

Excerpt from Reuters, February 15, 2013

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/obama-gives-green-energy-funds-161418328.html>

Obama gives green energy funds a jump-start

In the wake of yet another monster storm in the Northeastern U.S., we are once again reminded of the need to address climate change, which is like a Grendel that keeps coming out of its cave to ravage us with increasingly violent weather.

The President outlined new initiatives on climate change in the State of the Union address on Tuesday. If they gain traction in Washington, it will give a boost to stocks and exchange-traded funds that invest in alternative energy and global warming solutions.

"If Congress won't act soon to protect future generations, I will," President Obama said.

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CLEAN ENERGY FUNDS

The clean energy sector, which has been lagging because of uncertainty over public investment and tax credits for alternative energy in the U.S., is due for a turnaround.

The PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy ETF, one of the largest funds by assets in this sector, is down 21 percent over the past three years and off 26 percent over the past five through January 30. Its holdings include the solar-energy company Suntech Power Holdings Co Ltd and Gentherm Inc, which makes alternative heating and precision climate control equipment, among other devices. The fund has returned 3 percent through January 30. It could benefit from increased investment in clean energy.

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