

## NextEnergy Capital forms Advisory Board

### Mr Corrado Passera, Sir Ed Davey and Dr Jeremy Leggett eminent founder members

NextEnergy Capital is pleased to announce the establishment of its Advisory Board. The Advisory Board will assist NextEnergy Capital's management in pursuing its on-going growth strategy in the global solar sector. Solar power is a key driver influencing the global energy market and its impact on societies, emerging and developed economies and investment opportunities for institutional long-term investors.

The founding members of the Advisory board comprise Mr Corrado Passera, Sir Ed Davey and Dr Jeremy Leggett.

Mr Corrado Passera is a former Minister in the Italian Government (2011-2013) and CEO of several international financial institutions. Sir Ed Davey is the former Secretary of State for Energy and Climate change in the United Kingdom (2012-2015). Dr Jeremy Leggett is a social entrepreneur and writer, founder of solar solutions companies and author covering the disruption of the global energy market.

NextEnergy is the leading asset and investment manager in the European solar sector, and intends to lead the consolidation of solar markets and deployment of long-term capital into new-build solar power plants across the geographies in which it is active.

Commenting on the creation of the Advisory Board, Michael Bonte-Friedheim, Founding Partner and CEO of NextEnergy Capital, said:

*"We are delighted to welcome this prestigious group of experienced professionals to our Advisory Board. I look forward to working with them to design, pursue and achieve our growth objectives in the international solar power sector. NextEnergy is focused on continuing our growth as the leading international asset and investment manager in this industry by increasing the dedicated capital we deploy in solar power plants and offering the preeminent operating asset management services to our clients.*

*"Their experience will also deepen our ability to navigate the uncertain environments in which we operate. Their track record and expertise spanning business, politics and the renewable energy sector will be extremely valuable to us."*

**-- Ends --**

For further information:

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### ***About NextEnergy Capital (NEC)***

NEC was founded in 2007 to become the leading investment and operating asset manager in the European solar sector.

Since its inception, it has been active in the development, construction and ownership of European solar assets. NEC is the investment manager of NextEnergy Solar Fund – at present the largest listed solar energy fund on the London Stock Exchange (with ticker NESF.L) – and NextPower II, a private equity fund active in the Italian solar market. NEC also owns WiseEnergy, the leading specialist operating asset manager in the solar sector.

NextEnergy Solar Fund invests in operating solar power plants in the UK. It currently owns 419MWp spread among 34 individual plants in the UK comprising an invested capital of c.£485m. NESF has raised equity proceeds of c.£465m since its initial public offering on the main market of the London Stock Exchange in April 2014.

NextPower II is a private equity fund investing in operating solar power plants, focused on Italy. Its strategy is to consolidate the substantial, highly fragmented Italian solar market, and has initial commitments of €150 million, secured from Prudential Plc, the UK subsidiary of Prudential Assurance Company, a leading institutional investor with more than £500 billion of assets under management.

WiseEnergy provides solar asset management, monitoring and technical due diligence services to over 1,250 utility-scale solar power plants with an installed capacity of nearly 2,000MWp. WiseEnergy's clients comprise leading debt and equity financiers to the European solar sector.

Further information on *NEC*, *WiseEnergy* and *NESF* is available at [www.nextenergycapital.com](http://www.nextenergycapital.com), [www.wise-energy.eu](http://www.wise-energy.eu) and [www.nextenergysolarfund.com](http://www.nextenergysolarfund.com).

### ***About NextEnergy Capital's Advisory Board Founder Members***

#### **The Rt Hon Sir Ed Davey**

Sir Ed was the Liberal Democrat Kingston and Surbiton MP between 1997 and 2015, and served in the Coalition, first as a Business Minister, and then in the Cabinet, as the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change (2012-2015).

He led the UK's low carbon transition, reforming electricity markets, trebling renewable power, brokering a deal for the EU's 2030 climate targets and launching policies to boost competition in energy markets.

Since leaving the Commons, Sir Ed has set up his own business – Energy Destinations – and consults in the energy space.

#### **Dr Jeremy Leggett**

Dr Jeremy Leggett is a social entrepreneur and writer. He founded and is a director of Solarcentury, an international solar solutions company (1997 - present), and founded and is chair of SolarAid, a charity funded with 5% of Solarcentury's annual profits that builds solar lighting markets in Africa via its wholly owned retail brand SunnyMoney (2006 – present).

He also chairs Carbon Tracker, a climate-and-finance think tank analysing climate risk in the capital markets.

Dr Leggett is a historian, futurist, and author of four books on the climate-and-energy nexus, the most recent of which is *The Winning of The Carbon War*, an account of what he sees as the “turnaround years” in the dawn of the global energy transition, 2013 -2015.

**Mr Corrado Passera**

Corrado Passera is a former Italian Minister of Economic Development, Infrastructure and Transport and CEO of several Italian financial institutions as well as industrial groups.

His ministerial duties spanned from 2011 to 2013. Previously, he was CEO of the Intesa Sanpaolo Group (2002-2011) and CEO of Poste Italiane (1998-2002).

Mr. Passera is also the founder of Italia Unica, a think-tank of experts sharing the objective of re-launching Italy and author of several books.

He was knighted by the President of the Italian Republic in 2006 with the Order of Merit for Labour.