

MarketWatch | Refined Products

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Market Commentary

Recap: The oil market sold off sharply on Tuesday on concerns over the economy amid discussions on ways to avoid a debt default and ahead of the Fed's expected U.S. rate hike on Wednesday. The oil complex and the stocks indexes fell as the cost of insuring against a U.S. debt default reached new highs after the Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen, said the government would likely be unable to meet all payment obligations by early June. The crude market, which posted a high of \$76.11 in overnight trading, sold off sharply, breaching its previous lows and retraced more than 62% of its move from a low of \$64.58 to a high of \$83.38 as it posted a low of \$71.42 ahead of the close. The market shrugged off the news that OPEC's oil output fell in April as sanctions countries Russia and Iran continue to find outlets for their crude. The June WTI contract settled down \$4 at \$71.66 and the July Brent contract settled down \$3.99 at \$75.32. The product markets ended the session sharply lower, with the heating oil market settling down 9.31 cents at \$2.4357.

<u>Market Analysis</u>: The crude market on Wednesday will initially be driven by the weekly petroleum stocks reports, which are expected to show draws of over 1 million barrels across the board. The market will seek further direction from the Federal Reserve rate decision later in the afternoon. An expected 25 basis point will pressure the market further. The oil market is seen finding support at its low of \$71.42 followed by the \$70.47, the \$70 level, \$69.27 and \$67.02. Meanwhile, resistance is seen at \$72.95, \$73.40, \$74.40, \$75.17, \$75.99 and its high of \$76.11. More distant upside is seen at \$76.69, \$76.92, \$77.40 and \$77.93.

Fundamental News: According to Refinitiv tracking, global diesel exports to Europe are expected to increase to 7.37 million tons in April, the highest since January. This week, Refinitiv is tracking 2.41 million tons of seaborne diesel exports to Europe. This is compared with 2.3 million tons scheduled a week ago, which fell to 1.47 million tons following delays, changes to orders and missing Russian barrels and of which 210,000 tons has yet to be fully discharged. Meanwhile, Northwest European gasoline exports of ar in April stand at 1.39 million tons, down from 1.79 million tons exported in March.

According to a Reuters survey, OPEC's oil output fell in April due to a halt in some of Iraq's exports and delays to Nigerian shipments, adding to the impact of strong adherence by top producers to a supply cut deal by the wider OPEC+ alliance. OPEC produced 28.62 million bpd in April, down 190,000 bpd from March. Output is down more than 1 million bpd from September. OPEC's quota bound members complied with 194% of pledged cuts in April, up from 173% in March. The OPEC+ group cut its output by 180,000 bpd in April to 24.22 million bpd, or about 1.2 million bpd below the target. This followed a 930,000 bpd shortfall in March. The largest decline of 200,000 bpd was in Iraq where companies have reduced output in the northern Kurdistan region following a halt to the export pipeline in March. Higher exports from southern Iraq limited the decline. The second largest decline of 100,000 bpd came from Nigeria, where Exxon declared force majeure on liftings at its terminals in the country following a labt or dispute. OPEC's Gulf producers Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE maintained high compliance with their targets under the OPEC+ deal, keeping output steady at 10.43 million bpd, 2.68 million bpd and 3.04 million bpd, respectively.

According to a Bloomberg survey, OPEC's oil output fell by 310,000 bpd to an average of 28.8 million bpd, the lowest level in almost a year. OPEC's output fell as Iraq's exports were reduced by a pipeline suspension and a labor strike cut shipments from Nigeria.

Iran's Oil Minister, Javad Owji, said Iranian oil production has surpassed 3 million bpd.

Sprague HeatCurve October-April

Early Market Call - as of 8:20 AM EDT

WTI - June \$69.77, down \$1.89 RBOB - June \$2.3851, down 5.01 cents HO - June \$2.2354, down 5.38 cents

ULSD (HO) **Prior Settle** Change In Month Close Change One Week Jun-23 2.2892 -0.0931 -0.1585 Jul-23 2.2915 -0.0925 -0.1577 Aug-23 2.2981 -0.0930-0.1568Sep-23 2.3078 -0.0930-0.1535Oct-23 -0.0918 2.3171 -0.1478 2.3208 -0.0897 -0.1427 Nov-23 Dec-23 2.3204 -0.0875 -0.1392 Jan-24 2.3237 -0.0861 -0.1352Feb-24 2.3235 -0.0848-0.1296Mar-24 2.3157 -0.0831 -0.1240Apr-24 2.2986 -0.0811 -0.11882.2890 -0.0792-0.1163May-24 2.2798 -0.0778 -0.1152 Jun-24 Jul-24 2.2776 -0.0764 -0.1119 Aug-24 2.2758 -0.0748-0.1085Sep-24 2.2733 -0.0742-0.10642.2713 -0.0726-0.1050Oct-24 Sprague HeatCurve October 2023-April 2024 \$2.3188 Close Change Crude - WTI June Brent-\$71.5500 -\$3.9600 WTI Spread Crude - Brent \$75.3200 -\$3.9900 Natural Gas \$3.77 \$2.2140 -\$0.1040 Gasoline \$2.4357 -\$0.1147

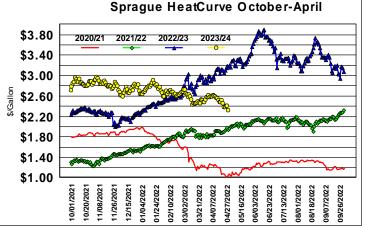
All NYMEX | Prior Settlements

API Report for the Week Ending April 28, 2023

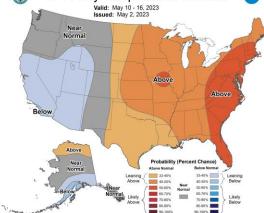
Crude Oil Stocks(exl SPR) Gasoline Stocks Distillate Stocks Refinery Runs Actual Down 3.9 million barrels Up 351,000 barrels Down 975,000 barrels Mkt Expectations

Down 1.1 million barrels Down 1.2 million barrels Down 1.1 million barrels Up 0.3% at 91.6%

8-14 Day Weather Forecast



8-14 Day Temperature Outlook



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