

MarketWatch | Refined Products

Monday, October 2, 2023

Market Commentary

All NYMEX | Prior Settlements

Recap: The oil market on Friday sold off on some further profit taking following Thursday's rally that pushed the market over the \$95 level before it retraced some of its gains. The market traded sideways in overnight trading and posted a high of \$93.10 amid a weaker dollar. However, the market erased its gains as traders took profits ahead of the weekend and pushed the market lower. It retraced more than 62% of its move from a low of \$88.19 to a high of \$95.03 as it traded to a low of \$90.35 and attempted to test the lower boundary of its upward trend channel. The November WTI contract traded in a sideways trading range and settled down 92 cents or 1% at \$90.79. However, WTI ended 0.8% higher on the week, 8.6% on the month and up 28.5% for the quarter. Meanwhile, the November Brent contract settled down 7 cents at \$95.31. The product market ended in mixed territory, with the heating oil market settling up 4.42 cents at \$3.3622 and the RB market settling down 6.54 cents at \$2.4399.

<u>Technical Analysis</u>: The oil market on Monday is seen testing the lower boundary of its channel as stochastics are pointing lower. Next week, the market will be focused on the OPEC+ meeting scheduled for October 4th even though the ministers are not expected to make any changes to their output policy. The oil market is seen finding support at \$90.82, its low of \$90.35 followed by \$88.19 and \$88.04. Meanwhile, resistance is seen at its high of \$93.10, \$93.25, \$93.90 followed by \$95.03 and \$96.75.

<u>Fundamental News</u>: Four OPEC+ sources stated that OPEC+ is unlikely to change its current oil output policy when a panel meets next Wednesday, as tighter supplies and rising demand drive an oil price rally. Ministers from OPEC and allies led by Russia, known as OPEC+ are

U.S. energy firms this week cut the number of oil and natural gas rigs operating for a second consecutive week. Baker Hughes reported that the oil and gas rig count fell by seven to 623 in the week ending September 29th, the lowest level since February 2022, U.S. oil rigs fell by five to 502 this week, the lowest level since February 2022, while gas rigs fell by two to 116

The White House said the U.S. believes an oil price cap on Russian exports remains an important tool.

According to a Reuters poll, Saudi and Russian supply cuts are expected to keep feeding into stronger oil prices, but any runs towards the \$100/barrel level are likely to be short-lived as economic risks linger. A survey of 42 economists and analysts forecast Brent crude would average \$84.09/barrel in 2023, up from August's forecast of \$82.45/barrel. Brent, which has averaged around \$81.94 so far this year, is projected to average \$86.45 in 2024. WTI crude is seen averaging \$79.64/barrel this year, up from last month's forecast of \$77.83/barrel. WTI crude is forecast to average \$82.99/barrel in 2024.

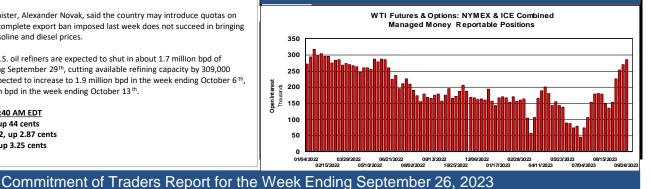
Russia's Deputy Prime Minister, Alexander Novak, said the country may introduce quotas on overseas fuel exports if a complete export ban imposed last week does not succeed in bringing down persistently high gasoline and diesel prices.

IIR Energy reported that U.S. oil refiners are expected to shut in about 1.7 million bpd of capacity in the week ending September 29th, cutting available refining capacity by 309,000 bpd. Offline capacity is expected to increase to 1.9 million bpd in the week ending October 6 th, before falling to 1.8 million bpd in the week ending October 13 $^{\rm th}$.

Early Market Call - as of 8:40 AM EDT WTI - November \$91.23, up 44 cents RBOB - November \$2.4282, up 2.87 cents HO - November \$3,3331, up 3,25 cents

	ULSD (HO)	Prior Settle	Change In
Month	Close	Change	One Week
Sep-23	3.3622	0.0442	0.0560
Oct-23	3.3006	0.0302	0.0633
Nov-23	3.1578	0.0043	0.0459
Dec-23	3.0656	-0.0147	0.0184
Jan-24	3.0039	-0.0205	0.0034
Feb-24	2.9352	-0.0205	-0.0064
Mar-24	2.8558	-0.0198	-0.0138
Apr-24	2.8014	-0.0232	-0.0221
May-24	2.7642	-0.0248	-0.0257
Jun-24	2.7457	-0.0228	-0.0253
Jul-24	2.7360	-0.0204	-0.0230
Aug-24	2.7337	-0.0176	-0.0195
Sep-24	2.7298	-0.0148	-0.0157
Oct-24	2.7205	-0.0121	-0.0123
Nov-24	2.7061	-0.0104	-0.0093
Dec-24	2.6895	-0.0097	-0.0070
Jan-25	2.6692	-0.0085	-0.0039

Sprague HeatCurve October 2023-April 2024		\$3.0801	
		Close	Change
Crude - WTI	Nov Brent-	\$90.7900	-\$0.9200
Crude - Brent	WTI Spread	\$95.3100	-\$0.0700
Natural Gas	\$4.52	\$2.9290	-\$0.0160
Gasoline		\$2.4399	-\$0.0654



Producer/Merchant Heat Positons **CFTC Commitment of Traders Report** 300 Number of Contracts 250 200 Thousands Long 150 Short 100 50 25-Jan-22 28-Jun-22 03-Oct-23 9-Nov-22 18-Jul-23 Week Ending

