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CLEAN EDGE ANNOUNCES SEMI-ANNUAL CHANGES TO ITS FAMILY OF CLEAN ENERGY, SMART GRID, AND WATER INDEXES

Portland, OR, March 19, 2018 — Clean Edge, Inc. today announced the results of the semi-annual evaluation of the following stock indexes:

- [Nasdaq® Clean Edge® Green Energy Index](#) (CELS)
- [Nasdaq® Clean Edge® Smart Grid Infrastructure Index](#) (QGRD)
- [ISE Clean Edge Water Index](#) (HHO)
- [ISE Clean Edge Global Wind Energy Index](#) (GWE)

All changes became effective prior to today's market open.

“As the markets for clean energy, smart grid, and water mature, we are constantly looking at ways to best capture industry-related activity and innovation,” explains Clean Edge managing director Ron Pernick. “Clean technologies used to sit in silos, but now we are seeing a convergence of technologies – renewables, energy storage, electric vehicles, digital utilities, and more – enabling entirely new products and services.”

As part of the recent changes, Clean Edge has expanded the definitions for QGRD to include companies involved in electric vehicle networks and smart grid and grid infrastructure-enabling software technologies such as blockchain. As a result, newly added constituents include such companies as BYD, Autoliv, Aptiv, Cisco, IBM, Nvidia, and Oracle. For CELS, Clean Edge is now tracking firms that receive a majority of their revenues and/or profit from lithium-ion production (used in electric vehicles and for energy storage), resulting in the addition of both Albermarle and SQM.

Nasdaq Clean Edge Green Energy Index (CELS):

The following securities have been added to the CELS Index: Albermarle (NYSE: ALB), Ameresco (NYSE: AMRC), DAQO New Energy (NYSE: DQ), Enphase Energy (NASDAQ: ENPH), Littlefuse (NASDAQ: LFUS), SQM (NYSE: SQM), and TerraForm Power (NASDAQ: TERP).

The Nasdaq Clean Edge Green Energy Index is designed to track the performance of clean-energy companies that are publicly traded in the U.S. The Index includes companies engaged in the manufacturing, development, distribution, and installation of emerging clean-energy technologies such as solar photovoltaics, advanced batteries, hybrid and electric vehicles, and renewable materials. The four major sub-sectors that the index covers are Renewable Electricity Generation; Energy Storage & Conversion; Energy Intelligence; and Advanced Energy-Related Materials. The securities must also meet other eligibility criteria which include minimum requirements for market value, average daily share volume, and price. The Nasdaq® Clean Edge® Green Energy Index is re-ranked semi-annually in March and September.

The Index is the basis for the [First Trust Nasdaq Clean Edge Green Energy Index Fund \(QCLN\)](#), which seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield of the Nasdaq Clean Edge Green Energy Index before fees and expenses.

As a result of the evaluation, the following securities have been removed from the Index: Green Plains (NASDAQ: GPRE), Pacific Ethanol (NASDAQ: PEIX), 8Point3 Energy Partners (NASDAQ: CAFD), and JA Solar Holdings (NASDAQ: JASO).

Nasdaq Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure Index (QGRD):

The following securities have been added to the QGRD Index: BYD (HONG KONG: 1211), Advantech (TAIWAN: 2395), Analog Devices (NASDAQ: ADI), Autoliv (NYSE: ALV), Aptiv (NYSE: APTV), Belden (NYSE: BDC), Cisco (NASDAQ: CSCO), Enphase Energy (NASDAQ: ENPH), IBM (NYSE: IBM), Nvidia (NASDAQ: NVDA), Oracle (NYSE: ORCL), STMicroelectronics – ADR (NYSE: STM); and Tesla (NASDAQ: TSLA).

The Index is designed to act as a transparent and liquid benchmark for the smart grid and electric infrastructure sector. The Index includes companies that are primarily engaged and involved in electric grid; electric meters, devices, and networks; energy storage and electric vehicle network management; and enabling software used by the smart grid and electric infrastructure sector. The securities must also meet other eligibility criteria which include minimum requirements for market capitalization and average daily dollar trading volume. The Nasdaq OMX Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure Index is evaluated semi-annually in March and September.

As a result of the evaluation, the following security has been removed from the Index: Wasion Group Holdings (Hong Kong: 3393).

[The First Trust Nasdaq® Clean Edge® Smart Grid Infrastructure Index Fund](#) (NASDAQ:GRID), is an exchange traded fund that seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield, before the Fund's fees and expenses, of the Nasdaq OMX® Clean Edge® Smart Grid Infrastructure Index.

ISE Clean Edge Water Index (HHO):

The following securities have been added to the HHO Index: Evoqua Water Technologies (NYSE: AQUA) and Energy Recovery Inc. (NASDAQ:ERII).

The Clean Edge ISE Water Index is designed to track the performance of U.S.-listed companies that derive a substantial portion of their revenues from the potable water and wastewater industry. Industry exposure includes water distribution, infrastructure (pumps, pipes and valves), water solutions (purification and filtration), and ancillary services such as consulting, construction and metering. The securities must also meet other eligibility criteria which include minimum requirements for market value and average daily share volume. Securities which meet eligibility criteria are then ranked in descending order by market capitalization and the top 36 securities are selected as Index Securities. The ISE Clean Edge Water Index is re-ranked semi-annually in March and September.

As a result of the evaluation, the following security has been removed from the Index: AquaVenture Holdings (NYSE: WAAS).

The Index is the basis for the [First Trust Water ETF](#) (FIW), which seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield of the ISE Clean Edge Water Index before fees and expenses.

ISE Clean Edge Global Wind Energy Index (GWE):

The following securities have been added to the GWE Index: Terna Energy (ATHENS: TENERGY) and American Superconductor (NASDAQ: AMSC).

The ISE Clean Edge Global Wind Energy Index is designed to track the performance of companies that are primarily engaged and involved in the wind energy industry based on analysis of the products and services offered by those companies (including both pure play

companies focused on the wind energy sector and diversified multinationals with wind energy sector exposure). The securities must also meet other eligibility criteria which include minimum requirements for market value and average daily share volume. The ISE Clean Edge Global Wind Energy Index is re-ranked semi-annually in March and September.

As a result of the evaluation, the following security has been removed from the Index:
NRG Energy (NYSE: NRG).

The Index is the basis for the [First Trust Global Wind Energy ETF](#) (FAN), which seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield of the ISE Clean Edge Global Wind Energy Index before fees and expenses.

About Clean Edge, Inc.

Clean Edge, Inc., founded in 2000, serves corporate, government, NGO, utility, and financial clients working to transition to a low-carbon future. Products and services include stock indexes tracking U.S. and global clean energy, water, and grid infrastructure markets; benchmarking reports tracking states, metros, and utilities; and events that regularly convene hundreds of industry innovators and stakeholders. To keep abreast of the latest clean-tech trends, or for more information on the company, visit www.cleandedge.com.

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