

11 March 2022

**NextEnergy Group announces its new renewable development division
“Starlight” with a 5GW global pipeline**



NextEnergy Group, a leading player in the global solar sector, is pleased to introduce **Starlight**, a new company within the NextEnergy Group focused on renewable asset development globally.

Since 2008 the NextEnergy Group has developed over 100 utility-scale solar plants with an installed capacity in excess of 2GW, significantly contributing to global climate change mitigation. Starlight has been established to capture, consolidate and rapidly expand the Group’s renewable energy project development experience and presence.

Starlight will initially target and develop early-stage solar PV projects with a focus on key NextEnergy Group geographies where the team already has existing experience. Further plans include but are not limited to expansion into other jurisdictions and in energy storage, wind (both onshore and offshore) and green hydrogen projects. Starlight will benefit from the Group’s industry-leading ESG practices and quality assurance processes. Development projects will mainly target greenfield and brownfield sites and Starlight is keen to work alongside local developers in its new jurisdictions.

Starlight has been set up with the internal reassignment of a team of over 30 professionals and c.2.2GW of solar PV projects at various stages of development and operating assets in Italy and the UK, including Llanwern, at 75MWp the largest operating solar PV plant in the UK and a range of innovative agri-voltaic solar projects. A further pipeline of 1.3GW has been recently added in Greece and a further projects are being assessed in the US, Poland, Spain, Chile and India. Starlight has a target to fully develop 5GW of renewable energy assets within three years across various international jurisdictions, including the Americas, Europe and Asia.

This initiative sets another benchmark for NextEnergy Group as it continues to be a leading player in the in the global solar sector, having already invested over \$3.2bn in solar assets across four different continents. NextEnergy Group operates via its three business units: NextEnergy Capital (Investment

Management), WiseEnergy (Operating Asset Management) and Starlight (Project Development), covering the full life cycle of solar and other technologies going forward.

Aldo Beolchini, Group CIO and Head of Development at Starlight said: “Our ambition with Starlight is to create an ethical, global project development business that continues to contribute to the NextEnergy Group mission in leading the transition to clean energy. We are focusing on developing innovative, sustainable and high-quality projects. It’s a natural evolution as the Group has been successfully developing solar assets since 2008. Now Starlight adds to the Group’s capabilities, creating new synergies and strengthening our position as one of the leaders across the global renewable energy sector”.

Gianluca Boccanera, Managing Director at Starlight added: “This is a truly exciting milestone for the NextEnergy Group. Starlight has instantly benefitted from the existing team's deep knowledge in the solar sector and is seeking to grow its team further as well as to work in partnership with local developers. The entrance in the Greek market for the development of a solar PV pipeline of 1.3GW is only a first step to expand our current leadership in the Italian and UK markets, in conjunction with the early development of other types of renewable energy projects”.

About NextEnergy Group

NextEnergy Group is a leading player in the global solar and renewable energy sector with a mission to generate a more sustainable future by leading the transition to clean energy. The Group has over 200 global staff members, operates in nine countries across Europe, the Americas and India, and is comprised of three key independent specialist companies and a charitable foundation.

The Group:

- **Starlight:** a developer focused on the development and construction phase of solar and other renewable energy projects worldwide www.starlight-energy.com
- **NextEnergy Capital:** a global investment manager in the solar sector which has launched four solar funds to date (NESF, NP11, NP111 ESG and NPUK ESG) - www.nextenergycapital.com/:
 - **NextEnergy Solar Fund (“NESF”):** a solar infrastructure investment company listed on the premium segment of the London Stock Exchange focused on operational, subsidised solar assets and energy storage in the UK and international solar assets in OECD countries - www.nextenergysolarfund.com/.
 - **NextPower II (“NP11”):** recently successfully exited.

- *NextPower III ESG ("NPIII ESG")*: a private ESG fund investing in operational, in-construction and pre-construction solar infrastructure projects primarily in OECD countries.
- *NextPower UK ESG ("NPUK ESG")*: a private ESG fund investing into unlevered, contracted and unsubsidised new build solar plants in the UK with significant backing from the UK government-owned, UK Infrastructure Bank.
- **WiseEnergy**: a market-leading solar asset manager delivering technical services across all elements of the solar asset's life - www.wise-energy.com/.
- **NextEnergy Foundation**: a foundation with a mission to alleviate poverty through clean energy access and emissions reductions - www.nextenergyfoundation.org/.

Further information on the Group please visit www.nextenergygroup.com.

Contacts

Starlight

Aldo Beolchini

Gianluca Boccanera

Tel: +44 (0) 203 746 0700

Email: info@nextenergycapital.com