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NextPower UK ESG

Standalone Battery Energy Storage System Acquisition

NextEnergy Capital (“NEC”), a leading global renewables manager specialised on the solar+ infrastructure sector, is pleased to announce that NextPower UK ESG (“NPUK”) has acquired a 29MW, two-hour duration standalone Battery Energy Storage System (“BESS”) project called ‘Rutherglen’, marking NPUK’s 13th acquisition into the NPUK, and its third acquisition in November.

Rutherglen is a ready-to-build BESS project which offers an attractive grid connection and an estimated commercial operation date in 2026. The project is strategically located in Glasgow where it can access multiple transmission interfaces between Scotland and England, allowing the project to benefit directly from constraint management services to the National Energy System Operator via Balancing actions during periods of high wind generation. Rutherglen also provides optionality through augmentation to increase its storage duration in the future.

Including Rutherglen, the total battery capacity secured in the portfolio now stands at 49MW providing an excellent complement to NPUK’s solar portfolio. Across all NextEnergy Capital funds, the total BESS capacity now stands at over 700MW of both operational and ready-to-build projects either on a standalone or co-located basis.

Once fully deployed at approximately 1GW capacity, NPUK will provide enough clean energy to power an estimated 250,000 UK households per year, meaning NPUK investors are delivering meaningful impact from their commitment to the fund.

NPUK continues to actively fundraise towards its hard cap having successfully secured total funds committed to date of £683m, c.37% above its target of £500m. NPUK has investors currently in late-stage due diligence with further capital expected to be closed in the following weeks.

Ross Grier, COO and Head of UK Investments, NextEnergy Capital, said:

“This acquisition is NPUK’s first standalone BESS project representing a significant milestone for the Fund as it reaches 595MW in capacity. Energy storage will play an important part in the UK’s future energy ecosystem and will be crucial in enabling the continued rollout of renewables across the UK. High-quality projects, such as Rutherglen, in the right strategic location are a great addition to the

NPUK portfolio, providing investors with access to the attractive and diversified return profile of BESS paired with the stable generating portfolio of solar assets.”

Dario Hernandez, Head of Battery Storage, NextEnergy Capital, commented:

“Rutherglen is a fantastic BESS project to introduce to the NPUK portfolio. It is strategically placed near Glasgow, Scotland, north of the B6 boundary to both capture excess energy being generated by local renewable energy sources and provide balancing services to NESO. The improvements in NESO dispatch capability, together with impressive Li-Ion technology and cost improvements, provide an excellent entry point for monetising standalone storage in the deep and liquid wholesale market. We continue to see BESS as a highly complementary asset to a solar portfolio.

Further information:

NextPower UK ESG

NPUK is a 10-year closed-ended private fund managed by NextEnergy Capital. It is a private unlevered Fund investing in predominantly new-build solar projects, backed by PPAs, in the UK.

- Launched in December 2021 targeting £500m, to invest into post-subsidy solar plants in the UK with contracted revenues.
- The UK Infrastructure Bank provided cornerstone match-funding capital for up to £250m.
- The Fund has since been supported by some of the largest LGPS pools in the UK as well as sophisticated investors ranging from the Middle East to Japan.
- Offers investors the opportunity to earn attractive risk-adjusted returns from solar PV infrastructure in the UK.
- Fund returns are then enhanced through NextEnergy Capital’s expertise in technical outperformance, private wire agreements, repowering and storage additionality.
- Benefits from access to the Fund’s own secured and proprietary pipeline.
- Real, measurable additionality ESG impacts, including biodiversity measures and community engagement.

NextEnergy Group

NextEnergy Group was founded in 2007 to become a leading market participant in the international solar sector. Since its inception, it has been active in the development, construction, and ownership of solar assets across multiple jurisdictions. NextEnergy Group operates via its three business units: NextEnergy Capital (Investment Management), WiseEnergy (Operating Asset Management) and Starlight (Project Development).

NextEnergy Capital

NextEnergy Capital (“NEC”) comprises the Group’s investment management activities. To date, NEC has invested in over 460 individual solar plants for a capacity in excess of 3GW across its institutional funds. www.nextenergycapital.com

- **First Fund:** [NextEnergy Solar Fund \(“NESF”\)](#), is a specialist solar energy and energy storage fund, which is listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. It currently has an installed capacity of 983MW spread among 102 individual operating assets in the UK and Italy, comprising an unaudited gross asset value of £1,104m. NESF is one of the largest listed solar and energy storage investment companies in the world.
- **Second Fund:** [NextPower II \(“NPII”\)](#), a private fund made up of 105 individual operating solar power plants and an installed capacity of 149MW, focused on consolidating the substantial,

highly fragmented Italian solar market. Launched in 2016, NP11 was successfully divested in January 2022 at IRRs significantly in excess of its gross target of 10-12%.

- **Third Fund: [NextPower III ESG \(“NP11 ESG”\)](#)**, is a private fund exclusively focused on the international solar infrastructure sector, principally targeting projects in carefully selected OECD countries, including the US, Portugal, Spain, Chile, Poland, Greece, and Italy. NP11 is now fully invested with 172 assets, totalling 1.8GW. NP11 completed its fundraise with a total of \$896m, including an SMA raised. The target of the fund was \$750m.
- **Fourth Fund: [NextPower UK ESG \(“NPUK ESG”\)](#)**, is a private unlevered fund investing in greenfield subsidy-free solar projects, with PPA's, in the UK. NPUK ESG is a 10-year closed-ended private fund targeting £500m. To date, NPUK has raised total commitments of £683m, with the UK Infrastructure Bank providing cornerstone match-funding of £250m.
- **Fifth Fund: [NextPower V ESG \(“NPV ESG”\)](#)**, is a private contracted solar strategy that offers investors the opportunity to earn strong risk-adjusted returns from the solar PV infrastructure asset class with a highly experienced team and a track record of success in solar deployment globally. The strategy will primarily invest in OECD solar assets and adjacent technologies (e.g. battery storage) in the target markets. NPV ESG has to date raised \$745m in commitments (including \$150m in co-investment allocations) and is targeting \$1.5bn in size with a \$2bn ceiling.

Further information on the NextEnergy Group is available at: www.nextenergygroup.com/

WiseEnergy®

WiseEnergy® is NextEnergy Group's asset operator. WiseEnergy is a leading specialist asset operator in the solar sector. Currently, WiseEnergy provides development, construction and operating services to over 1,500 solar and battery assets with an installed capacity in excess of 2.5GW. Its asset management clients include listed solar funds (in addition to the Company), banks, private equity funds and other specialist investors. Further information on WiseEnergy is available at: www.wise-energy.com

Starlight

Starlight is NextEnergy Group's development company that is active in the development phase of solar projects. It has developed over 100 utility-scale projects internationally and continues to progress a large pipeline of c.10GW of both green and brownfield project developments across global geographies. www.starlight-energy.com/

For further information:

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