

# **ETF & Mutual Fund Rankings: Energy Sector**

The Energy sector ranks last out of the 11 sectors as detailed in our <u>2Q18 Sector Ratings for ETFs and Mutual</u> <u>Funds</u> report. <u>Last quarter</u>, the Energy sector ranked last as well. It gets our Very Unattractive rating, which is based on an aggregation of ratings of 27 ETFs and 117 mutual funds in the Energy sector as of April 9, 2018. See a recap of our <u>1Q18 Sector Ratings here</u>.

Figures 1 and 2 show the five best and worst rated ETFs and mutual funds in the sector. Not all Energy sector ETFs and mutual funds are created the same. The number of holdings varies widely (from 22 to 334). This variation creates drastically different investment implications and, therefore, ratings.

Investors seeking exposure to the Energy sector should buy one of the Attractive-or-better rated ETFs from Figure 1.

Our <u>Robo-Analyst technology</u><sup>1</sup> empowers our unique <u>ETF and mutual fund rating methodology</u>, which leverages our rigorous analysis of each fund's holdings.<sup>2</sup> We think advisors and investors focused on prudent investment decisions should include analysis of fund holdings in their research process for ETFs and mutual funds.

### Figure 1: ETFs with the Best & Worst Ratings

New Constructs<sup>®</sup> Diligence | Independence | Performance

	Allocat							
Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	tter Stocks or-worse		Predictive Rating				
Best ETFs (only 2)								
PHO	21%	27%	47%	Very Attractive				
FIW	8%	34%	50%	Neutral				
Worst ETFs								
XOP	1%	13%	76%	Very Unattractive				
OIH	0%	17%	76%	Very Unattractive				
IEZ	0%	13%	75%	Very Unattractive				
FRAK	1%	3%	83%	Very Unattractive				
FXN	1%	27%	70%	Very Unattractive				

\* Best ETFs exclude ETFs with TNAs less than \$100 million for inadequate liquidity. Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

Etho Climate Leadership U.S. ETF (ETHO), Tortoise Water Fund (TBLU), and PowerShares WilderHill Progressive Energy Portfolio (PUW) are excluded from Figure 1 because their total net assets (TNA) are below \$100 million and do not meet our liquidity minimums.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Harvard Business School features the powerful impact of our research automation technology in the case <u>New Constructs: Disrupting</u> <u>Fundamental Analysis with Robo-Analysts</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ernst & Young's recent white paper "Getting ROIC Right" proves the superiority of our holdings research and analytics.



### Figure 2: Mutual Funds with the Best & Worst Ratings – Top 5

		Allocation						
	Ticker	Attractive- or-better Stocks	Neutral Stocks	Unattractive- or-worse Stocks	Predictive Rating			
	Best Mutual Funds							
	No mutual funds receive a Neutral-or-better rating.							
		Worst Mutual Funds						
	RYVIX	0%	19%	70%	Very Unattractive			
	RYENX	0%	19%	73%	Very Unattractive			
	RYVAX	0%	19%	70%	Very Unattractive			
	RYVCX	0%	19%	70%	Very Unattractive			
	RYESX	0%	19%	70%	Very Unattractive			
Best mutual funds exclude f	unds with TNAs less t	han \$100 million for ina	dequate liquidity.					

Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

PowerShares Water Resources Portfolio (PHO) is the top-rated Energy ETF. There are no mutual funds that receive a Neutral-or-better rating. PHO earns a Very Attractive rating.

First Trust Energy AlphaDEX Fund (FXN\_ is the worst rated Energy ETF and Rydex Energy Services Fund (RYESX) is the worst rated Energy mutual fund. Both earn a Very Unattractive rating.

184 stocks of the 3000+ we cover are classified as Energy stocks.

### The Danger Within

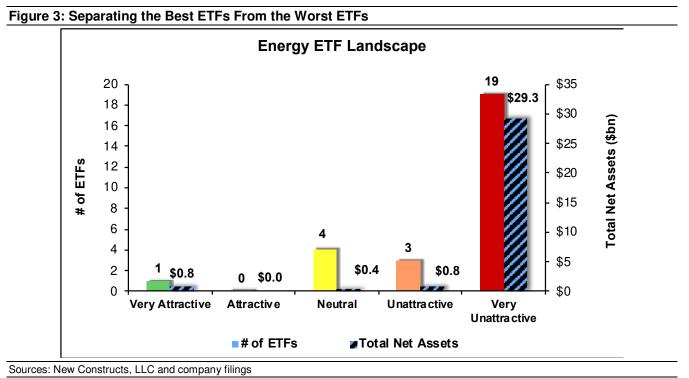
Buying a fund without analyzing its holdings is like buying a stock without analyzing its business and finances. Put another way, research on fund holdings is necessary due diligence because a fund's performance is only as good as its holdings' performance. Don't just take our word for it, <u>see what Barron's says</u> on this matter.

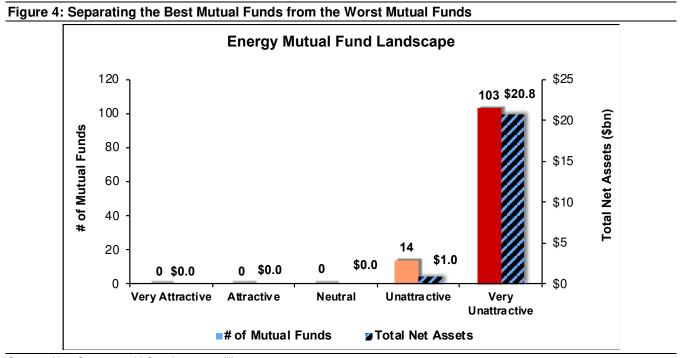
### PERFORMANCE OF HOLDINGs = PERFORMANCE OF FUND

Analyzing each holding within funds is no small task. Our <u>Robo-Analyst technology</u> enables us to perform this diligence with scale and provide the <u>research needed</u> to fulfill the fiduciary duty of care. More of the biggest names in the financial industry (see <u>At BlackRock</u>, <u>Machines Are Rising Over Managers to Pick Stocks</u>) are now embracing technology to leverage machines in the investment research process. Technology may be the only solution to the dual mandate for research: cut costs and fulfill the fiduciary duty of care. Investors, clients, advisors and analysts deserve the latest in technology to get the diligence required to make prudent investment decisions.



Figures 3 and 4 show the rating landscape of all Energy ETFs and mutual funds.





Sources: New Constructs, LLC and company filings

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Disclosure: David Trainer and Kyle Guske II receive no compensation to write about any specific stock, sector or theme.

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## *New Constructs<sup>®</sup> - Research to Fulfill the Fiduciary Duty of Care*

Ratings & screeners on 3000 stocks, 450 ETFs and 7000 mutual funds help you make prudent investment decisions.

New Constructs leverages the latest in machine learning to analyze structured and unstructured financial data with unrivaled speed and accuracy. The firm's forensic accounting experts work alongside engineers to develop proprietary NLP libraries and financial models. Our investment ratings are based on the best fundamental data in the business for stocks, ETFs and mutual funds. Clients include many of the top hedge funds, mutual funds and wealth management firms. David Trainer, the firm's CEO, is regularly featured in the media as a thought leader on the fiduciary duty of care, earnings quality, valuation and investment strategy.

### To fulfill the Duty of Care, research should be:

- 1. **Comprehensive** All relevant publicly-available (e.g. 10-Ks and 10-Qs) information has been diligently reviewed, including footnotes and the management discussion & analysis (MD&A).
- 2. **Un-conflicted** Clients deserve unbiased research.
- 3. **Transparent** Advisors should be able to show how the analysis was performed and the data behind it.
- 4. **Relevant** Empirical evidence must provide <u>tangible, quantifiable correlation</u> to stock, ETF or mutual fund performance.

## Value Investing 2.0: Diligence Matters: Technology is Key to Value Investing With Scale

Accounting data is only the beginning of fundamental research. It must be translated into economic earnings to truly understand profitability and valuation. This translation requires deep analysis of footnotes and the MD&A, a process that our <u>robo-analyst technology</u> empowers us to perform for thousands of stocks, ETFs and mutual funds.



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