

Excerpt from Motley Fool, January 5, 2014

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/business/2014/01/05/renewable-energy-investments-varied.html>

Motley Fool: Renewable-energy investments varied

Q: What companies should I look at to invest in renewable energy?

— S.R., Miami

A: You could invest in smaller companies with tight focuses on niches in the sector, but you can't know which of them will win out in the long run.

You might instead opt for a reliable utility company with alternative energies in its mix. Or perhaps consider some big companies with significant renewable operations. (Utilities and large-cap companies tend to offer dividends, as well.)

ABB Ltd. (NYSE: ABB) provides power and automation technologies worldwide and is a major developer of solar- and wind-power projects, such as big onshore wind farms in Europe. It recently bought Power-One, a leading manufacturer of solar-power inverters.

Then there's General Electric (NYSE: GE), known for its jet engines, light bulbs and much more. It's also beefing up its investment in alternative energies. Along with Siemens AG (NYSE: SI), GE is a global leader in wind turbines.

You might also consider some mutual fund-like exchange-traded funds, such as the ... or the PowerShares Global Clean Energy Portfolio (NYSE Arca: PBD). They offer easy exposure to dozens of alternative-energy companies, many on the small side.

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