

**NextEnergy Capital**

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### **Achieves Top 5 Star UN PRI Rating**

NextEnergy Capital (“NEC”), a leading global renewables manager specialised on the solar+ infrastructure sector, is delighted to announce that it has been awarded the top 5-star rating for its second consecutive year in all applicable modules of the UN PRI’s 2024 Benchmark Assessment. A five-star rating, the highest possible score, is awarded to those signatories that demonstrate leading practices within the responsible investment industry.

This top-rank rating demonstrates NEC’s commitment to continuously evolving and strengthening its approach to sustainability, and to reporting transparently on it. The rating captures the hard work undertaken by NextEnergy Group’s dedicated ESG team to begin implementing the Group’s new [Sustainability Strategy](#) and supporting Framework this year.

NEC continues to ensure that ESG factors are fully integrated across the whole investment process. This rigorous and ambitious approach has been recognised as exemplary by investors in NEC’s funds. The ESG team continues to work closely with all teams across NextEnergy Group to minimise and mitigate risks, identify opportunities, and ensure that our activities support global sustainable development goals.

The UN PRI is the world’s leading proponent of responsible investment, of which NEC has been a signatory since 2016. It promotes the incorporation of ESG considerations into investment practices through [Six Principles](#), designed to help investors to create a more sustainable global financial system. Every year, PRI signatories are required to report on their responsible investment activities, after which an annual assessment is undertaken.

NEC’s Transparency Report is publicly available, as are all of NEC’s historical UN PRI reports: <https://www.nextenergycapital.com/sustainability/transparency-and-reporting/group-level-reporting/pri-reports/>.

**Michael Bonte-Friedheim, Founder & CEO, NextEnergy Group commented:**

“These two consecutive years with a 5-star score in all modules are testament to our firm’s continued work to lead efforts towards a more responsible and sustainable future. I am proud of the ESG team’s efforts, and am looking forward to the developments in 2025 as we strengthen the collaboration with our stakeholders and teams to build on the implementation of our new Sustainability Strategy.”

**Giulia Guidi, Head of ESG, NextEnergy Group, commented:**

“I am delighted that NEC has again been awarded the top five-star rating from the UN PRI for the 2024 Benchmark Assessment. NEC outperformed the PRI median in all three reporting categories, which is a tremendous achievement. Our score of 100% in the Confidence Building Measures Module is particularly testament to our commitment to good governance and transparency. I have no doubt that NEC’s ESG work will continue to benefit from the synergies between NextEnergy Group’s companies, which ensures that we remain ahead of the game in the pursuit of a common mission.”

Further information:

**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](http://www.nextenergycapital.com)

- **First Fund:** [NextEnergy Solar Fund \(“NESF”\)](#), is a specialist solar energy and energy storage fund, which is listed on the premium segment 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, NPII was successfully divested in January 2022 at IRRs significantly in excess of its gross target of 10-12%.
- **Third Fund:** [NextPower III ESG \(“NPIII ESG”\)](#), 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. NPIII is now fully invested with 172 assets, totalling 1.8GW. NPIII 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

exceeding its target within six months of first close, 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 is targeting \$1.5bn in size with a \$2bn ceiling.

Further information on the NextEnergy Group is available at: <https://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](http://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/](http://www.starlight-energy.com/)

### **For further information:**

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