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http://articles.marketwatch.com/2012-11-05/commentary/34917594_1_stock-market-component-stocks-green-energy

Are coals stocks predicting a Romney win?

Commentary: A look at favored sectors is a piece of the puzzle

Using each candidate's focus industries, we can glean clues as to whom the market thinks is going to win

While trading sites such as Intrade allow traders to place actual money bets on which candidate will win the presidency for the next four years, public opinion is also manifested in the stock market. There are probably as many ways to analyze what the stock market thinks as there are analysts, but my favorite is looking at each candidate's favorite initiatives.

To be clear, I am not going to predict a winner. Take the following analysis as one piece of a very complex prognostication puzzle.

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The tide has turned in the coal sector and that bodes well for the challenger.

The president, on the other hand, is associated with ... and green energy in a positive way and possibly banking and oil companies in a negative way. It is a bit harder to isolate just one sector to represent the President's agenda so let's just take a brief look at the most visible — green energy.

Unfortunately, most of the publicly traded solar-energy companies are based in China. Most of the publicly traded wind stocks are traded in Europe. But the Powershares Wilderhill Clean Energy ETF (US:PBW) covers a wider selection of green-related stocks and is nearly 80% U.S.-based.

.... However, we can still use it to get a feel for the market's opinion on the green-energy sector.

As of late October, that opinion is not good (see Chart 2). The ETF recently fell to an all-time low and is approximately 30% below its bottom at the end of the last bear market. Momentum remains to the downside, too.

I do not want to put too much emphasis on green-energy stocks as most of them are quite low priced and many are not actively traded. But the charts are indeed weak and that does not bode well for the White House incumbent.

Again, this is not a prediction and is only one part of the puzzle. There are far too many variables to watch even when restricting analysis to the stock market. How investors view the regulatory climate, Fed policy, social issues and many other factors also play big roles. But for those who are assembling a portfolio of election prognostications, coal vs. green energy analysis leans towards the challenger.