

# Growth & Income

Portfolio Review • December 31, 2018



## Green Alpha<sup>®</sup>

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### Why Invest in Growth & Income?

- Active, long-only equity strategy combining current income with potential for capital growth
- Comprised of income producing, global Next Economy™ companies
- Invests in 25-35 companies developing innovative solutions to core economic and environmental risks
- Fossil fuel free since inception

**Inception Date:** October 8, 2012

**Style:** All-Cap Global Growth Equity

**Available Vehicle:** Separately Managed Account

### Next Economy Investment Philosophy

Green Alpha's investment philosophy is straight forward: don't invest in companies that cause global systemic risks; instead, invest in the solutions.

We believe companies that create or enable innovative solutions to climate change, resource scarcity and widening inequality are the greatest growth drivers of the twenty-first century. That's the Next Economy.



### Portfolio Construction: Growth & Income

The Growth & Income portfolio is designed for investors who desire the powerful combination of growth and income within one portfolio. The strategy seeks to provide long-term capital appreciation without excess volatility, while delivering dividend income at higher rates than the broad equity market. As with all active Green Alpha portfolios, Growth & Income constituents are taken from Green Alpha's Next Economy universe of stocks, meaning they meet both top-down (evaluating contribution to a sustainable economy) and bottom-up (fundamentals-based analysis) criteria. Growth & Income stocks are then selected for current or potential dividend yield coupled with strong current and expected growth at a reasonable price. Under normal market conditions, the portfolio is generally composed of at least 80% global equities and at most 20% cash and cash equivalents. Like all Green Alpha portfolios, the Growth & Income portfolio is a fossil fuel free, all-cap, cross-sector, global equity strategy.

Please see the final page of this document for important disclosures about portfolio, benchmark and characteristic information.

# Portfolio Overview: Growth & Income

Portfolio characteristics and how they compare to the S&P 500 (SPY) and other Green Alpha portfolios

## Growth & Income Characteristics

- **High Income** – a compelling combination of strong growth and higher dividend income than the broad equity market
- **Fundamentals-driven** – because the quality of the companies you invest in and the price you pay for them matter
  - ✓ **High growth** – indicated by Sales Growth, drop from current P/E to Forward P/E as revenue and earnings grow
  - ✓ **Compelling valuation** – demonstrated by Price/Sales, Price/Book metrics
  - ✓ **Strong balance sheet, solid management execution** – expressed by LT Debt/Equity, Current Ratio
- **Fossil fuel free since inception** – we have never invested in companies that prospect, extract, refine, or transport fossil fuels, nor fossil-fired utilities
- **Diversified** – we look for solutions wherever we can find them – across the globe, in firms of all sizes, and in every industry
- **Public equities, long-only** – largest asset class, largest opportunity for impact

Characteristics	Green Alpha Growth & Income	Benchmark: S&P 500 (SPY)	Green Alpha Next Economy Index	Green Alpha Next Economy Social Index	Green Alpha Next Economy Select	Sierra Club Green Alpha
# of Securities	32	500	115	95	52	42
Sales Growth, TTM	13.79%	12.42%	18.97%	20.81%	17.75%	16.59%
P/E, Current	28.23	25.24	35.65	36.16	20.12	24.64
P/E, 1-Year Forward <sup>†</sup>	16.67	14.45	18.53	20.07	17.26	17.15
Price/Sales	1.89	1.89	1.37	1.52	0.95	1.28
Price/Book	1.94	2.99	2.29	2.74	1.61	1.93
LT Debt/Equity	1.23	0.85	0.69	0.82	0.67	0.66
Current Ratio	1.83	1.82	2.89	2.91	2.44	2.55
Dividend Yield, TTM	5.83%	2.15%	1.87%	1.88%	2.27%	1.95%
US Domicile	80.95%	100%	74.19%	80.85%	69.84%	73.66%
Non-US Domicile	17.54%	-	23.96%	16.71%	28.94%	23.71%
Cash	2.48%	-	1.85%	2.43%	1.22%	2.62%
Market Capitalization Weighted Avg (US\$B)	25.35	201.30	54.74	50.83	41.36	52.52
Turnover, TTM	32%	-	25%	65%	15%	29%
Beta, Trailing Two Years	0.85	1.00	1.05	1.05	1.00	0.95

TTM = Trailing Twelve Months

<sup>†</sup> Bloomberg consensus estimates

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# Top Five Positions

And how they're driving progress toward the Next Economy

## Pattern Energy Group (Utilities, Power Generation)

- Portfolio of 20 wind power facilities with a geographical footprint that includes the US, Canada, Chile, Mexico.
- Also includes projects around solar, transmission & storage.
- High quality, investment grade, & long-term power purchase agreements (PPAs) translate to steady revenue stream.
- Women occupy two roles in Senior Management (20%) & two seats on the Board (29%).

Company Name	Ticker	Weight
Pattern Energy Group,	PEGI	8.12%
Terraform Power	TERP	8.05%
Horizon Technology Finance Corporation	HRZN	6.89%
Hannon Armstrong	HASI	6.43%
Qualcomm	QCOM	4.16%
<b>% of Portfolio</b>		<b>33.65%</b>

## Terraform Power (Utilities, Renewable Energy Generation)

- Owner of wind & solar power generations assets that serve utility, commercial & residential customers.
- Expanding global portfolio, with facilities located in the U.S., Canada, the UK, Spain, Portugal, Chile & Uruguay.
- Brookfield Renewable Partnership's sponsorship provides backing & credit security needed to continue TerraForm's expansion of its energy portfolio, while maintaining a high dividend payout proportion & overall yield.
- Women make up 50% of Senior Management & 14% of the Board.

## Horizon Technology Finance Corporation (Financials, Asset Management)

- Provides structured debt products (i.e., loans) to innovative companies.
- Has invested in more than \$1.2 billion in venture loans to 200+ growing businesses.
- Portfolio includes tech, cleantech, life sciences & healthcare companies.
- Offers public equity investors opportunity to invest in a loan venture fund (a basket of private, Next Economy companies) via a single stock.

## Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure (Financial, Real Estate)

- Portfolio spans wind, solar, sustainable infrastructure (water delivery system, storm water remediation, seismic retrofits), efficiency. Possess aggregate assets in multiple categories, all related to renewable energy & efficiency.
- Functions like a diversified financial/bank; investments are generally senior to those of the project sponsor, meaning very high quality.
- Senior Management includes two women (22%), as does its Board of Directors (29%).

## Qualcomm (Technology, Hardware)

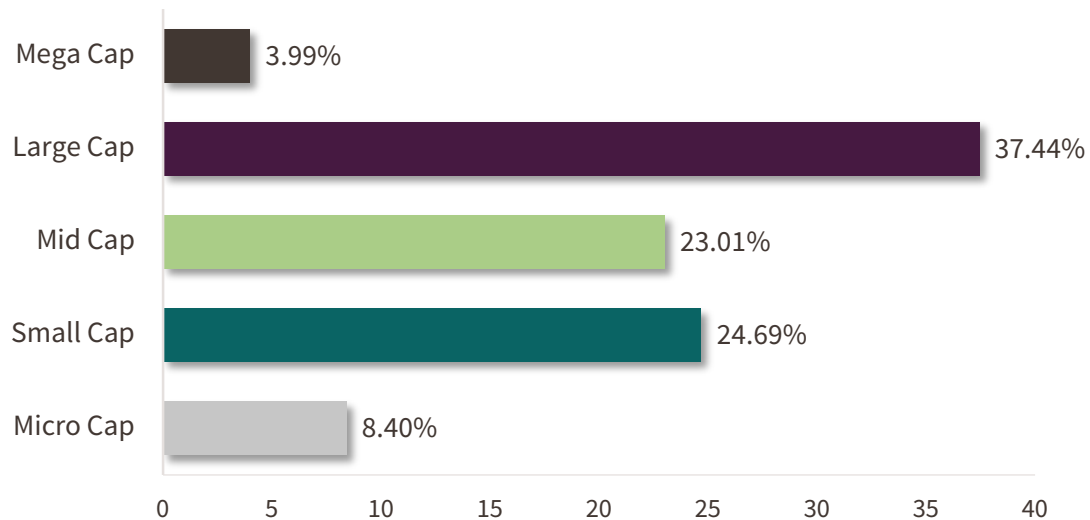
- Multinational company that designs and markets wireless telecommunications products and services.
- Connectivity—swift data exchange and use between devices—is key to an efficient/sustainable economy, & Qualcomm enables this across applications: auto, health care and tech (IoT, mobile computing, networking).
- Major R&D expenditure, signaling that they are doing everything they can to stay ahead of tech curve.

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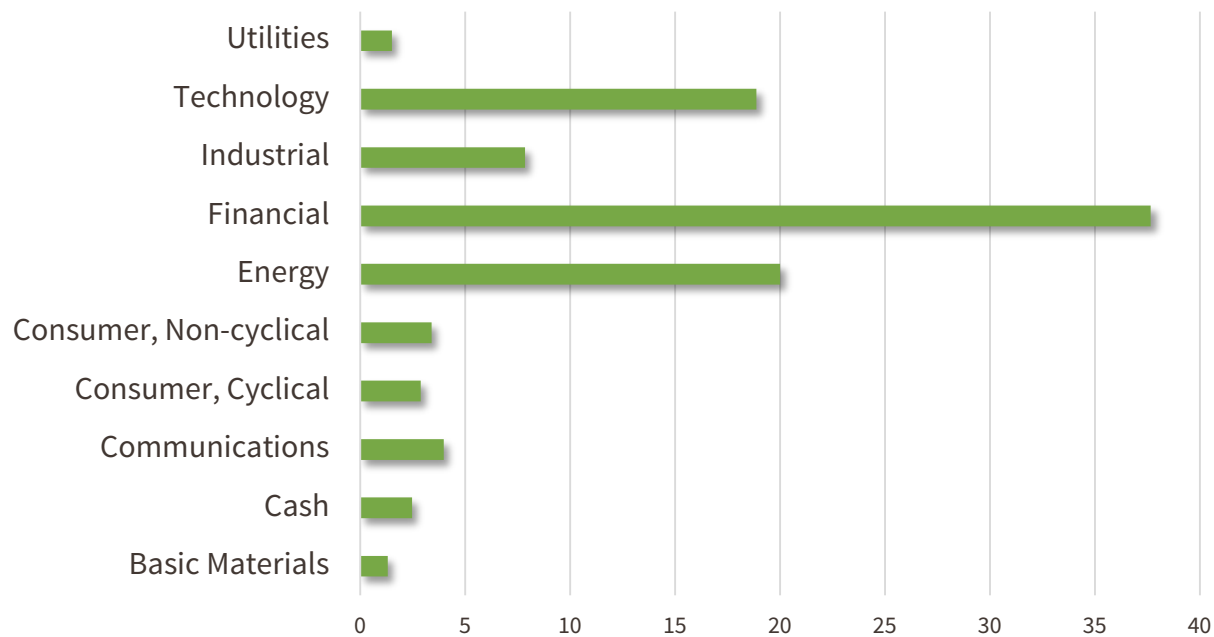
# Allocation by Market Cap & Sector

Our search for Next Economy companies is unconstrained. We seek solutions to systemic risks wherever they exist – across sectors, market caps, and geographies. The following divisions are the result of our Next Economy process, rather than the starting point.

## Equity Allocation by Market Cap



## BICS<sup>††</sup> Sector Allocation (% of Portfolio)



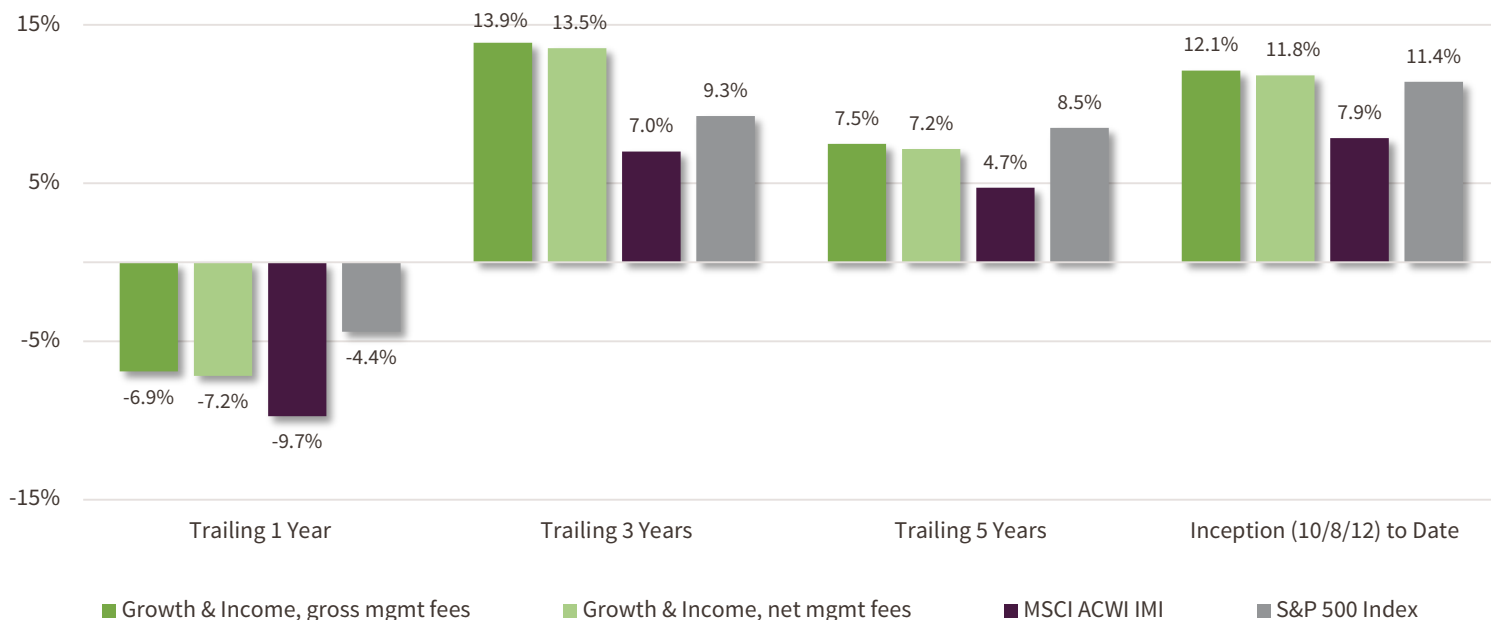
<sup>††</sup> Bloomberg Industry Classification Standard

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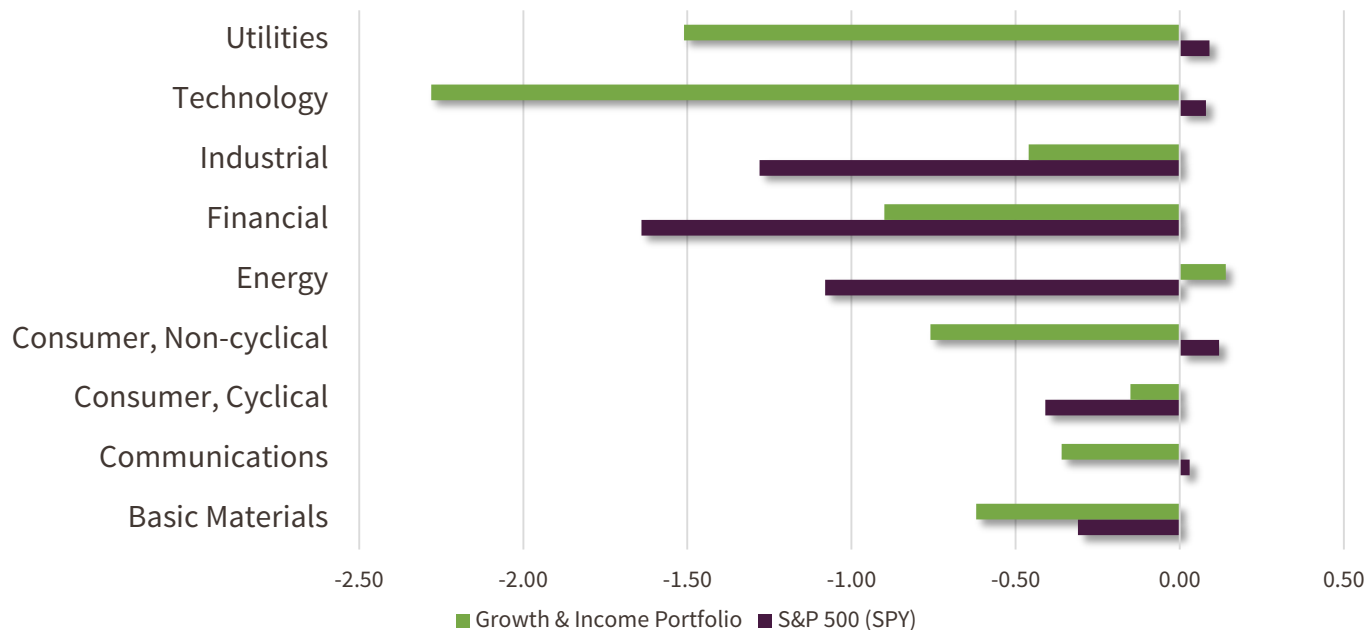
# Performance History & Sector Attribution

For commentary, see pages 7 - 9.

## Performance History



## Year to Date 2018 Sector Attribution by BICS<sup>††</sup>



<sup>††</sup> Bloomberg Industry Classification Standard

All returns presented above that are greater than 1 year in length have been annualized. Performance data quoted represent past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results and current performance may be lower or higher than the data quoted. Growth & Income performance results reflect performance of a model portfolio. The Growth & Income model performance does not reflect any transaction costs. Growth & Income performance results do reflect the reinvestment of dividends and interest. The Growth & Income model contains equity stocks that are managed with a view towards capital appreciation and current income. Extreme periods of underperformance or outperformance are due to the concentrated nature of the strategy and the impact of specific security selection. Such results may not be repeatable. Model performance has inherent limitations. The returns shown are model results only and do not represent the results of actual trading of client assets. The model performance shown does not reflect the impact that material economic and market factors had or might have had on decision making if the account held actual client capital. Actual client accounts in this strategy are managed by Green Alpha based on the model portfolio, but the actual composition and performance of these accounts may differ from those of the model portfolio due to differences in the timing and prices of trades, and the identity and weightings of securities holdings. Please see important disclosures on the final page of this document.

# Attribution: Top Five Contributors & Detractors

Next Economy innovation doesn't unfold overnight—or even a quarter. Think of this as one way of looking at the previous quarter's performance, not necessarily the long-term picture.

## Five Largest Contributing Stocks – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

Company Name	Ticker	Average Weight	Total Return	Contribution to Portfolio Return
<b>Xperi Corporation</b>	XPER	1.35%	25.67%	0.43%
<b>Vestas Wind Systems</b>	VWDRY	3.41%	11.96%	0.37%
<b>Horizon Technology Finance Corporation</b>	HRZN	6.91%	1.19%	0.09%
<b>Analog Devices, Inc.</b>	ADI	1.23%	-0.06%	0.01%
<b>Swiss Re</b>	SSREY	0.32%	0.31%	0.01%

## Five Largest Detracting Stocks – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

Company Name	Ticker	Average Weight	Total Return	Contribution to Portfolio Return
<b>Int'l Business Machines</b>	IBM	3.50%	-23.87%	-0.97%
<b>Qualcomm, Inc.</b>	QCOM	4.22%	-20.13%	-0.95%
<b>Steelcase, Inc.</b>	SCS	3.49%	-19.11	-0.69
<b>ABB</b>	ABB	2.79%	-19.55%	-0.60%
<b>Coresite Realty Corporation</b>	COR	2.18%	-20.52%	-0.53%

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. To obtain information about the calculation methodology used to select the representative account's largest contributors and detractors from performance or to obtain a list showing every holding's contribution to the account's performance during the measurement period, contact us at [info@greenalphaadvisors.com](mailto:info@greenalphaadvisors.com). Given differences in account sizes, custodial fee arrangements and other client-specific factors, not all accounts invested in the Growth & Income strategy experienced the exact portfolio contributions shown above. The holdings identified throughout this document do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, held or otherwise recommended for advisory clients. Nothing in this document should be considered recommendation to purchase or sell any particular security.

# Manager Commentary

2018 in Review



End-of-year 2018 was [one of the worst](#) that U.S. stock markets have experienced, and traders have no trouble finding reasons for pessimism. Like, maybe the [end of democracy](#), or at a minimum a [slowing of its economic benefits](#), is nigh. Beginning in December, the U.S. government was [closed 'indefinitely.'](#) or at least the shutdown can was kicked [down the road](#) to the next Congress. An [economy-shrinking trade war](#) is in effect. The [IPCC told us](#) we have 12 years to get our act together on climate disruption, and a U.S. federal climate change report described the [dangerous consequences](#) for American farmers if changes aren't made soon.

It's enough that you might ask, 'what's the point of being worried?'

Stewart Brand [wrote](#), "science is the only news...Human nature doesn't change much; science does, and the change accrues, altering the world irreversibly." In that light, this period is likely to be remembered by history less for Trump and more as the time when humanity [took control of its own evolution](#), artificial intelligence (AI) began to [usher in a "New World Order,"](#) and as the time when we either lost or regained control of our [system-level risks](#). It is in these last three pieces of our "only news" (as Brand would have it) that we see our present paradox: [risks](#) and [innovation](#) are peaking together, today, and it's not clear to which side of the knife's edge humanity will fall: toward an unimaginably better future of abundance or to an unimaginably worse one of ruin and dystopia.

This double precipice is why we have to invest to manage the risks that matter, why Green Alpha is here, and may be why you have placed your trust in Green Alpha to invest in the innovations driving progress toward the Next Economy™. When market sentiment is at its most negative is when investors can set themselves up for potential future gains.

In 2018, and particularly in Q4, markets began exhibiting the volatility [we predicted](#) would occur within the context of unpredictable political leadership. At the same time, business results, if not share prices, have been improving steadily in many Next Economy areas.

Green Alpha strategies had negative performance returns for the year, but they performed reasonably well relative to major benchmarks, albeit with more inter-strategy dispersion than we have seen in previous years. So, what did we observe about the ongoing transition to the Next Economy in 2018? (For those who may need a refresher on our thesis of Next Economics™, a quick audio overview can be found [here](#) and a more thorough white paper treatment is [here](#).)

**RE 100: growing corporate commitments to 100% renewables-based operations.** In 2018, we saw de-politicization of renewable energy as an idea. Corporations and governments around the world have been making formal commitments to deriving [100% of their electricity production from renewable sources](#), usually meaning wind and solar supported by battery storage. A Yale survey reported that 81% of Americans, including 64% of Republicans, now [support renewable energy](#). We've always believed that renewables represent great economic development and wealth creation opportunities, all while countering climate disruption and reducing pollution. Therefore, wind and solar should not be pawns in culture wars, and innovation shouldn't and ultimately can't be contained by ideology.

As of this writing, [RE 100](#) (an informal group of global companies committed to running their operations on 100% renewable energies) had 158 of the world's largest companies as [signatories](#). Many companies are eager to adopt renewable energies for the same reasons we invest in them; they de-risk the global economy relative to fossil fuels, and they are [cheap](#), meaning they increase the productivity of every dollar invested in a company. It's not surprising that 2018 was a [record year](#) for corporate purchasing of renewable energies. As Deloitte [said of energy](#) in 2018, "Solar and wind move from mainstream to preferred."

*Continued on page 8*

# Manager Commentary (cont.)

## 2018 in Review

**EVs are booming.** According to the [U.S. Department of Energy](#), “1 million plug-in vehicles have been sold in the United States” as of October 2018, up from zero in 2010. Electric vehicles (EVs) reached a per-month sales crescendo (until the next one) of 45,000 vehicles per month. This is occurring even though overall vehicle sales are down, meaning EVs are increasing their market share. This has significant implications not only for climate change and pollution mitigation but also for industries all along the value chain of EVs—advanced materials, battery storage, microgrids, AI (including autonomy), charging infrastructure, and electricity demand versus liquid BTU demand. All of these areas are likely to see more rapid growth. Audi, Mercedes-Benz, BMW and BMW Mini, Nissan, Porsche, Kia, and Volvo all have announced [new all-electric vehicles for 2019](#), and many more will follow in 2020, including VW. We predict EVs will continue to be responsible for any new growth in the personal vehicle space.

**California is leading.** The world’s fifth largest economy is showing us how to accelerate the transition to sustainability. The 2018 highlight was SB 100, a law that set a target of 100% clean energy by 2045, making California the [largest political jurisdiction](#) to make such a commitment. The law confirmed new standards that require panels to be installed on any new home or low rise residential building of three stories or less—about 80,000 new homes a year. That could quadruple the amount of solar in California.

The state’s 100% [zero-emission bus rule](#) states that all state transit authorities must convert to 100% electric transit vehicles by 2040. By 2029, all government transit bus services have to be zero-emissions vehicles, and California is providing incentives for cities to get there.

In electricity, transit, and electrification of homes (including heating), the importance of California’s efforts shouldn’t be understated. Over and over, we’ve seen that centers of innovation lead to global changes, even in the face of [significant resistance](#). The economic scale of the state alone means businesses around the world hoping to sell into or work in the state must adapt to their policies.

However, the political economy of technology is now visibly ascendant. The days of policy preceding change are ending, and policy is increasingly reacting to tech- and innovation-based change. Thus, for us, investing on the basis of proactive policy will be of limited utility. California’s leadership is outstanding, but it works because the underlying green tech is productive and economically efficient. All that said, intelligent policy will pay for research that is likely to improve green tech over the long-term, but does not have immediate return on investment. Here too, California is [“going solo,”](#) and in the lead.

**AI is rising.** Green Alpha invests along the value chain that is enabling AI to emerge as a source of innovation (e.g., [Google](#)’s quantum computing) and, perhaps more importantly, a way to address problems insoluble by human minds, perhaps ultimately enabling humanity to have good standards of living around the world without further crossing planetary boundaries. Taking the long view, Steven Strogatz [put it down](#) clearly: “we will recall with pride the golden era of human insight, this glorious interlude, a few thousand years long, between our uncomprehending past and our incomprehensible future.”

### **Common threads among Green Alpha portfolios: thesis and management consistency**

To have a shot at earning alpha and outperforming markets and peers, an investment manager has to look at the world from a different angle. Most managers conform to benchmark tracking—settling for beta or market-comparable returns—because the consequences of a period of underperformance could be significant. At Green Alpha, your portfolio managers are founders and plurality owners of the firm. We invest every day, we strive to remain fully invested every day, and we strictly adhere to our thesis, even during periods of volatility, with conviction that long-term results will remain competitive.

*Continued on page 9*



# Manager Commentary (cont.)

## 2018 in Review

This frees us to strive for outperformance without the handcuffs of benchmark correlation. Consequently, we define our own portfolio construction methodologies and address the world as it is, rather than faithfully employing Modern Portfolio Theory. The problem with the ubiquity of the present application of Modern Portfolio Theory is that if any given manager sees the world the same way as every other manager, they will likely miss market inefficiencies and have low probabilities of achieving standout performance as a result. Free of Modern Portfolio Theory, we can fully commit to our Next Economy thesis, and the world we see unfolding, without feeling the need to mimic benchmarks that represent the carbon-intensive economy of the past. Seeing things differently has the risk of short-term periods of underperformance, yet it is a necessary precondition of long-term outperformance.

Next Economy investing, like private equity investing, requires patience, and it does mean that Green Alpha will experience periods of both underperformance and outperformance over shorter time periods. In 2018, we saw both, and with more dispersion among [our strategies](#) than we have observed in previous years.

### **Growth & Income - Portfolio Commentary**

Green Alpha Growth & Income fared the best of our strategies in 2018, and returned -6.90%, gross of management fees, during the year.

- Primary detractors during 2018 were the Technology and Utilities Sectors, detracting 2.28% and 1.37%, respectively, during the period.
  - In Technology, Semiconductors as an industry performed the worst, detracting 1.51% from overall 2018 performance. Makers of integrated circuits, chips, remote sensors, system-on chip designers and makers, and upstream capital equipment required to produce these items all suffered. The often cited reasons was a “secular slowdown” in chip demand, caused by perceptions of a globally slowing economy, along with mature device markets. These concerns may prove valid in the short-term, but in the long run, the global economy will need far more advanced chipsets, not fewer.
  - In Utilities, the Electric Utilities industry was down and responsible for most of the sector’s losses at -1.20%, primarily due to a large, solar energy based utility being taken private at an unfavorable valuation.
- Energy was the portfolio’s leading sector, contributing 0.14%, followed by the Consumer, Cyclical Sector, which contributed -0.15%.
  - In Energy, a solar utility, a wind utility, and a wind energy equipment maker together contributed the entire 0.14% gain for the industry. The predictable cash flows and dividend-paying nature of utilities was probably part of the reason. The wind turbine manufacturer also had a year of record demand and increasing sales as the world’s energy grid converts to renewable energies, and wind continued to gain market share away from fossil-fuels fired electricity generation.
  - In the Consumer, Cyclical Sector, sustainable Office Furnishings as an industry combined for the Sector’s entire -0.15% return. Of the two portfolio names from this industry, one was up and one was down, with the provider of slightly more affordable chairs and desks showing the positive return.

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