









Year ended 31 March 2021

**NESF Full Year Results Presentation** 

# **Speakers & Contents**



Kevin Lyon
Chairman
NextEnergy Solar Fund



Michael Bonte-Friedheim
Founding Partner & Group CEO
NextEnergy Capital



Ross Grier Managing Director, UK NextEnergy Capital

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#### **Chairman introduction**

- NESF in 2020/21 demonstrating resilience in face of global pandemic
- The need to act now to tackle climate change
- Corporate governance structure and processes working well
- Solar investment opportunity in UK and internationally is very large
- NESF well-positioned and focused on growth





## Positioned to generate income, grow and tackle climate change







A UK solar infrastructure-focused investment company



**94** individual operating solar plants<sup>(1)</sup>



814MW capacity installed(1)



**7.1%** dividend yield<sup>(2)</sup> & **7.05p** 2020/21 dividend achieved<sup>(3)</sup>



1.1x pre-scrip cash dividend cover



Consistent operational outperformance

As at 31 March 2021



<sup>1)</sup> As of 31 March 2021

Based on dividends paid out during last 12 months and closing share price on 8 June 2021







### Value Add of NextEnergy Capital Group

- NextEnergy Capital Group is focused exclusively on the solar sector
- NESF is its flagship investment fund
- Active in Investment Management, Asset Management and Project Development
- Some 190 team members
- Presence and solar assets on four continents
- Specialist solar expertise developed over 15 years in the sector









NextPower Development

#### **Investment Management**

- Four institutional funds launched, including NESF
- Over \$2.6bn AUM as at 31 March 2021
- Over 240 solar assets acquired
- 1,200MW+ operating portfolio across UK, Italy, US, Portugal, Chile and India
- Technical and operational performance across portfolios above underwriting case
- Offices in UK, Italy, India, Chile, Spain, Portugal and USA

#### **Asset Management**

- 1,300+ solar assets managed and/or monitored
- 2.1 GW+ installed capacity under management
- 110 team members
- Proprietary hard- and software systems developed and implemented
- Global presence

#### Development

- Green and brownfield project development across geographies
- Over 100 utility-scale projects developed internationally
- Current pipeline c.2.5GW under development



### **Key highlights**





FY21/22 Target dividend per ordinary share



7.16p



Total Group Revenue FY20/21 (1)

£101m

(FY19/20: £108m)

EBITDA FY20/21 (1)

£78m

(FY19/20: £86m)

Cash income FY20/21

£59.5m

(FY19/20: £61.2m)

Consistently generating more electricity than acquisition budget since IPO

+5.2%

(FY19/20: +5.0%)

Added new high quality assets to portfolio (3)

+4

(FY19/20: +3)

Hedging strategy delivered additional revenues

+£7m

(FY19/20: +£9m)

Powering households for a year (2)

195,000

(FY19/20: 189,000)

Tonnes of CO2e emissions avoided (2)

317,600

(FY19/20: 307,700)

Clean electricity generated

**738 GWh** 

(FY19/20: 712GWh)

### New acquisitions in year

**+2** 

New high quality assets acquired<sup>(1)</sup>

**100MW** 

Increase in portfolio capacity<sup>(1)</sup>

15-year



+3

Existing assets fully energised<sup>(2)</sup>



| Asset          | Location            | Installed Capacity | Site size | Status           | Acquisition cost |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| Grange         | Yorkshire, UK       | 50MW               | 214-acres | Energised        | £33.4m           |
| South Lowfield | Nottinghamshire, UK | 50 MW              | 200-acres | Expected Q3 2021 | £30.9m           |

- Latest acquisition: Camden Portfolio, Two projects totalling 100MWp has a 15-year power purchase agreement ("PPA") in place covering c.75% of the electricity to be generated over the life of the PPA.
- The PPA counterparty is **AB InBev**, the world's largest brewer. One project is already energised and the second is expected to be energised during the third quarter of 2021.
- We continue to seek and identify attractive future acquisitions internationally in OECD countries which will add value to the NESF portfolio, maximise shareholder returns and increase geographical diversification





### Track record of operating outperformance

Power Generation Outperformance

+6.2%

- The portfolio has consistently generated more electricity than its acquisition budget (+5.2% since IPO)
- The portfolio outperformance is partially due to higher solar irradiation than forecasts (+2.9% since IPO) but is also due to the effective Asset Management by WiseEnergy of the portfolio (Asset Management Alpha) delivering performance (+2.3% since IPO)
- The Asset Management Alpha for 2020/21 would have been +1.3% if DNO outages (over which we have no control) were excluded
- The sustained portfolio outperformance demonstrates the robustness of NEC's investment and portfolio management processes

Solar Irradiation Outperformance

+5.5%

Asset Management Alpha

+0.7%

Equating to additional revenue

£4.8m

| Period                             | Assets<br>Reported       | Solar Irradiation<br>(delta vs budget) | Power Generation<br>(delta vs. budget) | Asset<br>Management<br>Alpha <sup>(1)</sup> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|---|
| Full Year 2014/15                  | 6                        | -0.4 %                                 | +4.8 %                                 | +5.2 %                                      |
| Full Year 2015/16                  | 23                       | +0.4 %                                 | +4.1 %                                 | +3.7 %                                      |
| Full Year 2016/17                  | 31                       | -0.3 %                                 | +3.3 %                                 | +3.6 %                                      |
| Full Year 2017/18                  | 55                       | -0.9 %                                 | +0.9 %                                 | +1.8 %                                      |
| Full Year 2018/19                  | 84                       | +9.0 %                                 | +9.1 %                                 | +0.1%                                       |
| Full Year 2019/20                  | 85                       | +4.0 %                                 | +4.7 %                                 | +0.7 %                                      |
| Full Year 2020/21                  | Full Year 2020/21 88 (2) |  | +6.2 %                                 | +0.7 %                                      |
| Cumulative from IPO to 31 March 20 | 021                      | +2.9 %                                 | +5.2 %                                 | +2.3 %                                      |



<sup>(2)</sup> Three rooftop portfolios are not monitored for irradiation and three assets which have yet to pass PAC are not reported



1

#### Unlock growth - Expand NESF portfolio into international assets, battery storage and solar PE structures

- Investment policy amended to allow up to 10% of GAV into energy storage solutions, 30% of GAV into international OECD solar assets and 15% of GAV into Private Equity Structures
- Selectively expand portfolio to maintain progressive dividend policy and support dividend cover whilst adding revenue diversification

2

#### Manage risk - Continue to hedge further forward and enhance our electricity sales strategy

• NESF does not take any merchant power price risk instead it actively hedges the future price of the power it will sell in the short and medium term, reducing power price volatility and supporting NESF's dividend cover position

3

#### **Asset performance - Continue NESF operational outperformance**

• On-going focus on technical, financial and operational outperformance



1

Unlock growth - Expand NESF portfolio into international solar assets, in-line with investment policy



Investment policy: Up to 30% GAV in international OECD countries

#### **Expand internationally**

- Identify and pursue attractive solar asset investment opportunities in non-UK OECD countries
- Add geographical diversification
- Manage FX exposure suitably through appropriate hedging strategies and target long-term PPA coverage
- Utilise NEC track record and experience of investing successfully in OECD countries producing above average returns
- Potential non-UK OECD solar asset locations:





Portugal





**400**mw

International Pipeline



1

Unlock growth - Introduce energy storage assets to NESF portfolio, in-line with investment policy



Investment policy: Up to 10% GAV in energy storage Introduce further energy storage assets following its acquisition of a small portfolio of utility scale storage assets in 2017

- Complements NESF portfolio of solar assets including revenue diversification
- Increased penetration of renewable energy generation alongside the decommissioning of historic baseload generating equipment has already, and continues to, create a sustainable market for revenue generation from battery storage assets
- Adds stability to the renewable energy component of the energy mix continuing to tackle climate change and aligning with NESF's ESG goals



**500**mw

Domestic Pipeline



1

Unlock value - Invest into private equity structures to complement NESF portfolio, in-line with investment policy



Investment policy: Up to 15% GAV in solar private equity structures

#### Invest into solar private equity structures

- Identify attractive investment opportunities into private equity structures, utilise NEC experience and track record in this space
- Add indirect international diversification and co-investment opportunities without need for direct construction and development risk in international jurisdictions
- Offers the potential for superior returns

Higher returns

Revenue diversification

**Co-investment** opportunities

Access to new assets

**Geographical** diversification



2

**Manage risk - Focus on progressing our electricity sales strategy** 

#### +£7m

Hedging strategy additional revenue in FY20/21

#### Continue to implement electricity sales strategy

- NESF has access to NEC's specialist in-house energy sales team with direct access to energy market trading
- Power price hedging forms part of its conservative risk management approach
- Continue to secure attractive pricing in the short and mid term whilst exploring longer term revenue hedging solutions
- NEC's energy sales team is constantly monitoring the power price market and forward curve, giving NESF the ability to adapt quickly, and utilise changing market environments

| UK   | current hedging position - looking for                      | ward   |
|--|---|--|
| 2021/22  | 2022/23   | 2023/24  |
| 87%  | <b>63</b> %   | 29%  |
| Of budgeted generation hedged at fixed price (1) | Of budgeted generation hedged at fixed price <sup>(1)</sup> | Of budgeted generation hedged at fixed price (1) |



3

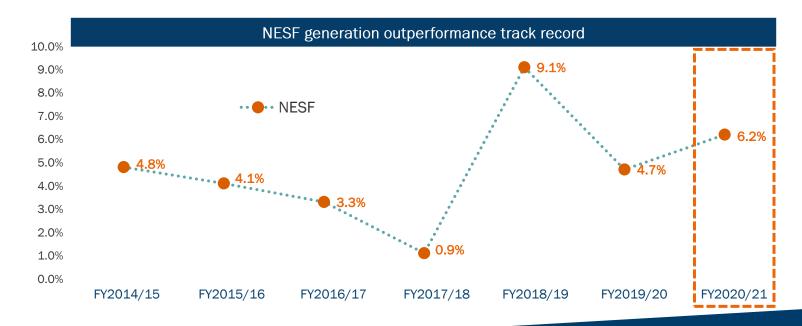
**Maximise income generation - Continue NESF operational outperformance** 

#### Best placed to deliver this strategy through our operating asset Manager

- WISE ENERGY
- Wise Energy's expertise in solar asset management delivers operating optimisation and outperformance
- NESF benefits from the NEC groups leading in-house technical and asset management team
- Wise Energy's focus drives the generation outperformance vs. budget

+6.2%

Power Generation Outperformance in FY20/21

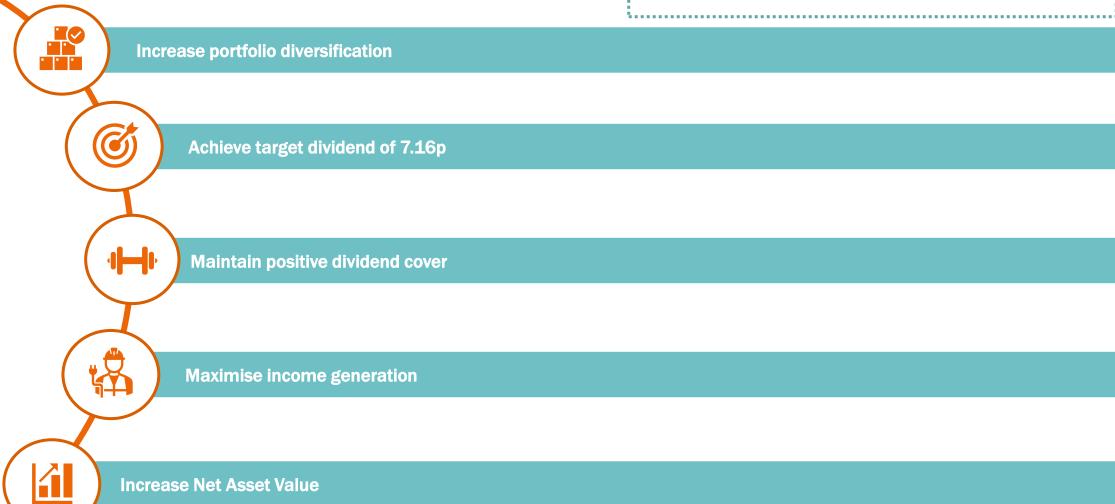




## **Strategic focus end goals**

Target dividend per ordinary share for year ending 31 March 2022









### **Financial highlights**

- During the year, the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in global equity markets suffering an unprecedented decline
- For the year ended 31 March 2021, the ordinary shareholder total return was 5.1% and the NAV total return was 7.0%
- As at 31 March 2021, NESF has achieved an ordinary shareholder total return since IPO of 42.6% and a NAV total return since IPO of 41.9%
- The annualised ordinary shareholder total return since IPO was 6.1% and annualised NAV total return since IPO was 6.0%.

Dividends declared per ordinary share for year ended 31 March 2021

**7.05**p

(31 March 2020: 6.87p)

Cash dividend cover (pre-scrip dividends) for the year ended 31 March 2021

(31 March 2020: 1.2x)

NAV per ordinary share as at 31 March 2021

98.9p

(31 March 2020: 99.0p)

Financial debt gearing as at 31 March 2021 (1)

24%

(31 March 2020: 22%)

Total gearing as at 31 March 2021 (2)

(31 March 2020: 42%)

Ordinary Shareholders' NAV as at 31 March 2021

£581m

(31 March 2020: £579m)

NAV total return per ordinary share for the year ended 31 March 2021

7.0%

(31 March 2020: -4.5%)

Ordinary shareholder annualised total return since **IPO** 

(31 March 2020: 6.3%)

Ordinary shareholder return for the year ended 31 March 2021

5.1%

(31 March 2020: -7.8%)

amortising debt with repayment in shares

<sup>(1)</sup> Financial debt gearing excludes the £200m preference shares (2) Total gearing is the aggregate of financial debt and £200m of preference shares. The preference shares are equivalent to non-

# **Summary statement of comprehensive income**

Income

Earnings per ordinary share

£59.9m

6.87p

(FY19/20: £61.2m)

(FY19/20: (5.09p))

| Income Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2021 | 2021<br>£m | 2020<br>£m |
|---|------------|------------|
| Income  | 59.9       | 61.2       |
| Movement in Investment Portfolio value            | (3.4)      | (75.7)     |
| Total net Income                                  | 56.6       | (14.5)     |
| Total expenses                                    | (16.4)     | (15.1)     |
| Profit/(loss) and comprehensive income/(loss)     | 40.2       | (29.7)     |
| Earnings per ordinary share - basic               | 6.87p      | (5.09p)    |



### **Revenue generation**

+6.6%



Revenue above budget

**(6.2%)** 



**OPEX** below acquisition budget

+10.5%



EBITDA above budget

| Year Ended 31 March 2021              |                      | Actual per MW <sup>(1)</sup> Bu |             | Budget pe | er MW <sup>(1)</sup> | Delta<br>vs<br>Budget | Comments |   |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------|---|
| Solar Irradiation                     | [A]                  | (kWh/m2)                        | 1,269       |           | 1,20                 | 1,203                 |          | Actual irradiation for the year   |
| Conversion<br>Factor <sup>(2)</sup>   | [B]                  | (%)                             | 80.3%       |           | 79.8%                |                       | +0.7%    | Positive delta represents Asset<br>Management Alpha for the year                      |
| Metered<br>Generation                 | $[C] = [A \times B]$ | (kWh)                           | 102         | 20        | 960                  | O                     | +6.2%    | Actual generation measured at the meter for the year                                  |
|                                       |                      |                                 | Power Price | Subsidies | Power Price          | Subsidies             |          |   |
| Released Prices                       | [D]                  | (£/MWh)                         | 47.2        | 90.6      | 48.4                 | 88.9                  | +2.0%    | Implied average power price and   |
| Revenues<br>(Merchant &<br>Subsidies) | [E] = [C x D]        | (£ '000)                        | 48.1<br>    | 92.4      | 46.5                 | 85.3                  | +8.3%    | subsidies across entire portfolio<br>(including ROC recycle and embedded<br>benefits) |
| Total Revenues                        | [E]                  | (£ '000)                        | 140.5       |           | 131                  | .8                    | +6.6%    | Actual revenues at portfolio level for the year (unaudited figures per MW)            |
| Operating<br>Expenses                 | [F]                  | (£ '000)                        | (28.9)      |           | (30.8                | 3)(4)                 | (6.2%)   | Actual costs at portfolio level for the year (unaudited figures per MW)               |
| EBITDA <sup>(3)</sup>                 | [G] = [E – F]        | (£ '000)                        | 111.6       |           | 101                  | .0                    | +10.5%   | Actual EBTDA for the year (unaudited figures per MW)                                  |
| EBITDA Margin <sup>(3)</sup>          |                      |                                 | 79.5        | 5%        | 76.7                 | 7%                    |          |   |



<sup>(1)</sup> Based on the average installed capacity over the financial year (721MW). Given the different composition of the growing portfolio, this information is not directly comparable with

<sup>(2)</sup> Ratio captures the solar plant performance ratio as well as the availability (which reflects all system shut-downs for maintenance or one-off events such as DNO outages). (3) EBITDA is a reference to EBITDA at the SPV levels.

<sup>(4)</sup> Budgeted operating expenses are based on the acquisition case of the assets.

#### **Ordinary share dividends**

7.05p

FY 20/21 target dividend achieved

**1.1**x

Pre-scrip cash dividend cover

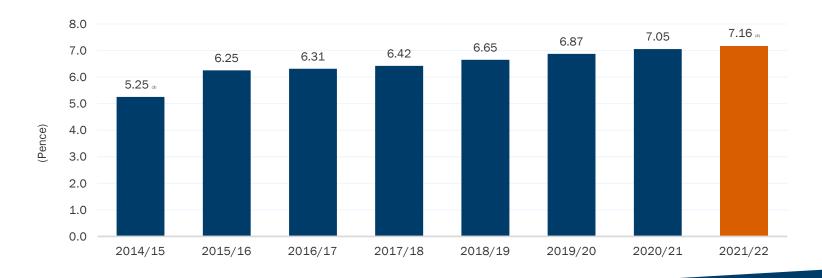
7 years

Dividend target achieved & Dividend covered



FY 21/22 target dividend

| Year ended<br>31 March 2021                | £'000   | Pre-scrip dividends<br>£'000 |
|--|---------|------------------------------|
| Cash income for year <sup>1,2</sup>        | 59,490  |                              |
| Net operating expenses for period          | (6,825) |                              |
| Preference shares dividend                 | (9,526) |                              |
| Net cash income available for distribution | 43,139  |                              |
| Ordinary shares dividend paid during year  |         | 41,011                       |
| Cash dividend cover <sup>2</sup>           |         | 1.1x                         |





### **Valuation of investment portfolio**

NAV per ordinary share as at 31 March 2021

98.9p

(31 March 2020: 99.0p)

Ordinary shareholders' NAV as at 31 March 2021

£581m

(31 March 2020: £579m)

GAV as at 31 March 2021

£1,025m

(31 March 2020: £991m)

#### Discount rates (as at 31 March 2021)

- Weighted average discount rate of 6.3%
- 5.75% unlevered discount rate for UK operating assets
- Levered discount rates of up to 6.75% (up to 1.0% risk premium)
- 7.25% unlevered discount rate for Italian operating assets (implying 1.5% country risk premium)
- 6.75% unlevered discount rate for subsidy-free operating assets (implying 1.0% risk premium)
- 1.0% risk premium applied for cash flows after 30 years where leases have been extended

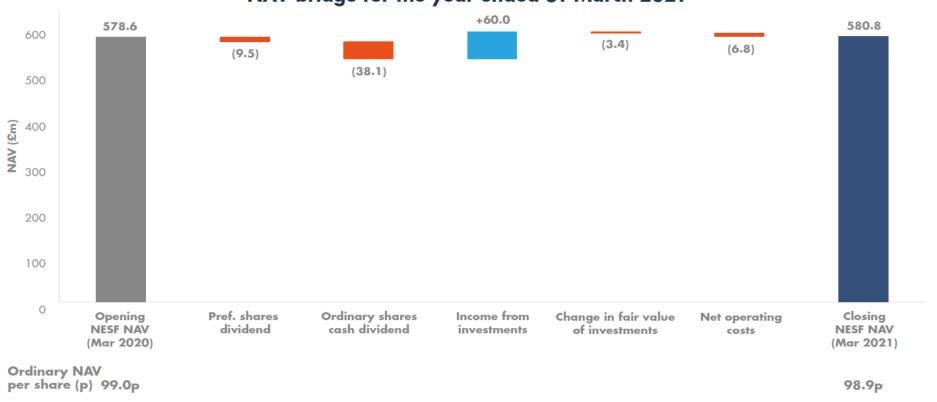
#### **Valuation movements were driven by the following factors:**

- The main contributors during the year were a decrease in the unlevered discount rate (+3.4p per ordinary share) and the Company's operating outperformance (+1.4p per ordinary share)
- The main detractors during the year were a decrease in long-term power price forecasts (-3.0p per ordinary share), a downward revision in short-term inflation forecasts (-1.1p per ordinary share) and increased corporate tax rate from 2023 onwards (-1.8p per ordinary share)



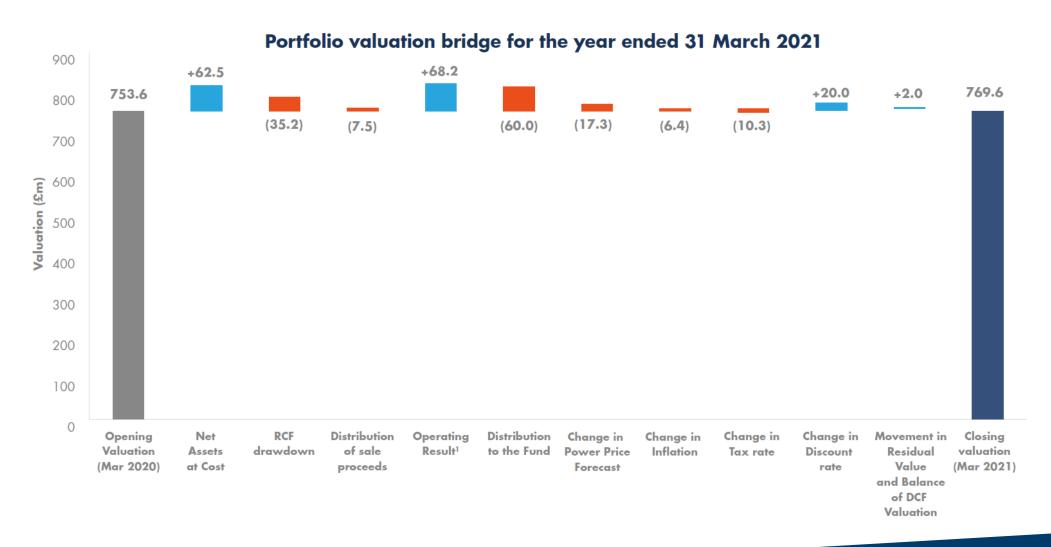
# **NAV Bridge**

#### NAV bridge for the year ended 31 March 2021





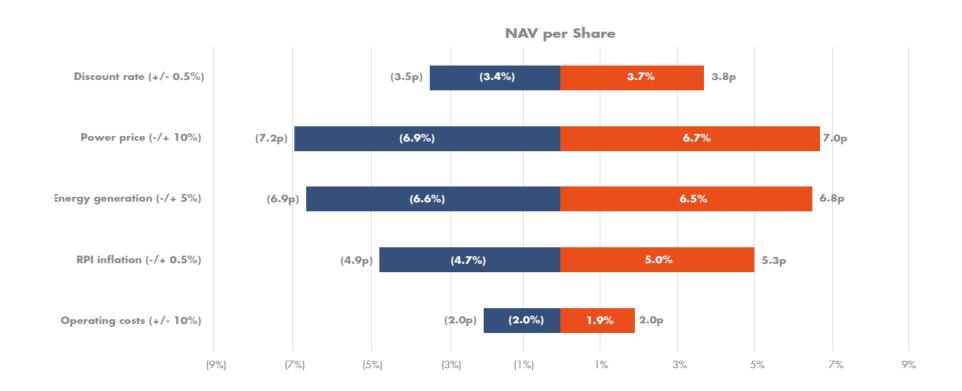
# **Portfolio Bridge**





#### NAV sensitivities (31 March 2021)

- The sensitivity highlights the percentage change in the portfolio valuation resulting from a change in the underlying variables
- It also shows the impact on the NAV per share





#### **Optimised capital structure**

£246m

Financial debt outstanding

£192m

Long-term fully amortising debt

£54m

**Revolving Credit Facility** 

(of which £36m unused)

Ordinary Shareholders

• 586.9m Ordinary Shares in issue, targeting a total dividend of 7.16p per ordinary share for the financial year ending 31 March 2022

• Two £100m tranches issued in November 2018 and August 2019

• Non-redeemable and non-voting shares entitled to a fixed preferred dividend of 4.75% p.a. with conversion rights from 1 April 2036 at nominal value

• Option to redeem at nominal value starting from 1 April 2030 for six years at



Financial debt facilities









Unique NAV-enhancing features (grace period, DSRF, flexible PPA)

Macquarie Infrastructure Debt Investment Solutions ("MIDIS")



- Fully amortising facility (£45.8m outstanding) expiring in 2034
- Debt in place at completion of Radius portfolio in April 2016
- Replacement of DSRA with LoC in March 2018

sole discretion of the Company





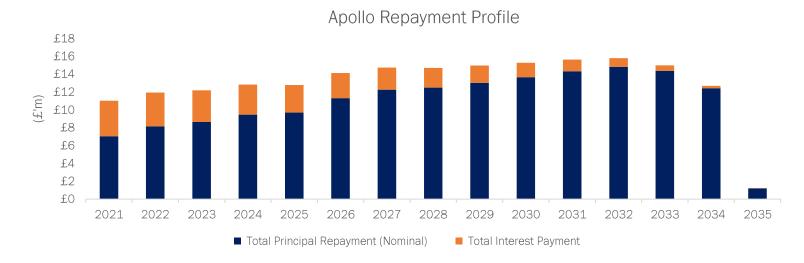


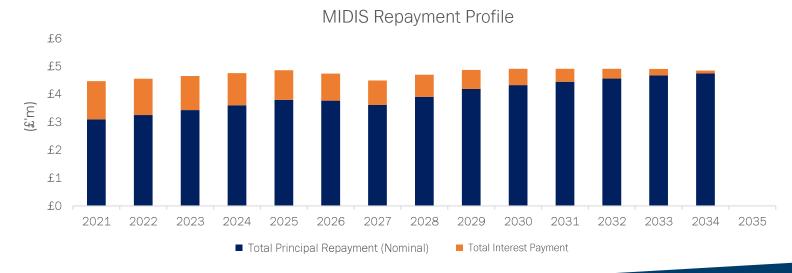
- NIBC RCF of £20m, undrawn and available until February 2022
- Santander RCF of £70m, partially drawn (£54.1m) and available until July 2022



### Long term debt repayment profile

- As at 31 March 2021, £192m of the financial debt was long-term fully amortising
- The charts show the precise yearly repayment profile for both long-term debt facilities (interest plus principal) until maturity in 2035
- The Apollo facility has 21 solar assets secured comprising 241MW
- The MIDIS facility has 5 solar assets secured comprising 84MW

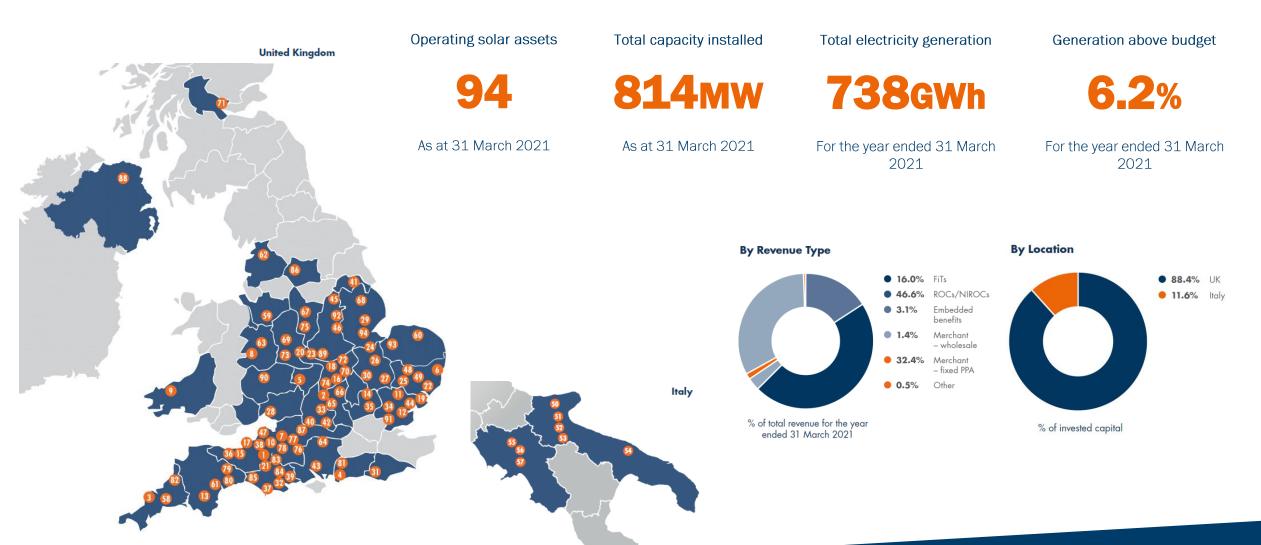








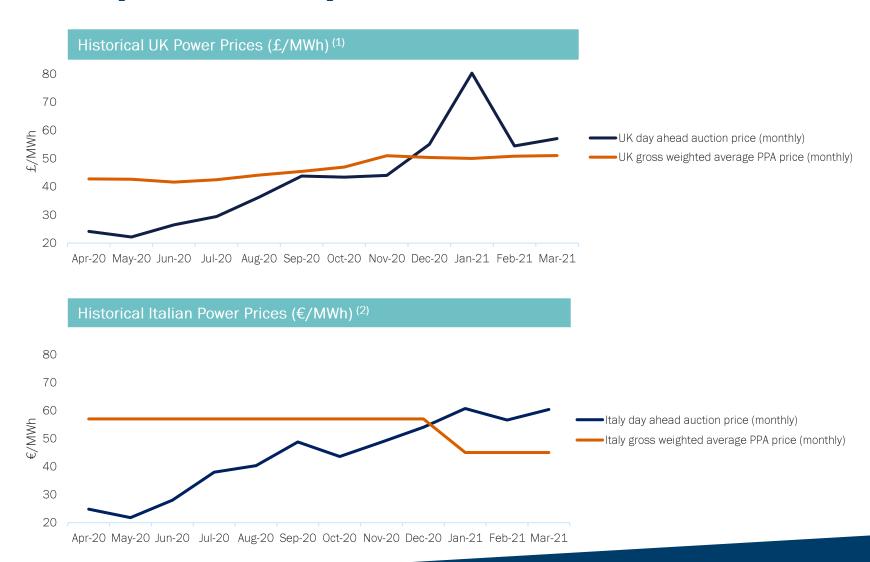
## **Operating portfolio**





### Historical power prices (12 months)

- The Company's flexible PPA framework locked in additional revenues of  $\pm 7.0m$  from power price contract fixes vs baseload prices during the year
- UK power prices were declining into March 2020 as a result of lower gas prices and milder weather patterns
- In March 2020, the "oil price war" between the USA, Saudi Arabia and Russia and the first effects of the COVID-19 pandemic further impacted prices
- Power prices for the three forward seasons have picked up significantly from their lows in May 2020
- Low wind generation combined with falling temperatures drove prices up in Q1 2021

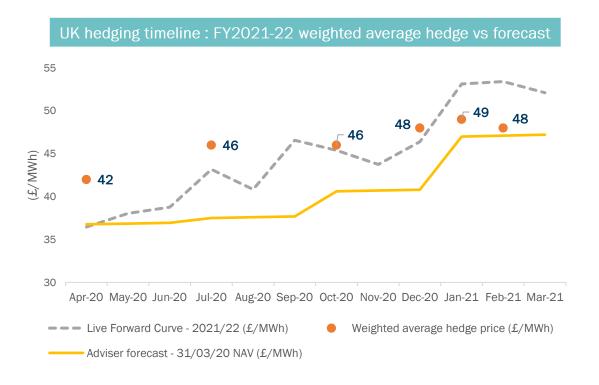


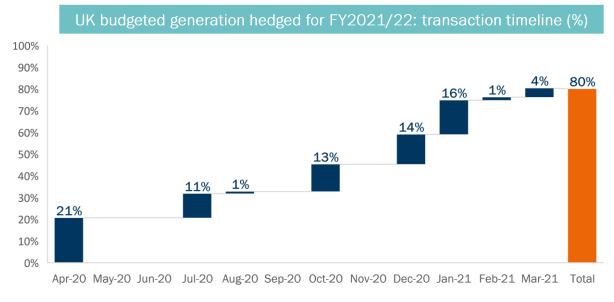


### **UK hedging activity during the year**

#### 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021

- Proactive hedging was undertaken throughout the year locking in 80% of FY2021/22 UK budgeted generation as at 31 March 2021 (Increasing to 87% at 16 June 2021)
- All hedges transacted were in line with the live market at the time and above the 31 March 2020 advisor forecast (see below)
- NESF's active hedging strategy takes into account the current macro environment at the time each hedge is placed. Using a phased approach, NESF reduces its risk whilst ensuring the ability to lock-in favourable movements in the power price

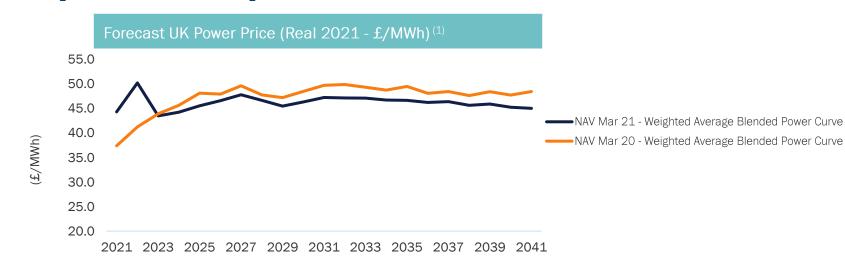


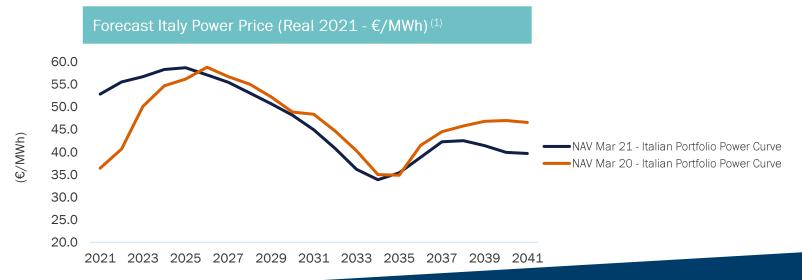




### Forecast power prices (real 2021)

- At the year end, the UK blended average power curve corresponded to an average solar capture price of approximately £45.6/MWh (2020: £43.3/MWh) for the period 2021-2025 and £46.4/MWh (2020: £48.6/MWh) for the period 2026-2041 (at 2021 prices)
- The drivers for power prices are different in the UK and Italy, resulting in power price risk diversification
- In the UK, at the short end where PPAs are in place we use the PPA prices and, for periods where there are no PPAs in place, we use the short-term market forward prices
- After this, we use a simple average of three leading independent energy market consultants' long-term projections
- The current 20-year UK average power price forecast is 49% below the assumptions employed at IPO (real 2021)







### **Power price recovery**

- Forward looking UK power prices have increased significantly
- Clear upward trend
- Continue to lock in future hedges at attractive prices







#### **Environment, Social and Governance**

- NESF considers the three pillars of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Human Rights as an integral part of the investment process
- NESF is committed to supporting the UK Government in its ambitious objective of bringing all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050
- NESF has contracted the Green Investment. Group ("GIG") to independently verify our positive impact on mitigating climate change
- NextEnergy Capital, the Fund's Investment Manager, has pledged at least 5% of its own profits to NextEnergy Foundation
- NESF is committed to making disclosures in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector. These disclosures can be accessed on the **NESF** website
- NESF achieved compliance with the **European Union Sustainable Finance** Disclosure Regulation this year and will endeavor to remain compliant going forward















Powering households for a year (1)

195,000

(FY19/20: 189,000)

Tonnes of CO2e emissions avoided (1)

317,600

(FY19/20: 307,700)

Clean electricity generated

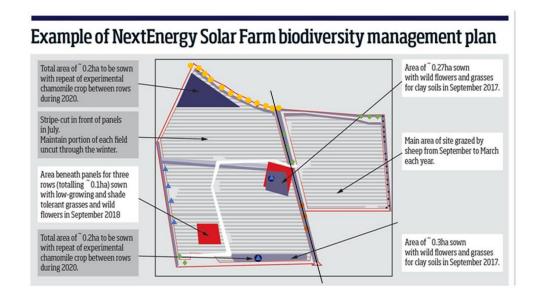
738 GWh

(FY19/20: 712GWh)



## **Biodiversity overview**

- Biodiversity is key to the survival of life. It is also very interconnected with climate change as its preservation and enhancement support climate change mitigation and climate resilience
- NESF leads the way in biodiversity. We have a unique opportunity to make a real difference, and have taken it
- Exemplar sites continue to be monitored to gauge the ecological improvements to the sites (Berwick, Boxted, Emberton, Burrowton and Langenhoe)
- Overall, for 2020/21, the Biodiversity Team have 14 sites completed to full Universal Biodiversity Management Plan (UBMP) level as per the Wychwood guidance maps. A total of 1 site is outstanding for Autumn 2021



### **Boxted Airfield - Exemplar case study**

 By creating wildflower meadow areas with a range of flowering herbs, since 2017 we have seen an increase of:

**500**%

300%

**85**%

**Bumblebee observations** 

**Butterfly observations** 

Plant species





## The NextEnergy Foundation and Selected Projects

# **NEXTENERGY** FOUNDATION

- Founded in 2016, the Foundation's mission is to alleviate poverty through the nexus with clean energy access and emissions reductions
- NESF's investment manager, NextEnergy Capital donates at least 5% of its net annual profits to the NextEnergy Foundation
- To date, the Foundation has contributed over £413,287 in donations to projects supporting renewable energy and sustainable development initiatives
- The projects included in these slides are only a select example of the projects the Foundation has contributed towards







## **NESF** going forward









Positioned for growth



Large diversified portfolio



Attractive dividend



Focused on shareholder returns & NAV optimisation



Continuous asset management and portfolio outperformance



Efficient balance sheet financing structure



Revenue optimisation







## **NESF Board of Directors**



Kevin has over 30 years of experience in fund management, investment banking and private equity and is Chairman of NextEnergy Solar Fund.



Patrick has almost 30 years' experience advising management companies, general partners and investment companies and is Chairman of the Audit Committee.



Jo has over 20 years of experience in the investment management sector with a specific focus on listed funds, private equity and third-party service providers.



Vic has been involved in the financial services industry for over 30 years. He is a FCCA, a Senior Independent Director and Chairman of the Nomination Committee.



## **NextEnergy Capital Group – NESF Investment Committee**



Michael is Founding Partner and Group CEO of NextEnergy Capital.



Giulia is the Head of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) at NextEnergy Capital with 15+ years' experience in the financial sector.



Ross is the UK Managing Director of NextEnergy Capital.



Aldo is Managing Partner and Chief Investment Officer of the NextEnergy Capital Group.



## **Ongoing Covid-19 response**



- The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 presented an unprecedented operational challenge to NESF and its stakeholders
- In these extraordinary times, the NESF Board will continue to monitor closely the impacts of COVID-19 on the UK and Italian economies, and the effect they may have on the Company and its assets



- The Investment Adviser acted rapidly and migrated its global workforce to remote working and established a 'COVID-19 Response Plan'
- They continue to monitor closely the impact of COVID-19 in the UK and Italy and will continue to work with the Board and the Company's other key service providers and suppliers to anticipate and mitigate, where possible, arising risks



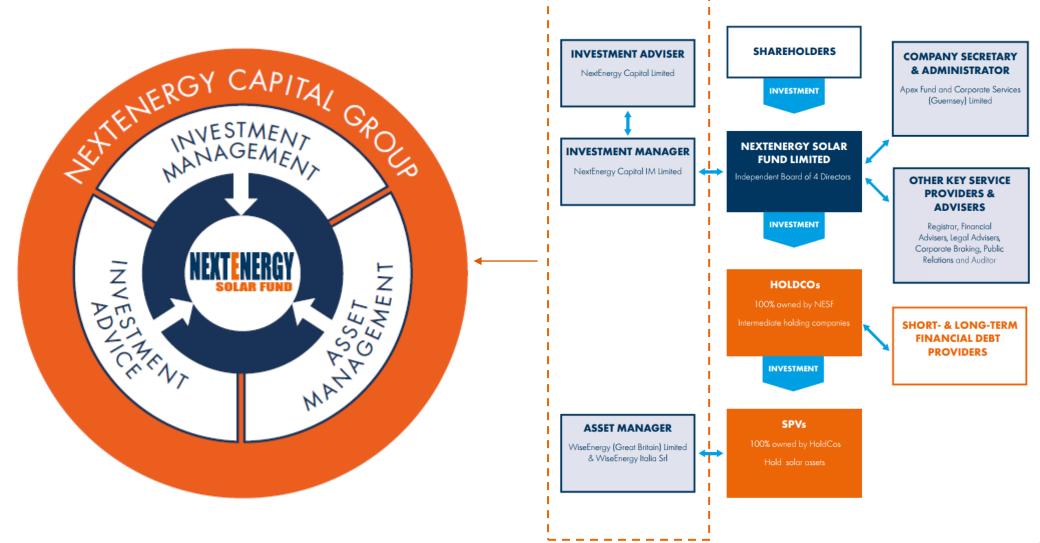
- The Asset Manager engaged with key portfolio operational counterparties to assess operational, financial and health and safety risks
- Plans put in place to minimise the risk of operational disruption due to O&M response capabilities or supply-chain problems
- Power price impact mitigated by short-term price fixing arrangements already in place

KEY SERVICE PROVIDERS and SUPPLIERS

- The Company's other key service providers and suppliers have also enabled their business continuity plans and continue to provide contracted services on a "business as usual" basis in all material respects
- The Asset Manager and Investment Adviser remain in close contact with them and continuously monitor and review their ability to perform in light of COVID-19 developments



## **NESF Group Structure**





## **NextEnergy Capital overview and track record**

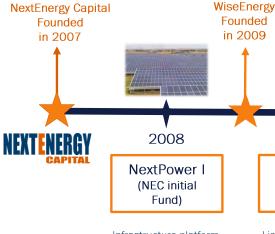
Sustainable Investment Awards
2020 Winner
Renewables fund of the year

NEC was founded in 2007 and is now a leading player in the global renewable energy sector

NEC has extensive experience in identifying attractive investment strategies, structure market-friendly vehicles and launching competitive private funds

### Key highlights:

- Four institutional funds launched, of which one listed entity
- Over \$2.6bn AUM raised
- Value-creation track record across time, geographies and vehicles
- 190 team members
- Offices in UK, Italy, India and USA



Infrastructure platform investing in solar assets across Italy and the UK

€160m debt and equity raised and deployed

Despite the Italian Government cancelled part of the subsidies retroactively, investors still received an exit IRR of 15.3%

### NextEnergy Solar Fund

2014

Listed on LSE premium segment, market cap of £585m<sup>(1)</sup>

Installed capacity of 814MW across 86 solar assets in the UK and 8 in Italy

Target IRR to investors of 7 to 9%; To date<sup>(1)</sup> the fund has delivered a total shareholder return of 6.1% annualised and 42.6% cumulative since IPO in 2014

### NextPower II LP

2016

Launched in 2016 investing in Italian solar assets

A portfolio of 150MW across 100 solar plants

Annualised capital distributions to investors of 56% (i.e. 28%, 14% and 14% in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively)

Current portfolio is forecast to deliver a gross IRR of 17.5% (vs. initial target of 10-12%) and a NAV uplift of 46%<sup>(2)</sup>

## NextPower III ESG LP

2018

ESG Fund focused on solar assets in OECD markets

Since November 2018, it has acquired 430MW of solar assets in the US, Europe, Chile and India

500MW in execution and a further pipeline of 2GW

The target gross\_IRR is 13% to 15%; based on the assets acquired and in exclusivity the current net IRR is forecasted at c.15%

### NextPower UK ESG LP

2021

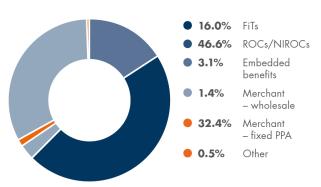
In the process of launching and will invest into new build UK ground mounted utility scale solar projects, to be built without financial debt and on a subsidyfree basis

Targeting an unlevered IRR of 7% and cash on cash yields of between 6 to 9%



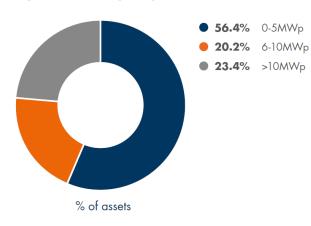
## **Investment portfolio diversification (31 March 2021)**

### **By Revenue Type**

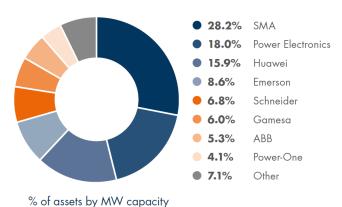


% of total revenue for the year ended 31 March 2021

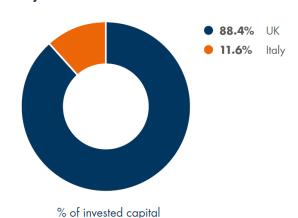
### By Installed Capacity



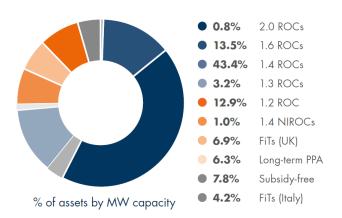
### By Inverter Manufacturer



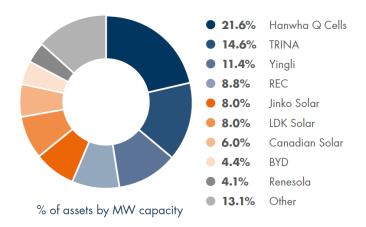
**By Location** 



### By Subsidy



### By Solar Module Manufacturer



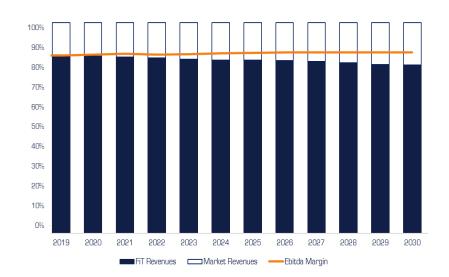


## The Italian Solis portfolio

- High risk-adjusted returns (9.4% at acquisition)
- Positive contribution to dividend cover – 1.4x supporting the Company's overall dividend targets
- NAV accretion Solis portfolio is valued with a discount rate of 7.25% (31 March 2020: 7.75%) as a result of deleverage and increased market value of solar PV assets in Italy
- Low risk profile c.85% of revenues are subsidised, debt fully repaid, stable EBITDA margins in excess of 80% and efficient currency hedge
- Diversify market risk Italy is one of the ten largest solar markets globally

## **Business Case: Solis Acquisition and performance**

- Acquisition of eight solar plants in Italy in December 2017 for a total installed capacity of 34.5MW and total value of €132m
- The €74.7m long term project financing in place was fully repaid following issuance of the preference shares in November 2018
- FX hedging structure extended 92% of the expected cashflows generated by the Solis portfolio are fully hedged until 2032 at an average FX rate of 0.89 EUR/GBP inclusive of all hedging costs
- Positive Asset Management Alpha of 0.2% for the year ending 31 March 2021



|                 | Since Acquisition      |                       |                       |  |  |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Asset Monitored | Irradiation<br>Delta % | Generation<br>Delta % | Generation<br>Alpha % |  |  |
| Macchia Rotonda | 5.8%                   | 4.6%                  | (1.2%)                |  |  |
| lacovangelo     | 4.2%                   | 6.5%                  | 2.3%                  |  |  |
| Armiento        | 5.0%                   | 7.4%                  | 2.4%                  |  |  |
| Inicorbaf       | 5.4%                   | 6.7%                  | 1.4%                  |  |  |
| Gioia del Colle | 4.3%                   | 3.8%                  | (0.5%)                |  |  |
| Carinola        | 2.4%                   | 5.4%                  | 3.1%                  |  |  |
| Marcianise      | 2.8%                   | 4.0%                  | 1.2%                  |  |  |
| Riardo          | 2.3%                   | 1.5%                  | (0.8%)                |  |  |
| Solis Portfolio | 3.2%                   | 4.5%                  | 1.3%                  |  |  |



## Financial debt outstanding (31 March 2021)

24%

43%

Financial debt gearing

Total gearing (5)

- During the year, the Santander RCF of £70m has been extended from July 2020 to July 2022
- The weighted average cost of financial debt as at 31 March 2021 is 3.0%
- NESH V entered into a 15 year FX hedging arrangement with Intesa over the expected dividends from the Solis portfolio. In March 2019, the hedging was increased to an additional c.€89m with an average forward exchange rate of 0.89 EUR/GBP including costs

| Provider /<br>arranger | Туре  | Borrower | No. of<br>power<br>plants<br>secured <sup>(1)</sup> | Loan to<br>Value <sup>(2)</sup><br>(%) | Tranches                      | Facility<br>Amount<br>(£m) | Amount Outstanding<br>(£m) | Termination<br>(inc. options<br>to extend) | Applicable<br>rate |
|------------------------|---|----------|---|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------|
|                        | Fully-amortising<br>long-term                       | NESH     | 21<br>(241MW)                                       | 51.4% -                                | Medium-term                   | 48.4                       | 48.4                       | Dec-26                                     | 2.91%4             |
|                        |   |          |   |  | Floating long-term            | 24.2                       | 24.2                       | Jun-35                                     | 3.68%4             |
|                        |   |          |   |  | Index-linked long-<br>term    | 38.7                       | 35.1                       | Jun-35                                     | RPI +<br>0.36%     |
|                        | debt <sup>(3)</sup>                                 |          |   |  | Fixed long-term               | 38.7                       | 38.7                       | Jun-35                                     | 3.82%              |
|                        |   |          |   |  | Debt service reserve facility | 7.5                        | -                          | Jun-26                                     | 1.50%              |
| MIDIS                  | Fully-amortising long-term NESH debt <sup>(3)</sup> | NESH IV  | 5<br>SH IV (84MW)                                   | 47.5% <b>.</b>                         | Inflation-linked              | 27.5                       | 21.5                       | Sep-34                                     | RPI +<br>1.44%     |
|                        |   | .,       |   |  | Fixed long-term               | 27.5                       | 24.3                       | Sep-34                                     | 4.11%              |
| Total long-term deb    | t   |          |   |  |                               |                            | 192.2                      |  |                    |
| NIBC                   | Revolving credit facility                           | NESH II  | 2<br>(28MW)   |  | N/a                           | 20.0                       | -                          | Feb-22                                     | LIBOR +<br>2.20%   |
| Banco Santander        | Revolving credit facility                           | NESH VI  | 13<br>(100MW)                                       |  | N/a                           | 70.0                       | 54.1                       | Jul-22                                     | LIBOR +<br>1.90%   |
| Total short-term del   | bt  |          |   |  |                               |                            | 54.1                       |  |                    |
| Total debt             |   |          |   |  |                               |                            | 246.3                      |  |                    |



<sup>(1)</sup> NESF has 325MW under long-term debt financing, 128MW under short-term debt financing and 359MW without debt financing

<sup>(2)</sup> Loan to Value defined as 'Debt outstanding / GAV'

<sup>(3)</sup> Long-term debt is fully amortised over the period secured assets receive subsidies (ROCs and others)
(4) Applicable rate represents the swap rate

## **Preference shares**

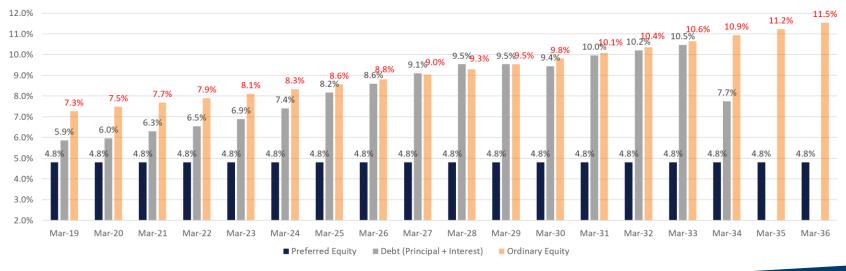
- An issuance of £200m is expected to increase dividend cover by 0.15x and returns by 1.09% for ordinary shareholders<sup>(2)</sup>
- Preference shares simplify the capital structure by reducing the exposure to secured debt financing
- Preference shares provide protection against diminishing power prices compared to traditional debt financing used by peers and have no refinancing risk
- Issuance of £200m preference estimated to have increased cashflows by £6.0m during the financial year compared to a proforma debt financing

On 8 November 2018, the Shareholders approved the issuance of £200m of Preference Shares. The Company issued the first tranche of £100m in November 2018, and the second tranche of £100m Preference Shares were issued in August 2019.

#### Value accretive features:

- lower issue cost of 1.1% compared to other capital raising avenues
- lower cash cost with a fixed preferred dividend of 4.75% and no redemption requirements
- option to redeem at nominal value starting from 1 April 2030 for six years at sole discretion of the Company
- non-redeemable / non voting shares<sup>(1)</sup> with holder's conversion right starting from 1 April 2036 at nominal value (plus unpaid dividend if any) relative to NAV per Ordinary Share at the date of conversion (thus no refinancing risk)

## **Alternative Funding Sources - Comparison of Fully-Costed Cost of Capital**





<sup>(1)</sup> Redemption rights in the event of delisting or change of control of the Company – Voting rights in the event of detrimental changes to the Investment Policy or Articles.

## **Investment policy limits**

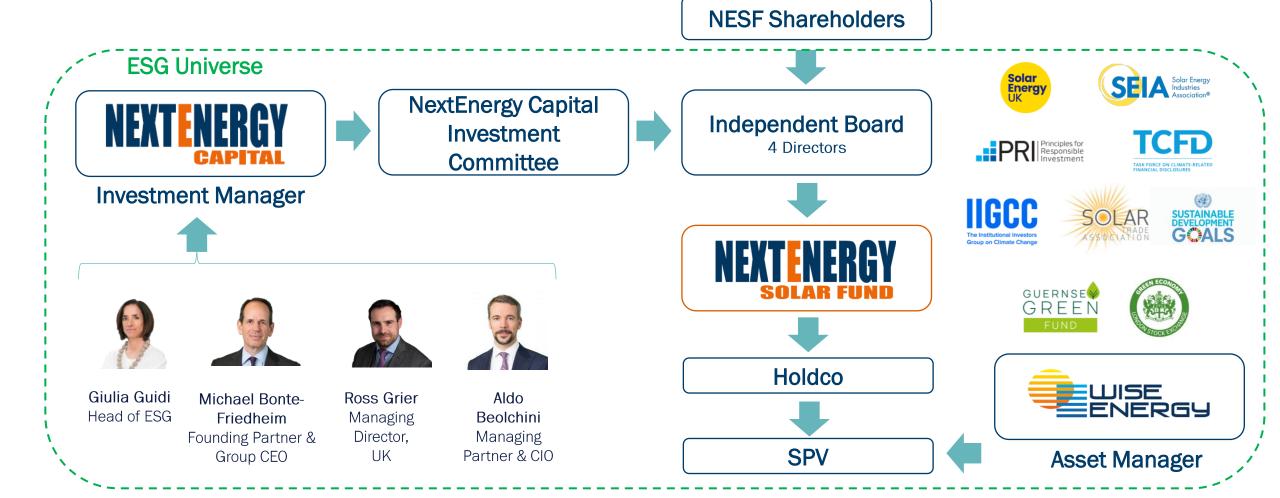
## **Investment Objective**

 To provide ordinary shareholders with attractive risk-adjusted returns, principally in the form of regular dividends, by investing in a diversified portfolio of primarily UK-based solar energy infrastructure assets

| Technological Limit  | <ul> <li>The Company may also invest in standalone energy storage systems (not ancillary to or co-located<br/>with solar PV assets owned by the Company) up to an aggregate limit of 10% of the Gross Asset<br/>Value (calculated at the time of investment).</li> </ul>  | 0% of GAV currently invested  |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Private Equity Limit | 15% of the Gross Asset Value may be invested in solar assets through private equity structures (calculated at the time of investment).  | 0% of GAV currently invested  |
| Geographical Limit   | <ul> <li>The Company is permitted to invest up to 30% of GAV (at the time of investment) in OECD countries outside the UK</li> <li>The Company may acquire an interest in solar PV assets located in non-OECD countries where those assets form part of a portfolio of solar PV assets in which the Company acquires an interest and where the Company's aggregate investment in any such assets is, at the time any such investment is made, not greater than 3% of the Gross Asset Value</li> </ul> | 11.3% of GAV currently invested in Italy  |
| Development Limit    | <ul> <li>The Company mostly acquires operating solar assets, but it may also invest in solar assets that are under development (that is, at the stage of origination, project planning or construction) when acquired.</li> <li>Such assets in aggregate will not constitute (at the time of investment) more than 10% of GAV</li> </ul>  | Currently constitutes     2.7% of GAV   |
| Single Asset Limit   | <ul> <li>No single investment by the Company in any one solar asset will constitute (at the time of investment) more than 30% of GAV.</li> <li>In addition, the four largest solar assets will not constitute (at the time of investment) more than 75% of GAV.</li> </ul>  | The largest<br>investment in one<br>solar asset currently<br>constitutes 4.3% of<br>GAV |
| Gearing Level        | Leverage of up to 50% of GAV  | <ul> <li>Gearing (including<br/>preference shares)<br/>stands at 43.3%</li> </ul>       |



## **NEC ESG approach to NextEnergy Solar Fund**





## **NEC's mission and sustainability framework**

- NEC's Mission: to generate a more sustainable future by leading the transition to clean energy
- NEC also aims to make a broader positive impact to society and has developed a Sustainability Framework based on three pillars, aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals ("SGDs")
- SDGs and targets have been selected as the underlying framework to identify, manage, and report on NEC's sustainability performance
- NEC is committed to implementing its Sustainability Framework both in its own operations (CSR) and in investments (ESG)
- In 2021/22, additional Key Performance Indicators are being considered to be able to report on the new EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Directive in 2022









## **NEC** sustainable investment: policy & commitments

- Integrating ESG principles in the investment process is critical to maximise the positive impact of the investment strategy
- NEC has a comprehensive Sustainable Investment Policy, which is publicly available, and continues to commit to evolve its processes
- Our Policy and commitments
   reflect our effort to address
   societal issues through collective
   action. To this extent we regularly
   engage with key leading industry
   partners and actively contribute to
   investor-led initiatives that
   address these issues

## Sustainable Investment Policy

- Publicly available and signed off by the CEO, in line with the EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation ("SDFR")
- Outlines NEC's Principles and Commitments
- SDG alignment and Mission to address global challenges
- Focus on Three Pillars:
- 1) Combating **climate change** is at the core of what we do; we are official supporters of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures ("**TCFD**"), increasing transparency to investors on climate-related risks and opportunities
- 2) Enhancing **biodiversity** at our sites through dedicated Biodiversity Management Plans, to support ecosystems and climate-resilient infrastructures
- 3) Respecting **human rights** throughout our value chain remains a key focus and challenge
- Integration Based on the UN PRI's Six Principles, the Policy now expands on excluded activities, screening and due diligence, reference standards, monitoring and reporting and engagement

## Leadership and Engagement

- We regularly engage with industry associations and leadership groups to address societal issues collectively and to implement best practice
- We expect all our stakeholders to be aware of our policies, standards, and requirements, and to abide by them

Supporter of:

IIGCC

Member of:

PRI Principles for Responsible Investment

Signatory of: Founder of:

NEXTENERGY FOUNDATION

In partnership with:

Green Investment Group

Preparing for alignment with:





## **ESG** integration into the NESF investment process

- ESG factors are considered throughout the investment process, from potential excluded activities during the project selection phase, to initial screening and full due diligence during the pre-acquisition phase
- ESG clauses are included in key contracts with our counterparties, including EPC and O&M contractors, and an action Plan to fill in any gaps between a project, its contractors and the standards which NEC seeks to uphold is agreed during the negotiation phase
- NEC ensure that the action plan is implemented, and that NESF report on its ESG performance
- Please see the NEC sustainable investment policy on the website for more details: nextenergycapital.com/sustainableinvesting/

#### PROJECT SELECTION

Only projects that pass our 'No Go' selection criteria are selected



#### ESG ASSESSMENT

Due diligence identifies discrepancies between the Seller/EPC/0&M's standards and NEC's



#### INVESTMENT NEGOTIATIONS

ESG clauses are incorporated into financial agreements and contracts



### RISK MANAGEMENT

ESG clauses are incorporated into financial agreements and contracts



#### INVESTMENT DIVESTITURE

Portfolio ESG reporting based on standard KPIs



#### **OPERATING PLANT MAINTENANCE**

Implementation of ESG Action Plan and KPI's monitoring and reporting



## POST-ACQUISITION IMPLEMENTATION

Execution of Action Plans and definition of ESG KPIs at each asset

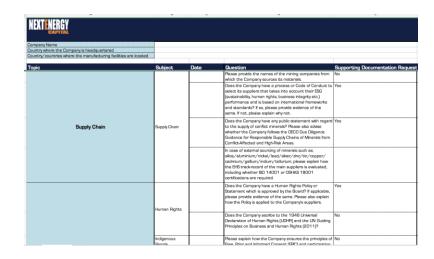


#### INVESTMENT DECISION

Documented ESG Memo to Investment Committee approving or declining



## **Supply Chain DDQ**

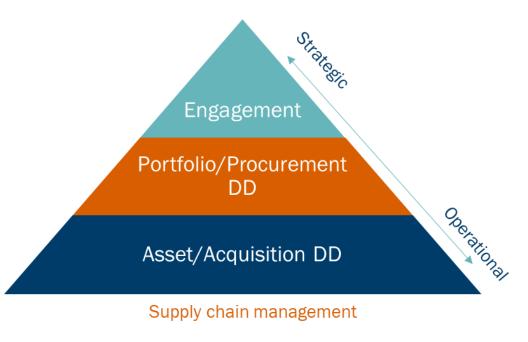




## **Supply Chain and Human Rights**

- NEC and NESF approach the subject of human rights abuse with the utmost importance and are committed to preventing modern slavery in their own activities and those related to their business relationships, including supply chain. This is supported by our public Policy and Statement
- NEC and NESF, in line with the principles set out in the Group's Human Rights Position Statement, strongly believe that this issue must be tackled **collectively** and through a **long-term engagement** process aimed to eradicate human rights abuses and raise labour practices and standard globally. To this extent, we recently sign the <u>Solar Energy UK (SEUK) pledge</u>, as well as the <u>US Solar Energy Industry Association pledge</u>, against slave labour and human right abuses
- NEC approach to supply chain management is consistent with the broader approach to ESG: we continue to monitor this issue through two parallel processes: **ongoing ESG due diligence** and an extensive **stakeholder engagement process**.
- A robust approach to risk management drives our investment decision, ensuring we identify and
  manage potential risks, including those related to our supply chain. The due diligence of suppliers is
  implemented both for secondary market acquisition and new developments and it is supported by a
  regular review of the suppliers with whom we have signed (or plan to have) a master framework
  agreement
- The objective of the due diligence is to allow us to act upon findings and take informed decisions.

  Acting upon findings can include engagement to seek improvement, potential re-negotiation of future contracts, or disengagement.





## The NextEnergy Foundation: COVID-19 response

### **Open Kitchens**

The NEC London office Christmas grant is being utilised to distribute food parcels to children and marginalised elderly across the UK. Together with NEF's additional support, approximately 1,535 food parcels are being delivered.

### **Intrecci Cooperativa Sociale**

Intrecci has set up several Solidarity Emporiums across Milan. These are food shops where vulnerable individuals and families can shop using pre-paid cards. From January 2021, NEF will top-up a number of pre-paid cards every month for 6 months. The recipients are currently being identified by local community help centres.

### **Associazione La Rotonda**

La Rotonda works to promote social initiatives across the most marginalised communities in Milan. The NEC Milan office Christmas grant was utilised to distribute over 80 food parcels to individuals and families in the Municipality of Baranzate over the holiday season.

### **Fondazione Francesca Rava**

NEF has reignited its partnership with Fondazione Francesca Rava to support their SOScuola project, which aims to ensure that all children across Italy can continue their studies effectively from home. A grant has been made to donate 20 laptops to this extent.

### The Akshaya Patra Foundation (UK)

The Akshaya Patra Foundation is an NGO originally established to eliminate classroom hunger in India. Since March 2020, it has cooked and distributed over 100,000 hot meals for those in need across Greater London. With NEF's support, an additional 6,600 meals were distributed.



### The Akshaya Patra Foundation (India)

The Akshaya Patra Foundation's Midday Meal Scheme serves hot, vegetarian meals to 1.8m children across India every school day. With the closure of schools, Happiness Boxes are now being provided instead, with dry rations for one month for the entire family, plus school and hygiene supplies. With NEC India office's Christmas grant and additional support from NEF, 1,666 Happiness Boxes will be distributed in the coming months.

Visit our new website for more information on all the projects which the Foundation has supported to date: <a href="https://www.nextenergyfoundation.org/">https://www.nextenergyfoundation.org/</a>



## 5-year track record

### Year Ended 31 March

| Financial Key Performance Indicators  | 2017   | 2018   | 2019    | 2020    | 2021    |
|---|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
|   |        |        |         |         |         |
| Ordinary shares in issue  | 456.4m | 575.7m | 581.7m  | 584.2m  | 586.9m  |
| Ordinary share price  | 110.5p | 111.0p | 117.5p  | 101.5p  | 99.6p   |
| Market capitalisation of ordinary shares  | £504m  | \$639m | £683m   | £593m   | £585m   |
| NAV per ordinary share*   | 104.9p | 105.1p | 110.9p  | 99.0p   | 98.9p   |
| Total ordinary NAV*   | £479m  | £605m  | £645m   | £579m   | £581m   |
| Premium/(discount) to NAV*  | 5.3%   | 5.6%   | 6.0%    | 2.5%    | 0.7%    |
| Earnings per ordinary share   | 13.81p | 5.88p  | 12.37p  | (5.09p) | 6.87p   |
| Dividend per ordinary share   | 6.31p  | 6.42p  | 6.65p   | 6.87p   | 7.05p   |
| Dividend yield*   | 5.7%   | 5.8%   | 5.7%    | 6.8%    | 7.1%    |
| Cash dividend cover - pre scrip dividends*  | 1.1x   | 1.1x   | 1.3x    | 1.2x    | 1.1x    |
| Preference shares in issue  | -      | -      | 100m    | 200m    | 200m    |
| Financial debt outstanding at subsidiaries level  | £270m  | £270m  | £269m   | £214m   | £246m   |
| Financial debt (financial debt/GAV)*  | 36%    | 31%    | 27%     | 22%     | 24%     |
| Gearing (financial debt + preference shares/GAV)*   | 36%    | 31%    | 36%     | 42%     | 43%     |
| GAV   | £749m  | £875m  | £1.014m | £991m   | £1,025m |
| Weighted average cost of capital  | 5.9%   | 5.8%   | 5.4%    | 5.5%    | 5.4%    |
| Ordinary shareholder total return - cumulative since IPO Ordinary shareholder total return - annualised since | 26.7%  | 33.6%  | 46.7%   | 37.5%   | 42.6%   |
| IPO   | 9.1%   | 8.5%   | 9.5%    | 6.3%    | 6.1%    |
| Ordinary shareholder total return   | 21.1%  | 6.2%   | 11.8%   | -7.8%   | 5.1%    |
| Ordinary NAV total return*  | 14.4%  | 6.3%   | 11.8%   | -4.5%   | 7.0%    |
| Ordinary NAV total return - annualised since IPO*   | 4.9%   | 7.0%   | 8.1%    | 5.9%    | 6.0%    |
| Ongoing charges ratio*  | 1.2%   | 1.1%   | 1.1%    | 1.1%    | 1.1%    |
| Weighted average discount rate  | 7.9%   | 7.3%   | 7.0%    | 6.8%    | 6.3%    |



## **Solar growth potential**

Predicted global solar capacity growth, 2019 and 2050

**832**<sub>GW</sub>

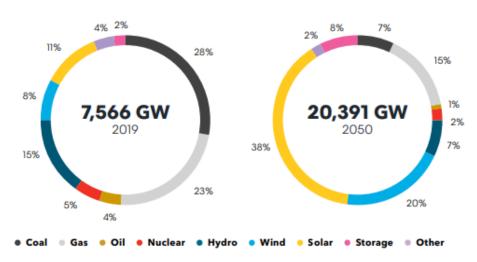
7,749<sub>gw</sub>

2019

2050

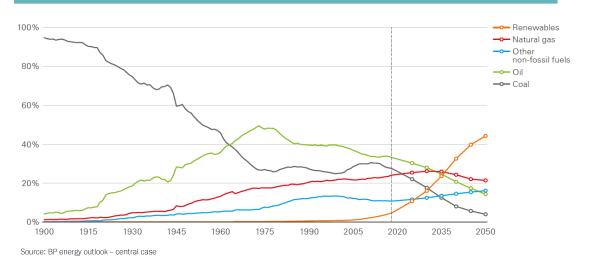
Source: BloombergNEF

## Global installed capacity mix, 2019 and 2050



Source: BloombergNEF

### Renewables predicted to be main energy source in future



### What will drive this demand?



- Immediate need to address global climate change
- Increase in global electrification, powered by clean energy
- Reduction in cost of renewable technologies
- Global government policy shift towards Net Zero
- Reduction in carbon emitting energy sources



- (1) Source: BloombergNEF
- (2) Source: BP energy outlook central case

## **NESF investment case - detail**









## Mandate for growth

Investment mandate allows investments up to 30% GAV internationally, 10% GAV into energy storage & 15% GAV into private structures



## Large diversified portfolio

Year-on-year portfolio growth providing diversification across key components, locations, subsidies, asset size and revenue streams



## Attractive dividend

Delivered inflation-linked, quarterly dividends to shareholders since IPO, irrespective of any volatility in the energy power price market



## **NAV** optimisation

NESF has undertaken several successful initiatives such as: asset life extensions, OPEX reduction and holding structure optimisation



### Shareholder returns

To date the fund has delivered a total ordinary shareholder return of 6.1% annualised and 42.6% cumulative since IPO



## Effective asset management and portfolio outperformance

Achieved continuous operating outperformance vs budget each year since IPO attributable to effective asset management by the NEC Group



## Efficient balance sheet financing structure

De-risked balance sheet, with preference shares being lower cash cost to NESF and providing downside protection to lower power prices



## Revenue optimisation

NESF proactively hedges its forward generation profile via NEC's electricity sales team to eliminate power price exposure



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