest performers were Owens Corning, Amphenol Corporation, Hubbell Inc, Iberdrola SA and Trane Technologies while the weakest performers were Enphase Energy Inc, China Longyuan Power Group Corp Ltd, LG Chem Ltd, Ameresco Inc and First Solar Inc.

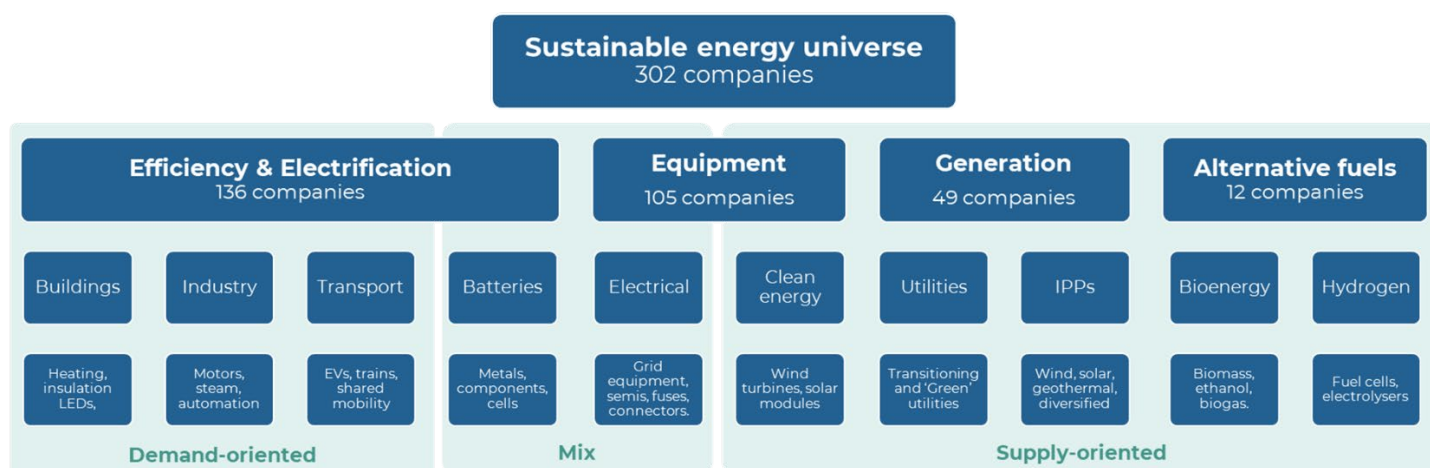
Stock by Stock performance over the month, in USD



Source: Bloomberg. As of 30th June 2026

PORTFOLIO

The Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund is positioned to benefit from many of the long-term themes associated with the transition towards a lower-carbon economy and of sustainable energy generation via investment in companies with activities that are economic with limited or zero government subsidy and which are profitable. We do not limit ourselves to 'pure plays', opening our universe to some companies with existing hydrocarbon-based fuel exposure, but this must be accompanied by a commitment to transitioning their business models towards sustainable energy sources. Our investment universe comprises around 300 companies which are classified as follows:



Source: Guinness Global Investors; data as of January 2026

We monitor each of the industry areas very closely and hope that detailed top-down (macro) analysis of each (complemented with disciplined equity screening and stock valuation work) will allow us to deliver attractive fund performance via a broadly equally weighted portfolio of 30 stocks. The portfolio is designed to create a balance between maintaining fund concentration and managing stock-specific risk.

Guinness Global Investors is a signatory of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment. The Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund prioritises returns whilst delivering concentrated exposure to companies playing a key role in global decarbonisation. The Fund's holdings align most closely with four of the UN's sustainable development goals:

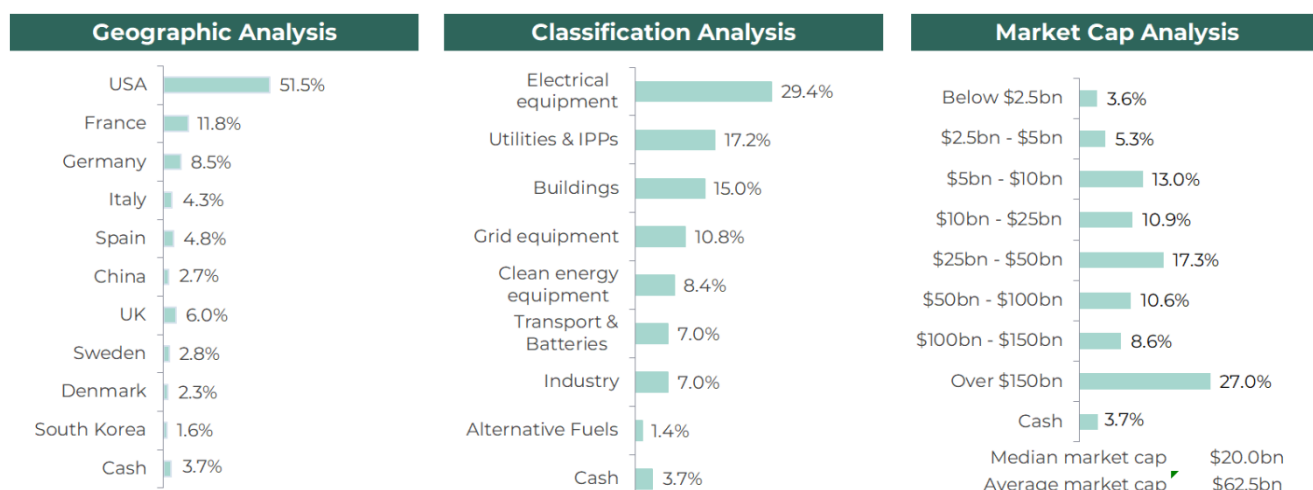
Signatory of:
 Principles for Responsible Investment



Buys/Sells

We purchased **SSE**, a leading UK integrated utility offering exposure to the UK electricity network build-out and broader electrification. The company has a fully funded multi-year investment plan that is driving rapid, inflation linked growth in its regulated asset base and providing strong earnings visibility. We believe the market underappreciates the scale and duration of the UK transmission investment opportunity, allowing us to acquire a high-quality business with an attractive growth for quality profile.

Portfolio structure analysis



Data as of 30.06.2026. Source: Guinness Global Investors. Portfolio holdings are subject to change.

Portfolio sector breakdown

The following table shows the asset allocation of the Fund at 30th June and at previous year ends.

Asset allocation as %NAV	Current	Change	Year end		Previous year ends					
	Jun-26		Dec-25	Dec-24	Dec-23	Dec-22	Dec-21	Dec-20	Dec-19	
Electrical equipment	29.4%	0.8%	28.7%	26.8%	25.1%	20.3%	19.0%	10.0%	9.6%	
Buildings	15.0%	-0.5%	15.4%	14.8%	9.6%	7.7%	4.2%	3.7%	10.2%	
Utilities & IPPs	17.2%	1.8%	15.5%	20.5%	19.5%	17.7%	23.1%	24.6%	22.2%	
Grid equipment	10.8%	0.2%	10.6%	9.0%	7.6%	7.3%	6.6%	6.1%	5.5%	
Clean energy equipment	8.4%	-2.4%	10.8%	10.3%	15.8%	19.7%	18.7%	28.8%	23.5%	
Transport & Batteries	7.0%	-1.9%	8.9%	11.3%	16.4%	18.5%	19.5%	20.4%	21.7%	
Industry	7.0%	0.0%	7.0%	4.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Alternative Fuels	1.4%	-0.2%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	3.0%	3.7%	3.6%	3.2%	
Cash	3.7%	2.2%	1.5%	0.7%	4.2%	5.8%	5.3%	3.0%	4.2%	

Source: Guinness Global Investors

Valuation

At the month's end, the Guinness Sustainable Energy portfolio traded on the following multiples:

As at 30 June 2026	PE			EV/EBITDA			Dividend Yield		EPS Growth (%pa)		Cash return	
	2025	2026E	2027E	2025	2026E	2027E	2026E	2027E	2019-24	2025-28	2026E	2027E
Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund	24.6x	22.0x	18.2x	14.3x	14.0x	11.2x	1.3%	1.2%	7.5%	15.3%	10.5%	11.7%
MSCI World Index	24.5x	20.3x	17.9x	15.2x	12.7x	11.1x	1.6%	1.7%	6.8%	15.1%	10.2%	10.9%
Fund Premium/(Discount)	1%	8%	2%	-6%	10%	1%						

*2025 P/E = Latest month-end price / 2025 earnings; Portfolio = median CFROI; Index data = HOLT MSCI World ETF median CFROI; EPS derived from consensus, adjusted for Canadian Solar and LG Chem

Source: Guinness Global Investors, Bloomberg

Portfolio holdings as at the end of June 2026

Our portfolio is typically allocated across 30 broadly equally weighted equities, providing exposure across the value chain of sustainable energy.

A key theme in the portfolio, at c.40% weight, is that of **electrical equipment** (covering both grid equipment and electrical equipment classifications), where we own a number of companies that facilitate the electrification of energy demand and the build-out of the electrical grid. Holdings such as Eaton, Schneider Electric, Amphenol and Legrand participate in various niches in the design, manufacturing and servicing of electrical products across low, medium and high-voltage applications, for a wide range of end markets. Hubbell holds a particular specialism in high-voltage grid equipment, especially in the United States, while Prysmian manufactures the cable used in high-voltage interconnectors and connections to new supply sources. Lastly, Itron has a heritage in manufacturing smart meters and is increasingly providing services and consulting to utilities around this installed base to enable more efficient utilisation of the grid.

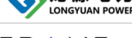
The electrification and efficiency of buildings, industrial activities, and transportation represent a total weight of c.29% and are split as follows:

- In terms of **transportation** exposure, the portfolio holds five names in the electric vehicle sub-category, giving it exposure to companies that provide semiconductors, electronics, components and software/services to the growing EV and autonomous vehicle industry. Infineon and NXP Semi are providers of power semiconductors and microcontrollers that are a necessity for higher-voltage electric vehicles to become competitive with ICE (internal combustion engine) vehicles, while Aptiv and Sensata are component manufacturers and service providers that should benefit from the ever-increasing amount of electronics present in electric vehicles. We hold one lithium-ion battery manufacturer, LG Chem, which is a Korean chemicals company and one of the largest lithium-ion battery manufacturers in the world.
- Our **buildings** exposure comes via pure-play quality exposure to heating and cooling industries (via commercial HVAC manufacturer Trane Technologies) as well as high-quality roofing manufacturer Carlisle Companies. We also own Owens Corning, a manufacturer of insulation (and associated products). Our final holdings here are SPIE, a French electrical engineering company that provides services for building maintenance predominantly in France and Germany, and AECOM, a US-focused design & engineering business with exposure to building efficiency and the renewable energy build-out.
- Our **industrial** efficiency and electrification exposure comes from two positions, in Siemens and Atlas Copco. Siemens provides us with exposure to efficiency and electrification across a wide range of end markets, while Atlas Copco offers exposure to the efficient use of air (often referred to as the fourth utility) in manufacturing processes, via compressors and vacuum technology.

In terms of the **generation** of sustainable energy, we hold a c.17% weight to utilities and independent power producers. China Longyuan is a pure-play Chinese wind power producer and represents one of our two independent power producer (IPP) holdings. The remaining exposure comes in the form of geothermal via Ormat, the world's only integrated producer and equipment manufacturer for geothermal projects. We also have broad-based wind/solar renewable energy generation through NextEra Energy (the largest producer of renewable energy in the world), and utility exposure through Iberdrola and SSE, with a particular focus on electricity networks.

We hold exposure to the **solar and wind equipment** and manufacturing value chains. Xinyi Solar is the world's largest supplier of the glass used in solar cell modules, and Enphase manufactures the inverters required to convert DC solar power into consumable AC electricity. Canadian Solar and First Solar give integrated exposure to the solar cell and module manufacturing process, covering both the standard polysilicon manufacturing process (via Canadian Solar) as well as the specialist cadmium telluride process used by First Solar. Wind turbine manufacturer Vestas provides broad exposure to the strong growth that we expect in the onshore and offshore wind markets. Lastly, we have some exposure to bioenergy (and a broader range of energy efficiency projects) via Ameresco, a US-listed clean energy project developer.

Portfolio themes as at end June 2026

Theme	Example holdings	Weighting (%)
1 Electrification of energy demand	 	25.6%
2 Modernising the power grid	 	10.8%
3 Rise of the electric vehicle and auto efficiency	 	10.5%
4 Power semiconductors	 	7.8%
5 Wind & solar equipment manufacturing	 	8.4%
6 Low carbon power generation: regulated producers	 	12.3%
7 Low carbon power generation: independent producers	 	6.4%
8 Building and industrial efficiency	 	14.5%
9 Other (inc cash)		3.7%

Portfolio at end June 2026

Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund (30 June 2026)			P/E			EV/EBITDA			Price/Book			Dividend Yield		
Stock	ISIN	% of NAV	2025	2026E	2027E	2025	2026E	2027E	2025	2026E	2027E	2025	2026E	2027E
ALTERNATIVE FUELS														
Ameresco Inc	US02361E1082	1.4%	31.2x	24.9x	17.4x	13.8x	12.7x	10.9x	1.4x	1.3x	1.2x	0.0%	n.m.	n.m.
		1.4%												
EFFICIENCY & ELECTRIFICATION														
Carlisle Cos Inc	US1423391002	2.4%	20.9x	17.6x	15.5x	13.3x	13.3x	12.3x	8.3x	9.9x	8.8x	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%
AECOM	US00766T1007	2.2%	13.6x	11.8x	10.4x	8.1x	8.9x	8.1x	3.7x	3.6x	2.8x	1.6%	1.7%	1.9%
Owens Corning	US6907421019	2.8%	14.4x	16.8x	13.5x	7.7x	9.4x	8.6x	3.3x	3.6x	3.2x	2.0%	2.0%	2.1%
Spie SA	FR0012757854	3.3%	19.8x	16.2x	14.6x	8.6x	8.7x	8.2x	3.9x	3.6x	3.3x	2.1%	2.5%	2.7%
Trane Technologies PLC	IE00BK9ZQ967	4.2%	37.6x	32.9x	28.8x	24.4x	23.3x	20.8x	12.7x	11.4x	9.8x	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%
Siemens AG	DE0007236101	4.2%	28.9x	25.7x	22.3x	19.6x	17.0x	15.1x	3.4x	3.3x	3.1x	1.8%	2.0%	2.1%
Atlas Copco AB	SE0017486889	2.8%	35.4x	33.5x	29.3x	21.1x	20.0x	17.9x	8.3x	8.2x	7.2x	2.5%	1.6%	1.8%
Aptiv PLC	JE00BDTND8H13	2.3%	24.7x	10.0x	9.0x	n.m.	8.1x	7.8x	1.5x	1.3x	1.2x	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Versigent PLC	JE00BWK75100	0.5%	n.m.	6.0x	4.4x	6.1x	5.2x	4.8x	n.m.	10.3x	4.2x	n.m.	0.7%	1.2%
Johnson Matthey PLC	GB00BZ4BQC70	2.6%	17.6x	n.m.	9.7x	9.3x	n.m.	7.2x	1.4x	n.m.	2.1x	3.9%	n.m.	3.9%
LG Chem Ltd	KR7051910008	1.6%	550.7x	125.2x	11.2x	8.5x	7.8x	5.7x	0.6x	0.6x	0.6x	0.8%	0.8%	1.4%
		29.0%												
GENERATION														
Iberdrola SA	ES0144580Y14	4.8%	25.4x	21.8x	20.5x	14.2x	13.1x	12.5x	2.8x	2.7x	2.6x	3.1%	3.3%	3.5%
SSE PLC	GB0007908733	3.5%	18.3x	n.m.	11.5x	13.4x	n.m.	10.3x	2.7x	n.m.	1.8x	2.5%	n.m.	3.0%
China Longyan Power Group Cr	CNE1000000HD4	1.8%	8.2x	8.0x	6.9x	11.5x	10.9x	10.1x	0.5x	0.5x	0.4x	3.5%	3.9%	4.5%
NextEra Energy Inc	US65339F1012	4.0%	29.9x	21.7x	20.0x	19.7x	15.5x	13.9x	3.3x	2.8x	2.4x	2.6%	2.8%	3.0%
Ormat Technologies Inc	US68668B1021	3.1%	48.5x	49.6x	44.6x	18.9x	14.5x	13.5x	2.6x	2.4x	2.3x	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%
		17.2%												
EQUIPMENT														
Amphenol Corp	US0320951017	5.1%	50.5x	36.4x	30.9x	30.0x	20.7x	18.2x	16.1x	12.7x	9.6x	0.4%	0.6%	0.7%
Eaton Corp PLC	IE00B8KQN827	4.5%	37.2x	32.1x	27.4x	26.1x	23.9x	20.5x	8.5x	7.4x	6.5x	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%
Hubbell Inc	US4435106079	4.3%	30.9x	26.4x	23.8x	19.4x	18.3x	16.7x	7.2x	6.4x	5.6x	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%
Itron Inc	US4657411066	2.2%	13.0x	14.4x	13.2x	12.7x	13.1x	11.8x	2.3x	2.1x	1.8x	0.0%	n.m.	n.m.
Legrand SA	FR0010307819	4.2%	29.2x	25.2x	22.7x	18.1x	16.6x	15.1x	5.2x	4.8x	4.5x	1.5%	1.8%	2.0%
Prismian SpA	IT0004176001	4.3%	41.1x	30.9x	25.1x	18.1x	16.7x	14.4x	6.3x	5.6x	4.8x	0.6%	0.7%	0.8%
Schneider Electric SE	FR0000121972	4.3%	36.9x	29.0x	24.8x	19.9x	18.1x	15.9x	6.6x	6.0x	5.4x	1.5%	1.6%	1.8%
Infineon Technologies AG	DE0006231004	4.3%	81.5x	47.0x	31.0x	28.7x	21.9x	16.5x	6.3x	5.8x	5.1x	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%
NXP Semiconductors NV	NL0009538784	3.5%	27.6x	19.0x	15.9x	17.3x	14.1x	12.0x	7.1x	5.9x	5.0x	1.4%	1.5%	1.6%
Sensata Technologies Holding P	GB00BFMBMT84	3.5%	10.6x	12.9x	11.8x	7.6x	10.0x	9.5x	2.5x	2.2x	1.9x	0.3%	1.0%	1.1%
Canadian Solar Inc	CA1366351098	1.3%	n.m.	n.m.	12.4x	12.8x	11.4x	8.3x	0.4x	0.3x	0.3x	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Enphase Energy Inc	US29355A1079	0.87%	36.3x	23.7x	20.2x	24.4x	20.2x	16.6x	5.9x	5.1x	4.3x	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
First Solar Inc	US3364331070	3.1%	15.9x	13.4x	9.9x	10.4x	8.9x	7.1x	2.7x	2.2x	1.8x	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Xinyi Solar Holdings Ltd	KYG9829N1025	0.9%	6.9x	9.7x	7.7x	5.3x	6.9x	5.4x	0.6x	0.6x	0.6x	2.6%	4.2%	6.1%
Vestas Wind Systems A/S	DK0061539921	2.3%	30.7x	22.1x	17.4x	11.6x	9.4x	8.1x	6.2x	5.3x	4.4x	0.4%	0.8%	1.1%
		48.7%												
Cash	Cash	3.7%												

The Fund's portfolio may change significantly over a short period of time; no recommendation is made for the purchase or sale of any particular stock.

OUTLOOK - sustainable energy & the energy transition

Over the next thirty years, the world will continue its transition to a sustainable energy system. The key factors driving the transition are:

- **Population and GDP growth** putting a significant strain on today's energy supply
- **Economics** as sustainable sources of energy will be cheaper than the incumbents
- **Climate change** leading the world to reduce carbon emissions via cleaner energy
- **Pollution** forcing governments to drive air pollution out of cities via cleaner energy
- **Energy security** as sustainable energy sources, which are more evenly spread across all countries, facilitate lower reliance on energy imports.

The outcomes of the energy transition will, of course, be wide-ranging. On the **supply** side, we see a sustained shift towards renewable power generation, fulfilling global power generation needs, which are set to double by 2050. On the **demand** side, we believe that improved energy efficiency will be key to limiting energy consumption growth to a manageable level so that it can be increasingly satisfied by renewable sources.

The long-term direction is clear and is driven by economics, in our opinion, while geopolitical issues (such as the invasion of Ukraine in February 2022) could potentially have an effect on the speed of the transition and the relative importance of the factors stated above.

Policy support, investment and economics

Energy transition policy has been increasingly shaped in recent years by energy security, affordability and industrial competitiveness, against a backdrop of rising power demand. Policy approaches have diverged across regions: the United States has seen a reduction in federal support for some low carbon energy technologies but has boosted others; China has continued to consolidate its structural advantages in clean-energy deployment and manufacturing; and Europe has maintained broadly supportive policies while seeking to strengthen industrial resilience.

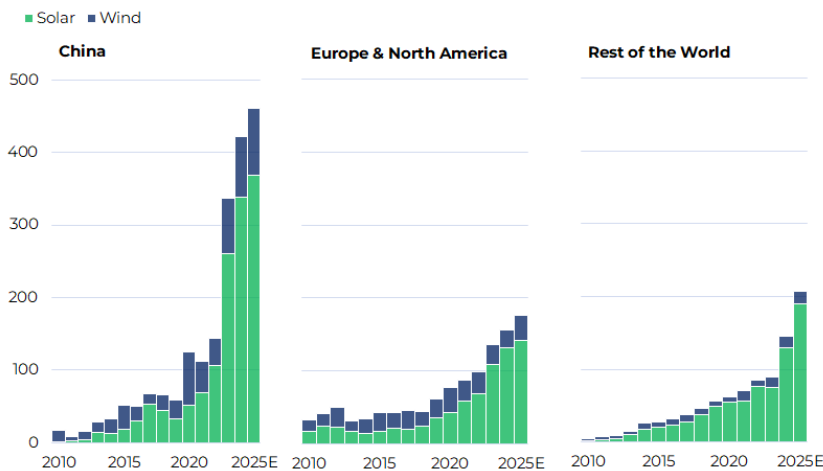
The spectre in the **United States** of President Trump's second term in office loomed large over the clean energy sector. Indeed, many of the executive orders from 20th January 2025, the first day of President Trump's new term, related to the energy sector. Some were specific to the fossil fuel industry while others reflected the broader need for greater access to cheap energy to satisfy estimates of growing demand. Specifically in the realm of energy transition, Trump ordered a withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, a revoking of President Biden's 2021 electric vehicle targets and a suspension of new federal offshore wind leasing. However, it was also clear coming into 2025 that surging US electricity demand (as a result of the growth of artificial intelligence querying and data centres as well as the wider trend of electrification) was a critical issue. It was imperative for Trump to deal with this if he wanted to win the 'AI arms race', requiring him to oversee significant grid upgrades and near-term growth in both renewable and natural gas-based power generation.

In the event, the budget reconciliation bill of May 2025 initially proposed fewer changes to President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) than expected following President Trump's election. However, amendments by the House of Representatives in late May reduced the value of IRA credits, raising approximately \$570bn. The resulting One Big Beautiful Bill Act ("OBBBA") eliminated electric vehicle and certain residential solar tax credits and accelerated the phase-out of utility-scale solar and wind ITC and PTC tax credits. Subsequent clarifications issued in August 2025 materially improved the outlook for developers by extending the time periods over which projects can qualify for these production tax credits. Separately, manufacturing tax credits for battery and solar equipment were retained through 2032 (beyond prior expectations), while wind-related manufacturing credits remain scheduled to end in 2027. With this hurdle now cleared, we have seen a resumption and acceleration of activity in the US, as the country's power crisis becomes the dominant issue.

China continues to reap the benefits of decades of investment in sustainable energy technologies, extending its dominance across the clean-tech value chain. Independent tracking suggests China produced 80-85% of all solar modules in 2025, around 70% of all wind turbines and around 70% of all battery electric vehicles. In the second half of the year, China pursued

anti-involution efforts to remove excess manufacturing capacity, eradicate aggressive pricing and improve profitability for manufacturers, thereby improving the country's competitive positioning.

Annual renewable capacity additions by region 2000-25E (GW)



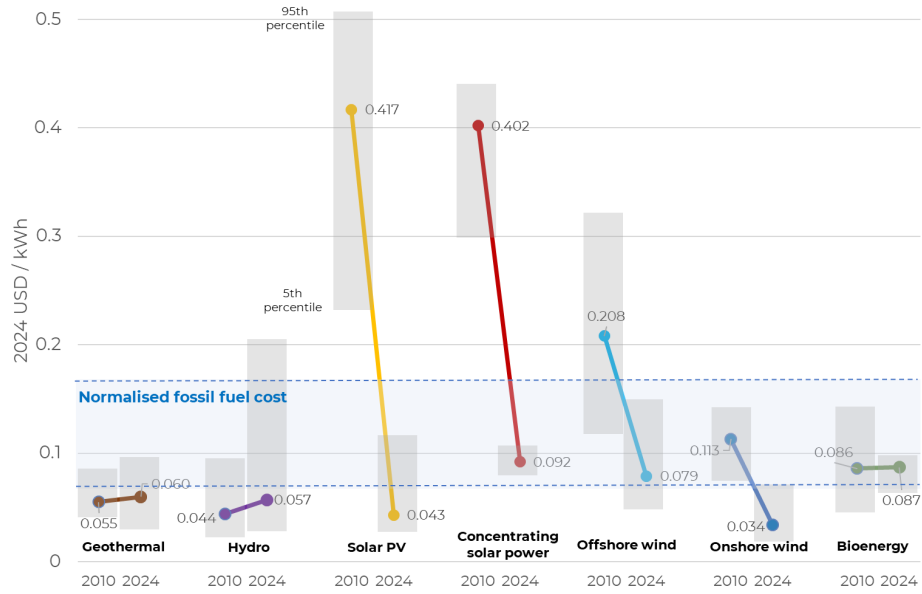
Source: BNEF; Guinness Global Investors

European policy remains supportive of the Energy Transition. In February 2025, the European Commission introduced the Clean Industrial Deal, a policy aimed at boosting the EU's clean manufacturing sector and industrial competitiveness by adding 100GW of renewable energy capacity annually until 2030 and making €100 billion available to support energy-intensive industries such as steel, metals, and chemicals. The deal also proposes streamlining bureaucratic processes, increasing European Investment Bank-backed guarantees for renewable energy projects, and supporting power grid manufacturers. In addition, Germany's debt brake reform (Feb'25), unlocks approximately €1 trillion in additional investment into defence, infrastructure and energy transition projects over the next decade.

Overall, **global investment in clean technologies** continues to grow and is likely to have hit nearly \$2.2trn in 2025 according to the IEA, up by around 10% versus 2024 and twice the spend on coal, oil and gas in the year. Globally, spending on low-emission power generation has almost doubled over the past five years, led by solar PV.

Research from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in 2025 supports the view that renewable electricity is the cheapest form of new electricity supply in most situations. According to their Levelized Cost of Electricity (LCOE) estimates, the cost of wind and solar projects commissioned in 2024 (most recent data) ranged from \$0.03-0.11/kWh, well below the fossil fuel cost range of \$0.08-0.17/kWh. The LCOE of solar and wind remained broadly flat versus 2023 data, as the impacts of higher interest rates, plus the 2022/23 inflation cycle, were offset by greater economies of scale. These technologies are now competitive with the cheapest new fossil-fuel generation, which also produces power at roughly \$0.08/kWh, although inflation in gas turbine costs likely biases these estimates higher for projects commissioned in 2025 and 2026.

Global LCOE of newly commissioned utility-scale renewable power generation technologies (2010-2024)

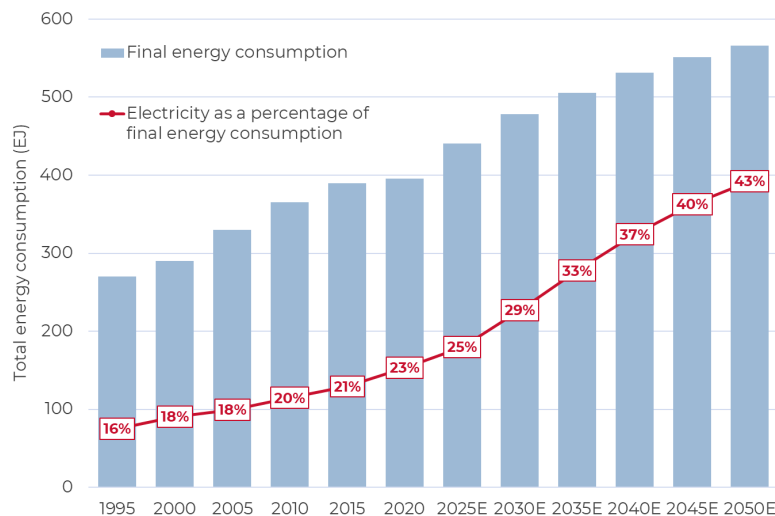


Source: IRENA; Guinness Global Investors, August 2025, percentile ranges from 2024 or 2023 if data if not available

The electrification of demand

The global economy is in the early stages of a secular energy transition, marked by rapid growth in renewable and low-carbon energy sources and the **electrification** of global energy demand. The electrification of the world energy system is driving substantial upward revisions to power demand, and we expect annual growth of around 4% per year from 2025 to 2040, meaning that electricity will ultimately account for 43% of total final energy consumption by 2050. The scale of this demand growth, nearly 90EJ or nearly the size of current global power generation capacity, poses considerable challenges for governments and countries, many of which have historically planned for stagnant or only modestly rising demand.

Total final energy consumption (1990-2040E)



Source: IEA, Guinness estimates, January 2026

The drivers of this electrification trend are broad, and include:

- The electrification of heating and cooling in buildings and manufacturing processes in industry
- The electrification of transportation
- Surging electricity demand from AI and data centres (especially in the United States)

In the near term, the IEA expect global power demand to rise by 3.3% in 2025 and 3.7% in 2026, well above the 2.6% average annual growth seen between 2015-2023. Growth is driven by rising industrial activity, continued electrification, expanding use of appliances and air conditioning, and accelerating demand from data centres, with heatwaves adding further pressure in many regions. As a result, electricity demand is expected to rise at more than twice the rate of total energy demand in both years, underscoring the secular growth of electricity demand. Investment in efficiency-related activities, to help offset the strong demand growth drivers, is expected to have grown 6% in 2025, reaching almost \$800 billion (a 70% increase since 2015 and reflective of a step-change in spending committed to improving efficiency).

Data centres: heaping near-term pressure on power markets, especially in the US

The build out of AI infrastructure and data centres requires vast amounts of electricity and is causing a particular near term issue in the United States. AI data centres run continuously and are growing in scale and complexity; in 2025 alone, the largest hyperscalers are expected to spend \$350bn on AI capex. Whilst forecasting demand growth is challenging due to rapid advances in both hardware efficiency and the scale of AI workloads, we see data centres growing from 4-5% of US power demand to ~12% by 2030, largely driven by AI servers which are 3-5x more energy intensive than traditional servers.

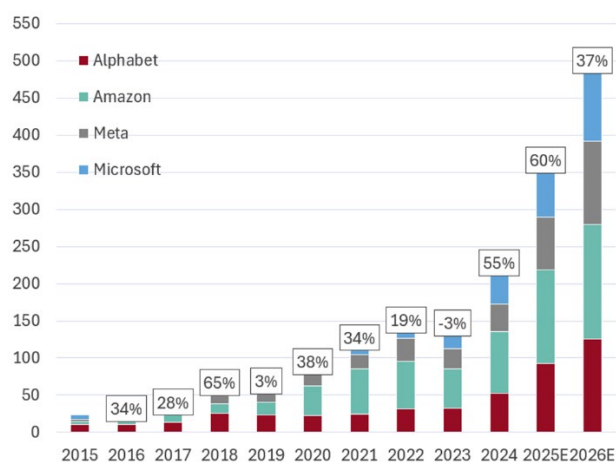
AI demand is also being compounded by the onshoring of manufacturing and the wider electrification of transport, buildings and industry. Investment in new US manufacturing facilities has surged 184% since 2020, driven by semiconductors, batteries, and advanced materials, with the CHIPS Act and IRA spurring over \$500 billion in private investment since 2021.

Looking longer term, the outlook for annual power demand growth to 2040 in the US has increased by almost 8x since 2021 (according to Nextera Energy). To meet this demand growth and reverse a trend of stagnant growth and improved efficiency, the US must rapidly expand generation capacity and address emerging supply constraints.

Annual increase in US electricity demand to 2040
as forecasted by NextEra Energy



Capital expenditure of US hyperscalers (USD\$bn)



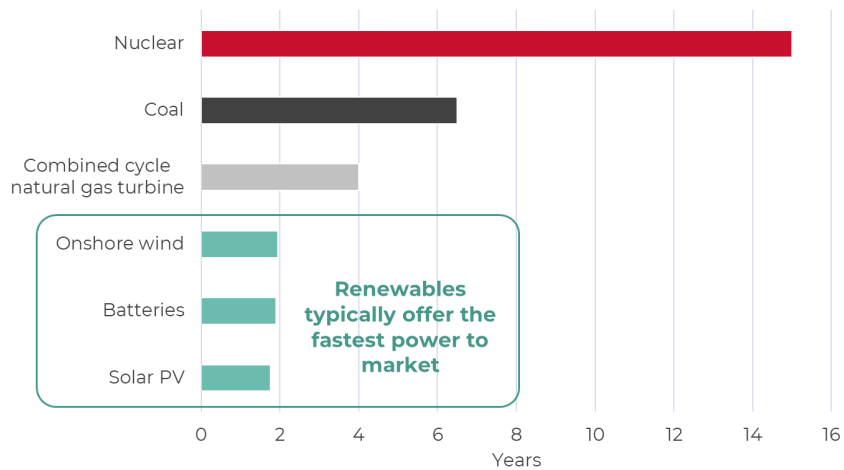
Source: NextEra, Bloomberg, January 2026

As laid out by NextEra, the US's largest electricity provider, the US needs to increase investment in almost all forms of generation. In the short-term, given their speed to market, flexibility, and cost advantages, a combination of renewables and storage are best positioned to deliver new power.

NextEra see "firmed" generation (intermittent renewables backed by storage), as having the lowest levelized cost of generation in 2030. The company reports an estimated cost of \$25-\$50/MWh for new onshore wind (including storage) and \$35-\$75/MWh for new solar (including storage). This is considerably cheaper than new natural gas combined cycle at \$85-\$115/MWh and a small modular reactor (in 2035) at \$130-\$150/MWh.

Average US power plant development timeline (from concept to operation)

Guinness Sustainable Energy



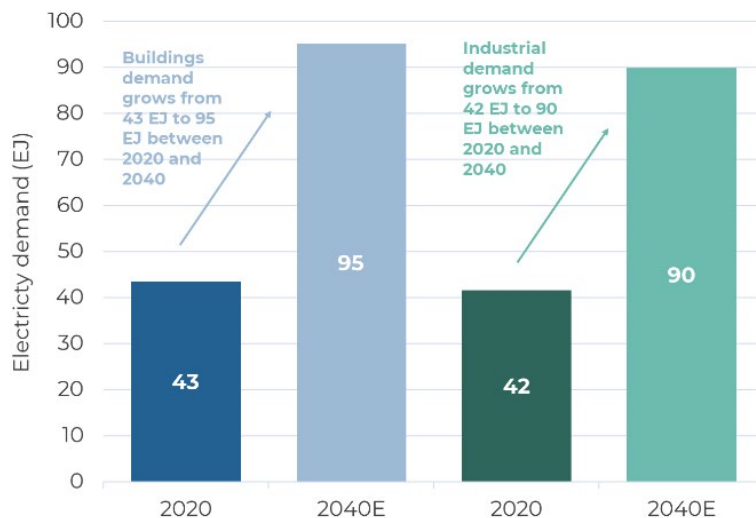
Source: NextEra, August 2025

Despite the urgent need for more electricity, the US has found it increasingly difficult to bring new generation online. Although renewables represent more than 90% of the interconnection queue, an outdated interconnect process means that wait times have grown 70% in the last decade, with key markets seeing wait times of over 7 years. In practice, much of this queue won't translate into real projects as it doesn't take into account grid constraints such as the availability of power equipment and turbines and includes speculative applications from developers looking to reserve places on the grid.

Buildings & industry: electrifying the largest consumers of energy

Buildings and industry are two of the largest consumers of energy, together accounting for almost 70% of final energy demand in 2024. Given the vast existing stock of homes, commercial buildings and industrial facilities, the scope for electrification is enormous, as is the potential for efficiency improvements that can moderate future demand growth. It's worth noting that in our base-case scenario, we assume that significant energy efficiency gains drive energy demand growth of around 1% per year, half the historic rate of nearly 2% per year. Given their size, a substantial share of these efficiency gains will need to come from the buildings and industrial sectors.

Electricity consumption in buildings and industry: 2020 vs 2040 (Exajoules)



Source: IEA, Guinness Global Investors, January 2026

Buildings

The global buildings sector, covering both residential and commercial properties, accounts for around 28% of final energy demand and demand is set to grow further as a growing population drives new housing needs, economic expansion adds commercial floor space, and rising incomes drive demand for heating, cooling, and household appliances.

We see electricity demand increasing by ~2.2x by 2040, growing at an average of 4%pa, with growth driven by heat pumps, heating/cooling and digitalisation.

Industry

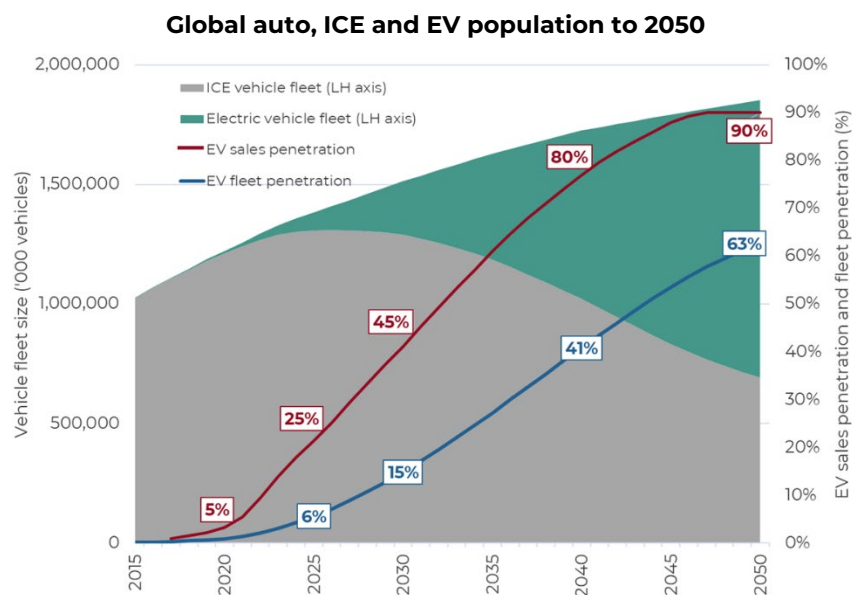
The industrial sector is the largest single consumer of energy globally, accounting for around 40% of final energy demand, and demand will continue to rise as populations expand and economies grow. Today, fossil fuels supply close to 60% of the energy used in emissions-intensive industries such as aluminium, cement, steel and chemicals, underscoring the scale of the electrification opportunity. In these hard-to-abate sectors, large-scale policy frameworks will be essential to displace fossil fuels, with a combination of strong incentives and tighter regulation required to tilt the economics of industrial processes toward cleaner forms of energy.

Within industry, the electrification of heat represents the most significant driver of future electricity demand, supported by the growing automation of production processes and broader uptake of electric motor systems. Tangible progress is already underway across several key technologies including industrial motor systems (pumps, fans, compressors and drives) as well as electric arc furnaces and electric boilers.

Transportation: falling battery costs make electrified transport more economic

The electrification of transport, led by the rapid adoption of electric vehicles (EVs), represents the final major driver of electricity demand growth. EV sales have expanded significantly over the past decade, from roughly 0.5m units in 2015 to 17.5m in 2024, yet the sector remains overwhelmingly reliant on fossil fuels. We expect a >50x increase in the number of EVs on the road in 2040 versus 2020 levels and that transportation's share of world electricity demand will increase. In 2024, transport accounted for 28% of global final energy use but contributed only 2% of global electricity demand, highlighting the substantial runway for electrification ahead.

EV sales have continued to grow at a healthy pace, albeit slower than was expected a few years ago. We expect sales growth of 25% in 2025, with EVs making up 1 in every 4 cars sold and annual sales reaching c.22m. In the long-term, we believe that EV penetration will increase (reaching 45% by 2030 and >80% by 2050) as falling battery costs improve affordability, and technology improvements enhance performance and safety.



Source: US DoE (actual), Guinness Global Investors (estimates) as of January 2026

A key pillar of our forecast for rising EV penetration is the continued decline in battery costs and the resulting improvement in EV relative economics. Battery prices (at \$108/kWh in 2025) have already fallen by 93% since 2010 and are

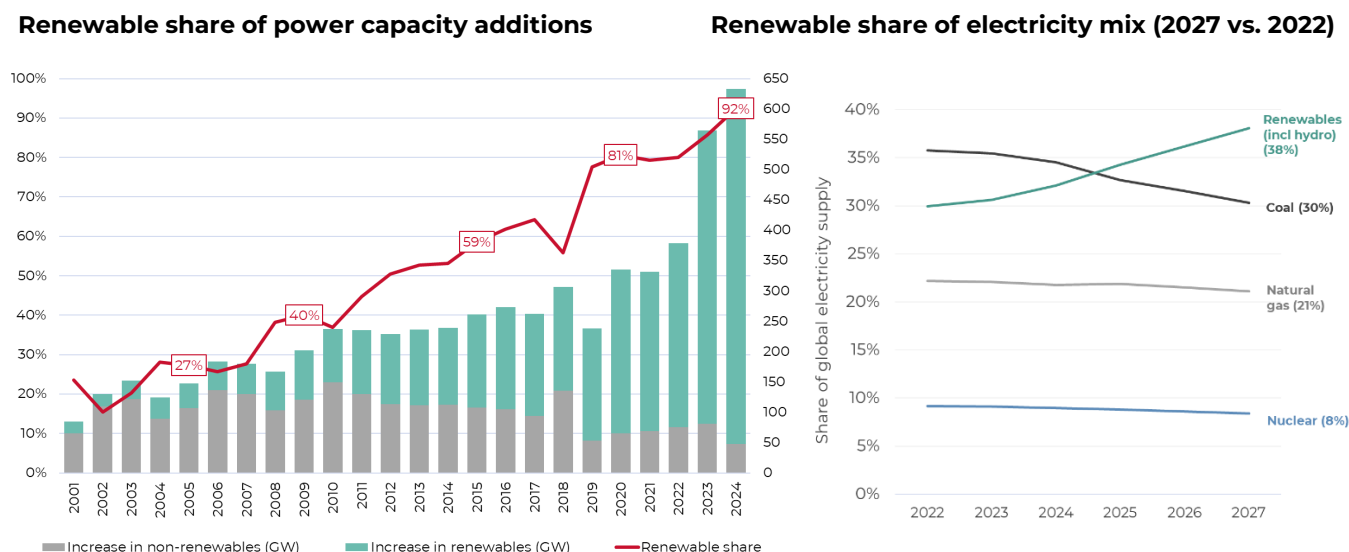
expected to fall below \$100/kWh as early as 2026, a milestone widely seen as enabling cost parity with internal combustion engines. As the industry continues to scale and technology improves, battery costs are projected to decline even further, reaching around \$70/kWh by 2030.

In China, falling battery costs mean that over two-thirds of electric vehicles are cheaper than their internal combustion counterparts. In fact, electric cars have been cheaper in China, on average, than comparable combustion cars since 2023 and, as battery prices fall in other regions, we would expect to see a similar increase in penetration rates.

Renewable energy supply and power grids

Having considered electrification, the key driver of demand, we now turn to the drivers of renewable supply and consider solar, wind and the need for upgrading of the global power grid.

The relative economics of renewable power continue to improve and underpin their continued penetration of the global electricity mix. With 91% of utility-scale projects commissioned in 2024 producing electricity more cheaply than new fossil-fuel alternatives, renewables are now cost-competitive across most major markets. Their share of global capacity additions has risen accordingly, climbing from about 40% in 2010 to more than 90% in 2024. This structural shift is accelerating, and 2025 is expected to mark the point at which renewables (including hydropower) overtake coal as the leading source of global electricity generation.



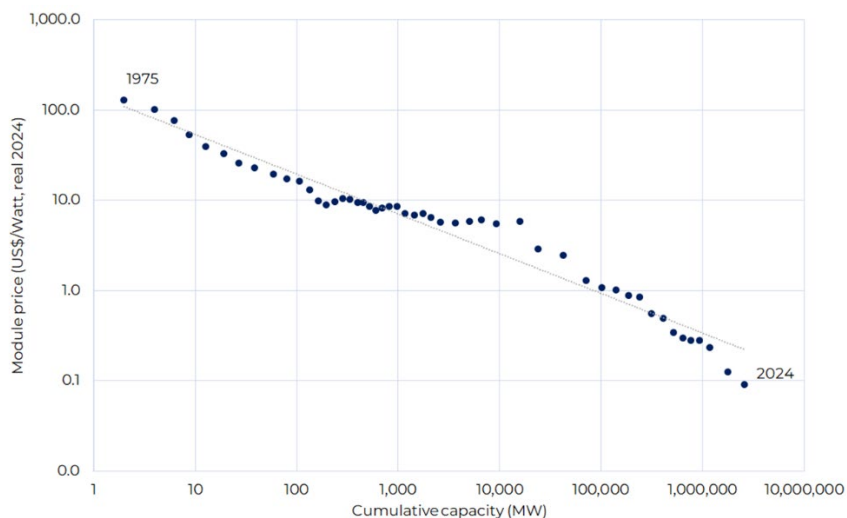
Source: IEA, IRENA, Guinness Global Investors estimates, January 2026

Solar: at the bottom end of the cost curve and growing rapidly

Solar has grown rapidly over the last decade, with annual installations rising more than tenfold. This expansion has undoubtedly been driven by a collapse in systems costs (down over 95% since 2010) and improvements in technology (solar module efficiency has improved 5x over recent decades). The decline in costs has been the result of large-scale manufacturing investment, particularly in China, and the development of a global industrial supply chain that has enabled low-cost solar deployment at unprecedented volumes.

Solar's attractive economics, with average LCOE's of around \$0.04/kWh, leave it at the bottom of the global power-generation cost curve, making it, more often than not, the cheapest source of new electricity. Beyond its cost advantage, solar also benefits from design simplicity and rapid build-out times and, when paired with increasingly affordable storage, offers a pathway to competitively priced, "firmed" renewable power.

Solar module prices (1976 – 2024)



Source: BNEF, Maycock, Guinness Global Investors, January 2026

Thinking long-term, solar is likely to remain the fastest growing source of renewable energy. We expect to see annual solar installations grow medium-to-high single digits per year over the next decade with much of the incremental growth coming from emerging markets, where electricity demand is accelerating and where solar's cost advantage is most pronounced. Power markets such as India, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia remain undeveloped and continue to build project pipelines, pointing to their role in future demand growth.

Wind: record global installations in 2025 with China being dominant

The wind sector has seen more moderate growth over the last decade, with installations almost doubling between 2015-2024. Over this period, larger turbines, higher capacity factors and improved offshore technologies have materially lowered costs and improved reliability, supporting continued demand growth. However, wind projects tend to be larger and more complex than solar; they are more capital intensive, have longer lead times, and can be more exposed to permitting delays and supply chain disruptions. As a result, the industry has grown more slowly than solar, despite having comparable LCOE profiles. Over the past 5 years, much of the industry's growth has been supported by the large-scale build out of capacity in mainland China, accounting for about 50% of the industry total installed base as of 2024. This is set to continue with China adding 66% of annual global installations in 2025.

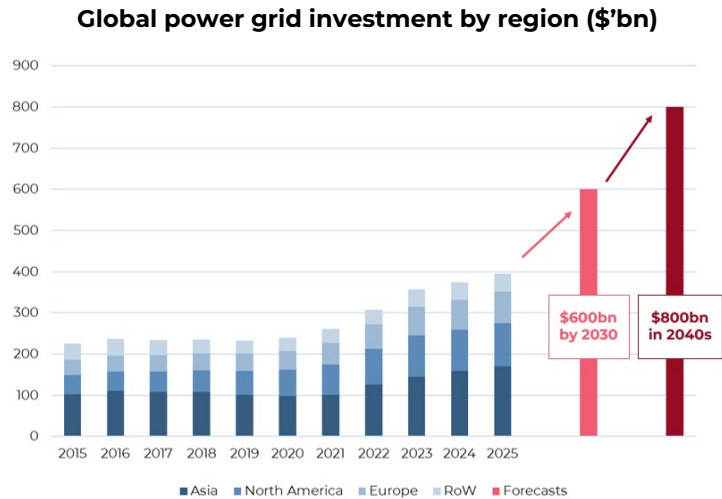
The outlook for global wind demand near term will largely depend upon how China adjusts to its new market-based power regime. The country has replaced fixed feed-in tariffs with liberalised market trading, meaning that renewables are competing head-on with fossil fuels. Whilst this will likely introduce short-term headwinds and lower expectations for installations in 2026, we are encouraged by the announcement of updated targets to install 120 GW of new capacity every year between now and 2030, including 15 GW of offshore capacity. Outside of China, the global wind market is increasingly diversifying with strong contributions from India, Europe and parts of Southeast Asia. The offshore market is set for a step up in 2026, with project completions due across a range of markets such as the UK, Vietnam and France. In the longer-term, we expect wind installations to grow at 6-7% per year through 2030, with the smaller offshore market growing at a higher rate of around 20%.

Power grids: a multi-year expansion, replacement and digitalisation cycle ahead

The global power grid requires substantial and sustained investment to integrate an ever-growing pipeline of renewables and support the rising demands of an electrified world. Put simply, the grid needs to be larger, smarter and more resilient to enable the energy transition to continue at pace. Long-term growth drivers include expansion, replacement, digitalisation and load growth improvements.

Looking ahead, BNEF expect average global capex growth of 11% per year between 2025-2027, levels that are structurally higher than recent years. In the US, utilities companies have laid out multi-year investment plans in response to data centre demand, with five companies alone expected to spend \$255 billion by 2029. In Europe, planned spending is set to grow from around \$26 billion in 2024, to around \$70 billion in 2028. China will continue to lead spending growth in Asia, with preliminary plans suggesting spending will grow 11% per year between 2022-2027.

Whilst grid spending appears to have entered a period of structurally higher growth, it still falls below the spending level required to connect new renewables, unblock interconnect queues, and meet the level of forecast demand growth. Annual investment will need to reach over \$600 billion per year by 2030 to put spending on track, growing further to average \$800 billion per year through the 2040s.



Source: Rystad, IEA; September 2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Issued by Guinness Global Investors, a trading name of Guinness Asset Management Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). SEC registration does not imply a level of skill or training.

This report is primarily designed to inform you about the Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund and the WS Guinness Sustainable Energy Fund. It may provide information about the Funds' portfolios, including recent activity and performance. It contains facts relating to the equity markets and our own interpretation. Any investment decision should take account of the subjectivity of the comments contained in the report.

This document is provided for information only and all the information contained in it is believed to be reliable but may be inaccurate or incomplete; any opinions stated are honestly held at the time of writing but are not guaranteed. The contents of the document should not therefore be relied upon. It should not be taken as a recommendation to make an investment in the Funds or to buy or sell individual securities, nor does it constitute an offer for sale. OCFs for all share classes are available on www.guinnessgi.com. If you decide to invest, you will be buying shares in the Fund and will not be investing directly in the underlying assets of the Fund.

GUINNESS SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUND

Documentation

The documentation needed to make an investment, including the Prospectus, Supplement, the Key Investor Information Document (KIID), Key Information Document (KID) and the Application Form, is available in English from www.guinnessgi.com or free of charge from the Manager: Waystone Management Company (IE) Limited 2nd Floor 35 Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin D04 A4E0, Ireland; or the Promoter and Investment Manager: Guinness Asset Management Ltd, 18 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ.

Waystone IE is a company incorporated under the laws of Ireland having its registered office at 35 Shelbourne Rd, Ballsbridge, Dublin, D04 A4E0 Ireland, which is authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland, has appointed Guinness Asset Management Ltd as Investment Manager to this fund, and as Manager has the right to terminate the arrangements made for the marketing of funds in accordance with the UCITS Directive.

Investor Rights

A summary of investor rights, including collective redress mechanisms, is available in English here: <https://www.waystone.com/waystone-policies/>

Residency

In countries where the Fund is not registered for sale or in any other circumstances where its distribution is not authorised or is unlawful, the Fund should not be

distributed to resident Retail Clients. **NOTE: THIS INVESTMENT IS NOT FOR SALE TO U.S. PERSONS.**

Structure & regulation

The Fund is a sub-fund of Guinness Asset Management Funds PLC (the "Company"), an open-ended umbrella-type investment company, incorporated in Ireland and authorised and supervised by the Central Bank of Ireland, which operates under EU legislation. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of investing in this Fund, please consult your investment or other professional adviser.

Switzerland

This is an advertising document. The prospectus and KID for Switzerland, the articles of association, and the annual and semi-annual reports can be obtained free of charge from the representative in Switzerland, REYL & Cie S.A., Rue du Rhône 4, 1204 Geneva. The paying agent is Banque Cantonale de Genève, 17 Quai de l'Île, 1204 Geneva.

Singapore

The Fund is not authorised or recognised by the Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS") and shares are not allowed to be offered to the retail public. The Fund is registered with the MAS as a Restricted Foreign Scheme. Shares of the Fund may only be offered to institutional and accredited investors (as defined in the Securities and Futures Act (Cap.289)) ("SFA") and this material is limited to the investors in those categories.

Australia

For professional investors only.

WS GUINNESS SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUND

Documentation

The documentation needed to make an investment, including the Prospectus, the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) and the Application Form, is available in English from www.waystone.com/our-funds/waystone-fund-services-uk-limited/ or free of charge from Waystone Management (UK) Limited, PO Box 389, Darlington DL1 9UF. General Enquiries: 0345 922 0044. E-Mail: wtas-investorservices@waystone.com.

Waystone Management (UK) limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Residency

The Fund is registered for distribution to the public in the UK but not in any other jurisdiction. In other countries or in circumstances where its distribution is not authorised or is unlawful, the Fund should not be distributed to resident Retail Clients.

Structure & regulation

The Fund is a sub-fund of WS Guinness Investment Funds, an investment company with variable capital

incorporated with limited liability and registered by the Financial Conduct Authority.

GUINNESS SUSTAINABLE ENERGY UCITS ETF

Documentation

The documentation needed to make an investment, including the Prospectus, the Key Investor Information Document (KIID), Key Information Document (KID) and the Application Form, is available in English from www.guinnessgi.com, www.hanetf.com or free of charge from the Administrator: J.P. Morgan Administration Services (Ireland) Limited, 200 Capital Dock, 79 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2 DO2 F985; or the Investment Manager: Guinness Asset Management Ltd, 18 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ.

Residency

In countries where the Fund is not registered for sale or in any other circumstances where its distribution is not authorised or is unlawful, the Fund should not be distributed to resident Retail Clients. **NOTE: THIS INVESTMENT IS NOT FOR SALE TO U.S. PERSONS.**

Structure & regulation

The Fund is a sub-fund of HANetf ICAV, an Irish collective asset management vehicle umbrella fund with segregated liability between sub-funds which is registered in Ireland by the Central Bank of Ireland and authorised under the UCITS Regulations.

Glossary of Terms: A glossary explaining key investment terms used in our marketing materials is available here: <https://www.guinnessgi.com/glossary>

Telephone calls will be recorded and monitored.