



3 Under-the-Radar Stocks to Buy in January 2023

Description

The energy sector was the brightest spot of the **S&P/TSX Composite Index** in 2022, an extremely volatile year for stocks. About 37%, or 14 of the 30 top-performing [growth stocks](#) featured in the 2022 edition of the TSX30 program of the **TMX Group**, were oil and gas companies.

Many market analysts predict the sector will again dominate in 2022. If you're looking for names that could deliver superior returns, three under-the-radar stocks you can buy this month are also [energy constituents](#). **Cathedral Energy Services Ltd** (TSX:CET), **Whitecap Resources Inc.** (TSX:WCP) and **NexGen Energy Ltd.** (TSX:NXE) are cheap but profitable options.

High-flyer

Cathedral Energy is a TSX30 winner in 2022 and ranked 23rd. However, if the winners were announced today, the high-flying energy stock would land in the top 10. At \$1.41 per share, the 386.2% total return in 3 years translates to a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 69.2%.

Last year, investors were happy with the 231.6% capital gain. Had you invested \$5,000 at year-end 2021, your money would have been worth \$16,578.95 on December 30, 2022. Market analysts' 12-month average price target is \$3.59, or a 154.6% return potential.

The \$316.5 million firm provides directional drilling services to energy companies in North America. In the nine months that ended September 30, 2022, net income reached \$8 million compared to a \$7.5 million net loss from a year ago. However, free cash flow (FCF) soared tremendously in the same period by 2,970% to \$25.4 million.

Earn two ways

Whitecap Resources isn't a high-flyer like Cathedral Energy, but it's a winning stock in 2022, with its 46% overall return. The advantage of this \$6.45 billion oil and gas company is that you can earn two ways, from price appreciation and dividends. At \$10.60 per share, the dividend offer is 4.37%.

Like most industry players, Whitecap benefits from the favourable pricing environment and generates considerable cash flows. After three quarters in 2022, the \$1.6 billion cash flow from operating activities represents a 104.8% year-over-year increase.

Management expects to reach its final net debt target of \$1.3 billion by mid-year 2023. Once the oil-weighted growth company achieves the milestone, the plan is to return 75% of free funds flow to shareholders.

Uranium producer

NexGen Energy is a profitable investment like Cathedral Energy, given its 303.2% overall return in 3 years (58.96% CAGR). As of this writing, the share price is \$6.26. The \$3 billion company is the developer of the Rook I Project, a low-cost producing uranium mine.

Besides the 100%-owned project, NexGen has several highly prospective projects in its portfolio. Management's primary focus is to acquire, explore, and develop Canadian uranium projects. NexGen believes that uranium will play a critical role in the delivery of a clean energy future for the planet.

Industry experts consider the land package in northern Saskatchewan the pre-eminent uranium exploration area globally for high-grade, high-tonnage mineralization. The exploration and development stage company has yet to see profits but still attracts an elite customer base.

Multi-baggers

I no longer see Cathedral Energy, Whitecap Resources, or NexGen flying under the radar. All three are high-growth stocks and potential multi-baggers in 2023.

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2. TSX:NXE (NexGen Energy Ltd.)
3. TSX:WCP (Whitecap Resources Inc.)

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