

Excerpt from Financial Post, March 30, 2021

<https://financialpost.com/pmn/business-pmn/solar-stock-surge-fades-with-search-for-post-lockdown-winners>

also, on Bloomberg.

Solar Stock Surge Fades With Search for Post-Lockdown Winners

(Bloomberg) — The stellar surge in solar-energy stocks is faltering as investors turn their focus to bargains that may benefit from the end of lockdowns.

Following a jump of more than 230% in 2020, The ... Solar ... has fallen 18% this year, with members of the fund including Sunnova Energy International Inc. and Sunrun Inc. down by more than that. The WilderHill Clean Energy Index, which skyrocketed almost sixfold in roughly 11 months through Feb. 9, has since fallen more than 30%. Both are set to have their first quarterly loss in a year.

After seeking to capitalize on high-flying growth stocks, like solar, equity investors are on the lookout for so-called value investments that look cheap and have the potential to rally when economies return to normal. So, it's understandable that solar is seeing some profit-taking as portfolios rotate, said Raymond James analyst Pavel Molchanov.

Sunnova ... company's fundamentals haven't changed but the market's attitude has.

"Undeniably, solar stocks, as well as other growth stocks, have been under pressure as of late, driven by investors' concerns on rising interest rates, shorter term focused investors' profit taking, a market wide shift in focus from growth to value stocks and indiscriminate selling," ... said in an email.

In addition to relative valuations for clean energy running a little hot compared to the broader market,

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Still, the fundamentals for residential solar remain strong: U.S. installations are poised to break last year's record, President Joe Biden is keen to make the country's electric system green, and grid outages are convincing more Americans to get rooftop systems and home batteries.

And Washington is poised to start work on "an infrastructure bill that I suspect will include things that are advantageous for solar," ... said in an interview.