

# MarketWatch | Refined Products

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

## **Market Commentary**

**Recap:** The oil market traded lower on Tuesday as the market continued to watch events unfold in the Middle East. It traded lower in overnight trading before it posted the day's trading range from a high of \$87.47 to a low of \$85.60 by mid-day amid the concerns over geopolitics and global oil supplies. The market retraced more than 38% of its move from a low of \$82.31 to a high of \$88.33 in light of comments made by Saudi Aramco's CEO, who stated that the company could increase its oil production within weeks if needed, as global consumption is set to reach a record level by year-end. The market later bounced off its low and traded sideways ahead of President Joe Biden's trip to Israel to prevent the conflict in the Middle East from widening. The market also positioned themselves ahead of the weekly petroleum stocks reports due later on Tuesday and Wednesday morning. The November WTI contract settled unchanged at \$86.66 and the December Brent contract settled up 25 cents at \$89.90. The product markets settled in positive territory, with the heating oil market settling up 2.75 cents at \$3.1767 and the RB market settling up 1.15 cents at \$2.2845.

<u>Market Analysis</u>: The oil market will continue to trade sideways in its recent trading range amid the uncertainty over geopolitics. Its daily stochastics are pointing sideways. It will look to the weekly petroleum stocks reports for further direction. The crude market is seen finding support at its low of \$85.60, \$85.32, \$84.61 followed by \$83.35, \$82.31 and \$81.50. Meanwhile, resistance is seen at \$87.47, \$88.33, \$89.59, \$90.27 and \$91.88. More distant upside is seen at \$93.10 and \$95.03.

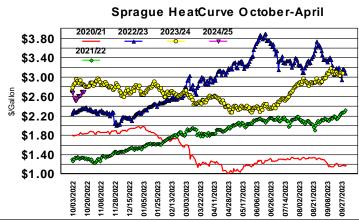
Fundamental News: U.S. Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, said the United States and Israel had agreed to develop a plan to get humanitarian aid to civilians in Gaza without benefiting Hamas, and that President Joe Biden would visit Israel this week to hear how it would minimize civilian casualties in its war effort. Washington's top diplomat was on the fifth consecutive day of round-the-clock diplomacy in the region, shuttling back to Israel after visiting six Arab countries in four days. He said the U.S. shared Israel's concern that Hamas may seize or destroy aid entering Gaza or prevent it from reaching people in need. He also said that President Biden would travel to Israel on Wednesday to make clear that the top U.S. ally has the right to defend itself after Hamas gunmen rampaged through southern Israeli towns and military bases on October 7th, killing at least 1,300 people. Washington has moved an aircraft carrier strike group to the eastern Mediterranean and is set to move another carrier to the region in coming days, moves Blinken has said are meant as a deterrent, not a provocation. A U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the Bataan, another warship, was heading near the coast of Israel and would include a Marine expeditionary unit, with a total force of about 2,000 personnel. They have not been given a specific mission but could play a key role in any evacuation. Separately, the U.S. official said the United States has told some troops, potentially 2,000, to be ready to deploy within 24 hours if notified to the region and could include units that provide assistance such as medical aid, if needed,

Refinitiv tracking shows that global diesel imports into Europe so far this month were pegged at 3.76 million metric tons, which is down from 5.78 million tons in September.

Saudi oil giant Aramco's Chief Executive, Amin Nasser, said he saw global demand for oil at 103 million bpd in the second half of this year while world spare capacity is now at 3 million bpd. He said Saudi Aramco is able to increase its production capacity "in a couple of weeks" if needed as global demand continues to rise. He said the oil market is balanced and reasonable. He also said that Saudi Aramco's plan to increase its output capacity to 13 million bpd by 2027 is on track. He said that investments are needed in the oil and gas industry to meet demand, adding that without investments 5-7 million bpd of oil will be lost.

Early Market Call - as of 8:50 AM EDT WTI - November \$88.03, up \$1.37 RBOB - November \$2.3111, up 2.66 cents HO - November \$3.1525, down 2.42 cents

#### Sprague Heat Curve October-April



AII NTMEA   FIOI Settements						
	ULSD (HO)	Prior Settle	Change In			
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Month		Close	Change	One Week		
Nov-23		3.1767	0.0275	0.1566		
Dec-23		3.0532	0.0111	0.1286		
Jan-24		2.9888	0.0086	0.1242		
Feb-24		2.9443	0.0077	0.1221		
Mar-24		2.8899	0.0084	0.1156		
Apr-24		2.8253	0.0082	0.1118		
May-24		2.7778	0.0072	0.106		
Jun-24		2.7468	0.0065	0.1		
Jul-24		2.7367	0.006	0.0968		
Aug-24		2.7319	0.0057	0.094		
Sep-24		2.733	0.0056	0.0922		
Oct-24		2.7328	0.0059	0.0907		
Nov-24		2.7286	0.0064	0.0901		
Dec-24		2.7198	0.0078	0.0898		
Jan-25		2.7084	0.0089	0.0905		
Feb-25		2.6904	0.0107	0.092		
Mar-25		2.6667	0.0121	0.0928		
Sprague HeatCurve October 2024-April 2025 \$2.6982						
	Change					
Crude - WTI	Dec Brent-	\$85.4400		\$0.1800		
Crude - Brent WTI Spread		\$89.9000		\$0.2500		
Natural Gas \$4.46		\$3.0790		-\$0.0300		
Gasoline		\$2.2845		\$0.0115		
ADI Deport for the Week Ending October 12, 2022						

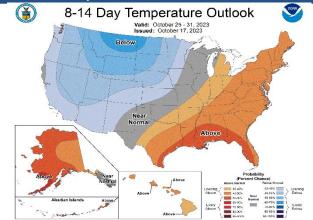
API Report for the Week Ending October 13, 2023

Crude Oil Stocks(exl SPR) Gasoline Stocks Distillate Stocks Refinery Runs Actual Down 4,4 million barrels Down 1.6 million barrels Down 610,000 barrels

#### Mkt Expectations

Down 30,000 barrels Down 800,000 barrels Down 900,000 barrels Up 0.5% at 86.2%

### 8-14 Day Weather Forecast



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