December 2004

Louisiana Energy Facts

Department of Natural Resources

Technology Assessment Division

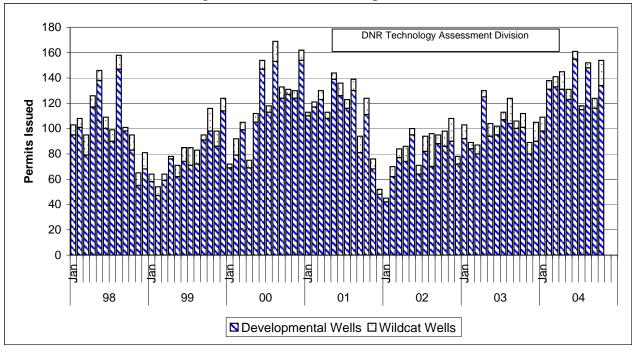
% Change

Oil prices remain around \$43/barrel or 32% higher than the December 2003 average. This is a \$12/barrel drop from October 2004's record high. The fall in prices is contributed to mild weather and OPEC's highest production in 25 years, and has helped rebuild crude inventories in consuming nations. The Energy Information Agency reported a one million barrel increase to 115.6 million in distillate stocks, including heating oil and diesel fuel. This is the first increase since mid-September. Prices have not declined more because of production problems in the North Sea and, also, US diesel demand is up by eight percent from last year's level.

Oil and Gas Drilling Permits Issued by The State of Louisiana

							<u>% Cha</u>	inge
<u>Month</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	02/03	03/04
January	64	72	113	45	103	109		5.83%
February	54	92	121	70	89	138		55.06%
March	64	105	130	84	87	141		62.07%
April	78	75	113	86	130	145		11.54%
May	71	112	144	100	104	131		25.96%
June	85	154	136	71	102	161		57.84%
July	85	118	123	94	113	118		4.42%
August	83	169	139	96	124	152		22.58%
September	95	133	94	95	106	124		16.98%
October	116	131	124	98	112	154		37.50%
November	98	130	76	108	89		-17.59%	
December	124	162	52	78	105		34.62%	
Year Average	85	121	114	85	105	137 *		
+ B + 1 + F								

* Partial Year



Louisiana Drilling Permits Issued for Developmental and Wildcat Wells

	JUN 04	MAY 04	APR 04	JUN 03
PRODUCTION				
LOUISIANA FEDERAL OFFSHORE (OCS)				
Crude Oil & Condensate ^C (MMB)	40	42	41	44
Natural Gas & Casinghead ^C (BCF)	251	262	249	278 ²
THE UNITED STATES TOTAL				
Crude Oil & Condensate ^C (MMB)	162	173 ²	167	172
Natural Gas & Casinghead ^C (BCF)	1,524	1,567	1,555	1,558 2
IMPORTS				
U.S. Crude Oil ^C (MMB)	315	320	301	299
U.S. Natural Gas ^C (BCF)	335	321 ²	319 ²	310 ²
BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS				
U.S. Gas ^A	1,011	1,007	996	910
U.S. Oil ^A	164	156	154	152
U.S. Offshore ^A	95	95	93	109
U.S. Total ^A	1,176	1,153	1,151	1,067
PRICES				
CRUDE OIL (\$/barrel)				2
OPEC Average ^C (F.O.B.)	31.25	34.21	31.54	24.90 ²
U.S. Imports Average ^C (F.O.B.)	31.54	33.68	30.98	25.35 ²
U.S. Wellhead Average ^C	34.53	36.07 ²	33.23	26.83 ²
Gulf OCS Wellhead Average ^C	35.75	35.02	34.20	27.45 ²
State Severance Wellhead Average ^E	35.36	35.94 ²	34.06 ²	27.20
NATURAL GAS (\$/MCF)				
U.S. City Gates Average ^C	6.92	6.48 ²	6.33	6.40 ²
U.S. Imports Average ^C (F.O.B.)	6.07	5.65 ²	5.22 ²	5.53 ²
U.S. Wellhead Average ^C	5.85	5.63	5.20	5.35
State Royalty Wellhead Average	6.22	6.29	5.65	6.48 ²
NYMEX Henry Hub End of the Month Settle Gas Price ^B (\$/MMBTU)	6.68	5.94	5.37	5.95

¹ Estimated	² Revised		DEPARTMENT	OF NATURAL RESOURCES		
BCF: Billion Cubic Feet BTU: British thermal unit		Scott A. Angelle, Secretary				
F.O.B.: Free on board	F.O.B.: Free on board MCF: Thousand Cubic Feet		Technology Assessment Division			
MMB: Million Barrels	MMBTU: Million BTU		T. Michael French, Director			
OCS: Outer Continental Shelf	N/A: Not Available		617 North Third Street, Rm 1150	Manuel Lam, Senior Analyst		
DATA SOURCES			Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5428	NUNT OF		
A: Oil and Gas Journal	B: Wall Street Journal		Mail: P.O. Box 44156	STATUTE FILM		
C: U.S. Department of Energy	D: Natural Gas Week		Baton Rouge, LA 70804-	4156		
E: Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation		Phone: (225) 342-1270	ne: (225) 342-1270			
Note: Unless otherwise specified, data is from the Louisiana Department		Fax: (225) 342-1397				
of Natural Resources and exc	ludes Federal OCS.		E-mail: techasmt@dnr.state.la.us			

The Louisiana Energy Facts newsletter is also available on the Technology Assessment Division home page at http://www.dnr.state.la.us/tad [From the menu, select Energy Data & Reports; choose Louisiana Energy Facts Newsletters] To change your mailing address, please call, write, fax, or email us with the new address.

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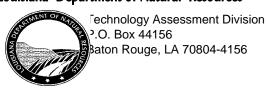
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January - December

December 2004

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources



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LOUISIANA ENERGY TOPIC: Offshore Louisiana Windpower

December 2004

Louisiana Energy Facts

SPOT MARKET PRICES	<u>Nov 04</u>	<u>Oct 04</u>	<u>Nov 03</u>
Louisiana Natural Gas ^D (\$/MMBTU)	6.17	6.15	4.44
NYMEX Henry Hub Last Settle Gas Price ^B (\$/MMBTU)	7.63	5.72	4.64
Louisiana Sweet Crude - St. James ^B (\$/Barrel)	48.14	53.35	31.13
BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS	<u>Oct 04</u>	<u>Sep 04</u>	<u>Oct 03</u>
North Louisiana ^A	46	41	37
South Louisiana Inland Waters ^A	18	17	14
South Louisiana Inland ^A	33	34	29
Louisiana State Offshore	3	3	2
Louisiana Federal OCS Offshore	70	68	81
Total Louisiana ^A (OCS included)	170	163	162
PRODUCTION (State Jurisdiction Only)	<u>Oct 04</u>	<u>Sep 04</u>	<u>Oct 03</u>
Louisiana Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	7.1	6.7	7.4 ²
Louisiana Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	101.9	92.1	113.1 ²
DRILLING PERMITS (State Jurisdiction Only)	<u>Oct 04</u>	<u>Sep 04</u>	<u>Oct 03</u>
Total Louisiana Oil and Gas	154	124	112
Louisiana Wildcats	20	8	11
Louisiana Offshore (Wildcats included)	5	2	8