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## **CLEAN EDGE ANNOUNCES SEMI-ANNUAL STOCK INDEX CHANGES FOR CELS, QGRD, HHO, AND GWE**

**Portland, OR, September 19, 2022** — 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 12, 2022, First Trust ETFs tracking the indexes collectively equaled more than \$4 billion in assets under management.

### **NASDAQ Clean Edge Green Energy Index (CELS):**

The following securities have been added to the CELS Index: Advent Technologies Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: ADN), Allego N.V. (NYSE: ALLG), Altus Power, Inc. (NYSE: AMPS), ESS Tech, Inc. (NYSE: GWH), Gogoro, Inc. (NASDAQ: GGR), Lucid Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: LCID), Montauk Renewables, Inc. (NASDAQ: MNTK), Rivian Automotive, Inc. (NASDAQ: RIVN), and Tritium DCFC Limited (NASDAQ: DCFC).

Effective September 19, 2022, the following new eligibility criteria has been added to the CELS index: “A security’s issuer must not be identified by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as having used to audit its financial statements an accounting firm that has been identified by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) under the Holding Foreign Companies Accountable Act (HFCAA).”

As a result of the evaluation and/or intra-quarterly changes, the following securities have been removed from the Index: Canadian Solar, Inc. (NASDAQ: CSIQ), Daqo New Energy Corp. (NYSE: DQ), Eos Energy Enterprises, Inc. (NASDAQ: EOSE), Infrastructure & Energy Alternatives, Inc. (NASDAQ: IEA), JinkoSolar Holding Co., Ltd. (NASDAQ: JKS), Microvast Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: MVST), NIO, Inc. (NYSE: NIO), Niu Technologies (NASDAQ: NIU), Romeo Power, Inc. (New York: RMO), ReneSola Ltd. (NASDAQ: SOL), Willdan Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: WLDN), and XPeng, Inc. (NASDAQ: XPEV).

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: EDP-Energias de Portugal S.A. (Lisbon: EDP), Grupo Energisa S.A. (São Paulo: ENGI11), Hydro One Ltd. (Toronto: H), Iberdrola

S.A. (Madrid: IBE), National Instruments Corp. (NASDAQ: NATI), QUALCOMM, Inc. (NASDAQ: QCOM), Renesas Electronics Corp. (Tokyo: 6723), Texas Instruments Inc. (NASDAQ: TXN), and Verbund AG (Vienna: VER).

As a result of the evaluation and/or intra-quarterly changes, the following securities have been removed from the Index: Enel Américas S.A. (NYSE: ENIA), NEC Corp. (Tokyo: 6701), Osaki Electric Co., Ltd. (Tokyo: 6644), PSI Software AG (Xetra: PSAN), and Wasion Holdings Ltd. (Tokyo: 3393).

The NASDAQ OMX Clean Edge Smart Grid Infrastructure 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):**

There were no additions or removals from the HHO Index as a result of the latest 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: Aeris Indústria e Comércio de Equipamentos para Geração de Energia S.A. (São Paulo: AERI3), Century Iron & Steel Industrial Co., Ltd. (Taiwan: 9958), ERG S.p.A. (Milan: ERG), Omega Energia S.A. (São Paulo: MEGA3), Owens Corning (NYSE: OC), and OX2 AB (Stockholm: OX2).

As a result of the evaluation and/or intra-quarterly changes, the following securities have been removed from the Index: Falck Renewables S.p.A. (Milan: FKR), Infrastructure & Energy Alternatives, Inc. (NASDAQ: IEA), and Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy S.A. (Madrid: SGRE).

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, is a developer and publisher of thematic stock indexes tracking clean energy, transportation, water, and the grid. The firm's first index, the Nasdaq Clean Edge Green Energy Index (CELS), was launched with Nasdaq in 2006. Financial products tracking the firm's indexes and universes exceed \$4 billion in assets under management (as of September 13, 2022). Clean Edge Founder Ron Pernick is the co-author of two books, including *The Clean Tech Revolution* (HarperCollins, 2007), the first book to chronicle the growth and investment opportunity of clean technology. To keep abreast of the latest clean-tech trends, or for more information on the company, visit [www.cleandedge.com](http://www.cleandedge.com).

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