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Clean Edge Announces Semi-Annual Stock Index Changes for CELS, QGRD, HHO, and GWE

Portland, OR, September 23, 2019 — Clean Edge, Inc. today announced the results of the semi-annual evaluation of the following indexes:

- [NASDAQ Clean Edge Green Energy Index](#) (CELS)
- [NASDAQ OMX 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.

Exchange traded funds (ETFs) based on the indexes are offered by First Trust, under the ticker symbols QCLN, GRID, FIW, and FAN respectively. As of September 16, 2019, First Trust ETFs tracking the indexes equaled a collective \$680 million in assets under management.

NASDAQ Clean Edge Green Energy Index (CELS):

The following security has been added to the CELS Index: Ameresco Inc (NYSE: AMRC).

No securities were removed as a result of this evaluation.

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.

NASDAQ OMX Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure Index (QGRD):

The following securities have been added to the QGRD Index: Hitachi (TYO: 6501) and Terna SPA (BIT: TRN).

No securities were removed as a result of this evaluation.

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.

[The First Trust NASDAQ® Clean Edge® Smart Grid Infrastructure Index Fund](#) (NASDAQ:GRID), is an ETF 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):

No securities were added to or removed from the HHO Index as a result of this evaluation.

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.

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: Eolus Vind AB (STO: EOLU B), Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (TYO: 7011), and Sif Group (AMS: SIFG).

As a result of the evaluation, the following securities have been removed from the Index: Audax Renovables SA (BME: ADX), Dongkuk Structures & Construction Co Ltd (KOSDAQ: 100130), Infigen Energy (ASX: IFN), and Unison Co Ltd (KOSDAQ: 018000).

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.

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 clients working to transition to a clean-energy and low-carbon economy. The firm is a clean-tech stock indexing pioneer, having published its first index with Nasdaq in 2006. Current stock indexes track the U.S. and global clean energy, water, transportation, and grid infrastructure markets. Clean Edge, along with the GridWise Alliance, also co-produces the annual gridCONNEXt conference, convening hundreds of industry innovators and stakeholders working to build a modern 21st century grid. To keep abreast of the latest clean-tech trends, or for more information on the company, visit www.cleandedge.com.

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