

**Client:** First London Securities  
**Source:** Investment Adviser (Main)  
**Date:** 03 November 2008  
**Page:** 5  
**Circulation:** 15088  
**Size:** 240cm2  
**AVE:** 1418.4

Firm will launch fund investing in sustainable energy research early next year

# First London to roll out clean tech fund

**LAUNCH**  
by Rob Langston

First London has revealed plans to launch a new energy technology fund to invest in sustainable energy research and technology methods.

The company announced its intentions to launch the fund after commissioning a new report into investment opportunities in "energy poverty", or the lack of affordable or renewable energy.

Guy Saxton, chief executive at First London, said the company would also be working to develop financing solutions for nuclear power.

Mr Saxton said the fund, which will be "almost exclusively" a clean tech fund, will launch in three to six months' time.

He added: "We think an energy technology fund that can

**"A fund that can provide solutions to energy savings and increase electrification will be popular"**



**Guy Saxton,  
First London**

provide solutions to energy savings and increase electrification will be very popular."

Electrification aims to bring electricity into rural areas as a way of reducing reliance on other energy sources such as batteries or individual generators.

The report, authored by the London School of Economics, found investors who have introduced micro-electrification could see returns of up to 21 per cent.

It also predicted annual global investment of roughly \$170bn (£103.3bn) until 2020 in energy productivity could cut greenhouse gas emissions in half, while producing returns of 17 per cent.

Mr Saxton said improving energy efficiency would also bring more environmental benefits.

"In the same way as there is a financial crash, there will be an environmental crash."

First London will look to fund the development of the nuclear energy industry as a way of reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

"There are going to have to be more nuclear reactors," Mr Saxton said. "We're looking at the nuclear industry to try and provide financial solutions for funding."

According to Mr Saxton, the

idea to investigate the energy saving technology and the nuclear industry had been inspired by a report from the Opec Fund for International Development.

The Portfolio Investment, Energy Poverty and Environmental Sustainability report highlighted the relationship between energy poverty and the economic productivity of developing countries.

Christopher Wright, research fellow at the London School of Economics, said energy provision had a broad influence, affecting poverty, efficiency and climate change.

He said: "The report considered the investment opportunities that have arisen as a result of market-based regulations intended to provide incentives for investors to finance projects with development benefits."