## DEARBORN PARTNERS

Another Dearborn Partners Core Rising and High & Rising Dividend SMA Portfolio Increase: NextEra Energy

On February 12, 2021, NextEra Energy, Inc. (NEE) announced a 10% increase in its quarterly dividend per share to \$0.385 (\$1.54 annually) from \$0.35 (\$1.40 annually). The cash dividend will be paid on March 15, 2021 to holders of record as of February 26, 2021. This is the 27<sup>th</sup> consecutive annual increase in the dividend paid by NextEra Energy.

From the press release: "The board's approval to continue to grow our dividends per share in excess of our long-term expected adjusted earnings per share growth rate is a result of our success in executing on our industry-leading business strategy," said Jim Robo, chairman and chief executive officer of NextEra Energy. "With a 61% payout ratio at the end of 2020, well below the peer average of approximately 64%, and the continued strength of the earnings and operating cash flow growth at NextEra Energy, we remain well-positioned to continue to support the dividend policy going forward. I believe we continue to offer a best-in-class investor value proposition, with above-average dividend growth and clear visibility to deliver financial results at or near the top end of our adjusted earnings per share expectations ranges in 2021, 2022 and 2023, while at the same time maintaining our strong credit ratings."

NextEra Energy, Inc. is a leading clean energy company headquartered in Juno Beach, Florida. NextEra Energy owns Florida Power & Light Company, which is the largest rate-regulated electric utility in the United States as measured by retail electricity produced and sold, and serves more than 5.6 million customer accounts, supporting more than 11 million residents across Florida with clean, reliable, and affordable electricity. NextEra Energy also owns a competitive clean energy business, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, which, together with its affiliated entities, is the world's largest generator of renewable energy from the wind and sun and a world leader in battery storage. Through its subsidiaries, NextEra Energy generates clean, emissions-free electricity from seven commercial nuclear power units in Florida, New Hampshire, and Wisconsin. A Fortune 200 company and included in the S&P 100 index, NextEra Energy has been recognized often by third parties for its efforts in sustainability, corporate responsibility, ethics and compliance, and diversity. NextEra Energy is ranked No. 1 in the electric and gas utilities industry on Fortune's 2021 list of "World's Most Admired Companies" and received the S&P Global Platts 2020 Energy Transition Award for leadership in environmental, social and governance.

NextEra Energy, Inc. is in the Utilities sector of both of our Dearborn Partners Rising Dividend separately managed account (SMA) portfolios. So far this year, 10 of 49 companies in our Core Rising Dividend portfolio have announced 10 dividend increases averaging about 12.7% more than these companies paid a year earlier. In our High & Rising Dividend Portfolio, 7 of 25 companies have announced 7 dividend increases averaging about 7.4% more than these companies paid a year earlier. No companies in these portfolios have reduced or suspended dividends so far this year.

Thank you for your continued interest in our Dearborn Partners Rising Dividend Strategy.

This dividend increase announcement is not a complete description of, nor a recommendation to invest in, any investment strategy (the "Strategy") mentioned herein. It is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer to sell nor a solicitation to buy, is not a recommendation regarding any securities transaction, nor is it an offer to provide advisory or other services by Dearborn Partners, L.L.C. The information contained in this writing should not be construed as financial or investment advice on any

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