

VanEck Global Clean Energy ETF (CLNE)

Ethical Survey, as voted by members of the Ethical Advisers Co-Op



As voted by Ethical Adviser Co-op members. Find a specialised ethical adviser near you: www.ethicaladviserscoop.org/find-an-adviser.html

Fund Overview

CLNE is a passive ETF that gives investors a diversified portfolio of 30 of the largest and most liquid companies involved in clean energy production and associated tech and equipment globally.

Ethical Concerns

Investments

- ✘ Some investments in the Fund may be problematic for ethical investors, such as:
 - Nuclear power generation: Chubu Electric Power Co
 - Complicity in forced labour supply chain: Daqo New Energy Corp and Jinkosolar Holding Co Ltd. Both these companies have received fines in relation to slave labour concerns in their supply chains.

Other concerns

- ✘ No negative screens in place. Can potentially result/results in unwanted exposures within the portfolio.
- ✘ VanEck does not specialise in ethical investments.

Good Points

- ✓ The fund preferences sustainability leaders, selecting companies from several positive industries including renewables.
- ✓ Provides a [Charter](#) detailing the ethical screening process, see links overleaf
- ✓ Commitment to transparency by being [UNPRI](#) signatory and [RIAA](#) certified, see links overleaf
- ✓ Good transparency of holdings and voting history, both easily accessed via the public website, see links overleaf.

Fund Overview

UNPRI Signatory	Yes https://www.unpri.org/signatory-directory/vaneck/2664.article
Full Holdings Disclosure	Yes https://www.vaneck.com.au/etf/equity/clne/holdings/
RIAA Certification	Yes https://www.responsiblereturns.com.au/investment-options/vaneck-global-clean-energy-etf/profile
Disclosure of Voting	Yes https://www.vaneck.com.au/library/ri/
Ethical Screening Process	<p>Website: https://www.vaneck.com.au/etf/equity/clne/snapshot/ Responsible investment policy: https://www.vaneck.com.au/library/ri/</p> <p>PDS: https://www.vaneck.com.au/globalassets/home.au/media/managedassets/library/assets/regulatory/20210929-pds-clne.pdf</p>
Exclusions	<p>The Fund does not have any specific screens or exclusions</p> <p>CLNE tracks the S&P Global Clean Energy Select Index measures the performance of 30 of the largest and most liquid companies with businesses related to clean energy production and associated technology and equipment globally, from both developed and emerging markets. Relevant business activities include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • biofuel & biomass energy production , technology & equipment • ethanol & fuel alcohol production • fuel cells technology & equipment • geothermal energy production • hydro electricity production, turbines & other equipment • solar energy production, photo voltaic cells & equipment • wind energy production, turbines & other equipment <p>https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/indices/esg/sp-global-clean-energy-select-index/</p>
Materiality/Exposure Limits	N/A

About the 'Ethical Survey'

About the Ethical Advisers Co-Op

The Ethical Advisers Co-op is a group of 35 financial advisers who are passionate about ethics and finance. The Co-op was established as a not-for-profit over 10 years ago to enable likeminded financial advisers to work together to represent the voice of the consumer. We work to shift the super and investment industry into being more ethically aligned with their clients' objectives. The Co-op's nationwide membership of ethical financial advisers help over 3,300 Australians make financial decisions and invest in line with their ethical values.

How the Leaf-System Works

The ethical rating is voted by Australian financial advisers who specialise in ethical investments (Co-op members). The advisers assess if fund ethics suit their average ethical client, and if it matches with the average client's expectations and objectives. The advisers consider how successful the fund is at; 1) removing industries and stocks harmful to the environment and society 2) including companies with environmental or social benefits, and 3) providing evidence of actions from the fund which benefit society and/or the environment. The quality of information the fund provides on its ethical policies, companies invested in, and proxy voting is important in assessing if a fund is as ethical as claimed. The final rating is an average of these votes.

Financial advisers are voluntarily participating to help ethical consumers gain a quick understanding of how the clients of a group of industry professionals view the ethics of each fund. The Co-op and the advisers do not receive any form of remuneration or reward for participating.

Further Research

Does your fund walk the talk?

The Australasian Centre for Corporate Responsibility (ACCR) – a not-for-profit shareholder advocacy organisation – pushes for transparency around whether your super fund 'walks the talk' on issues such as climate and human rights. You can find details on your super fund [here](#).

Is your fund investing in fossil fuels?

Market Forces is a not-for-profit delivering transparency on fossil fuel lending, insuring and investing within super funds, banks and insurance companies. You can see how exposed your super fund, bank or insurance company is to the fossil fuel industry [here](#).

If the fund is certified by the Responsible Investment Association Australasia (RIAA)

You can find more ethical and investment information for certified funds [here](#).

More information on this fund

For exact details of the fund's claimed ethics, costs and legal details see the fund's Product Disclosure Statement - available on their website.

Vote based on information last updated 3 August 2022