

MarketWatch | Refined Products

Wednesday, November 25, 2020

Market Commentary

Recap: Oil prices climbed to their highest level since March, as the start of the U.S. presidential transition got underway and on more promising news of additional vaccines. Oil futures also followed equity markets higher, as traders appear to be happy with Joe Biden's decision to nominate former Fed Chair Janet Yellen for Treasury Secretary. Yellen is a well-known and well-liked individual and is expected to keep rates low for years to come, which is bullish for all riskier assets including oil. January WTI added \$1.85, or 4.3%, to settle at \$44.91 a barrel, while January Brent settled at \$47.86 a barrel, up \$1.80, or 3.91%. December RBOB was up .0542 cents, to settle at \$1.2582 a gallon, while December heating oil added .0490 cents, to settle at \$1.3595 a gallon.

Market Outlook: Tuesday's activity took some traders by surprise, as the January WTI blasted through the long standing 200-day moving average and breached \$45 a barrel for the first time since March. Despite the market's strength, there is an abundance of crude oil, which worsens week to week as demand remains sluggish. Although traders are placing bets that things will soon return to normal based on the news of several vaccines, we are still a long way from "normalcy' as the vaccine has yet to be approved and distributed worldwide. That being said, we would remain cautious in our trading and would not put too much on too fast. \$45 is still a level of strong resistance, followed by \$47.30. To the downside, support is set at \$43.68 and below that at \$42.20.

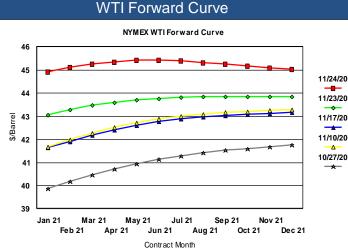
Fundamental News: Saudi Aramco said its domestic fuel supplies had not been affected by an attack the previous day by Yemen's Houthi group on a petroleum products distribution plant in Jeddah, with operations resuming three hours after the event. The Iran-aligned Houthi forces said on Monday they had fired a missile at and struck Aramco's North Jeddah Bulk Plant, an attack later confirmed by Saudi authorities. Abdullah al-Ghamdi, manager of the North Jeddah plant, said that one of the 13 tanks used for diesel oil, gasoline and jet fuel at the facility is currently out of action. A projectile struck the storage tank, which has a maximum capacity of 500,000 barrels, from the top, causing "major damage" to its roof. He described the site as a "critical facility" with total storage capacity of 5.2 million barrels. It can distribute more than 120,000 bpd of products domestically to the western Saudi regions of Jeddah, Mecca and al - Bhah. Saudi Arabia told the U.N Security Council that Yemen's Houthi group were to blame , urging the council to "stop the threat" to global energy security.

The IEA said that global oil markets remained well supplied after an attack on Saudi Arabia's oil facilities by Yemen's Houthi group.

Goldman Sachs said that as the OPEC+ group's decision on oil production cuts nears, there are renewed concerns about the future of the organization as it tries to rebalance the market while securing higher revenue and market share in the medium-term. It stated that "potentially complicating the meeting could be a push by the UAE to raise its baseline quota which screens as low relative to that of Saudi and Russia, although we don't think this will derail an extension". Goldman expects OPEC+ to delay its production ramp-up for three months, helping bring the global market deficit back to 1 million bpd in the first quarter of 2021. The bank expects Brent prices to average \$47/barrel in the first quarter, if production cuts are extended.

Eni declared force majeure on exports of Nigerian Brass River crude oil following pipeline explosions in Bayelsa state. A community leader said an explosion hit pipelines at Shell and Eni oilfields in Nigeria's Niger Delta, resulting in a leak.

Early Market Call - as of 8:20 AM EDT WTI - Jan \$45.53, up 61 cents RBOB - Dec \$1.2683, up 1.01 cents HO - Dec \$1.3759, up 1.64 cents



	ULSD (HO)	Prior Settle	Change In
Month	Close	Change	One Week
Dec-20	1.3595	0.0490	-0.1204
Jan-21	1.3642	0.0484	-0.1153
Feb-21	1.3713	0.0482	-0.1108
Mar-21	1.3774	0.0478	-0.1066
Apr-21	1.3803	0.0473	-0.1042
May-21	1.3844	0.0461	-0.1005
Jun-21	1.3895	0.0445	-0.0967
Jul-21	1.3965	0.0428	-0.0932
Aug-21	1.4044	0.0416	-0.0908
Sep-21	1.4132	0.0406	-0.0887
Oct-21	1.4223	0.0398	-0.0870
Nov-21	1.4300	0.0389	-0.0849
Dec-21	1.4352	0.0377	-0.0823
Jan-22	1.4420	0.0360	-0.0792
Feb-22	1.4453	0.0347	-0.0763
Mar-22	1.4446	0.0332	-0.0730
Apr-22	1.4408	0.0317	-0.0704

		Close	Change
Crude - WTI	Jan Brent-	\$44.9100	\$1.8500
Crude - Brent	WTI Spread	\$47.8600	\$1.8000
Natural Gas	\$2.95	\$2.7750	\$0.0640
Gasoline		\$1.2582	\$0.0542

API Report for the Week Ending November 20, 2020

Crude Oil Stocks(exl SPR) Cushing, OK Crude Stocks Gasoline Stocks Distillate Stocks Refinery Runs Crude Imports

Probability of Below

Actual Up 3.8 million barrels Down 1.4 million barrels

Up 1.3 million barrels

Up 235,000 bpd

Up 237,000 bpd

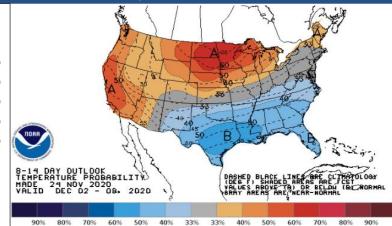
Down 1.8 million barrels

Mkt Expectations Up 130.000 barrels

Probability of Above

Up 600,000 barrels Down 1.6 million barrels Up 0.9%

8-14 Day Weather Forecast



Normal

This market update is provided for information purposes only and is not intended as advice on any transaction nor is it a solicitation to buy or sell commodities. Sprague makes no representations or warranties with respect to the contents of such news, including, without limitation, its accuracy and completeness, and Sprague shall not be responsible for the consequence or reliance upon any opinions, statements, projections and analyses presented herein or for any omission or error in fact.

All NYMEX | Prior Settlements