

Energy Sector - Neutral

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News Update

Supply tightness continues

- **Large US crude draw**
- **Satellite confirms Abqaiq core hit**
- **Exxon, Chevron warn of prolonged fuel market tightness**
- **Oil volatility stalls polymer buying despite firm offers**

Oil prices closed more than US\$1 per barrel higher on Friday, ending July with their biggest monthly gains since March, as concerns over global crude flows mounted on Iranian reports that some tankers were forced to turn back in the Strait of Hormuz.

Weekly US data: Large US crude draw

- **Crude Oil:** U.S. commercial crude inventories fell 7.2mb, well above market expectations, driven by stronger exports, lower imports, and refinery runs rising to 97.2%, indicating a tight crude balance.
- **Product:** Distillate inventories increased 1.1mb but remain well below the five-year average, while gasoline stocks were essentially flat. Refiners are already operating near full capacity, leaving limited room to boost diesel production further

Satellite confirms Abqaiq core hit

- **Core processing units hit:** Satellite imagery indicates strikes hit Abqaiq's central crude-processing area rather than only storage facilities, suggesting key processing infrastructure may have been affected.
- **Saudi supply resilience weakened:** Abqaiq processes around 5–7 mbpd of crude (roughly 5–7% of global oil supply). Together with earlier disruptions to the East-West Pipeline and Jizan refinery, the attacks reduce Saudi Arabia's operational flexibility.
- **Impact:** Saudi Arabia can likely sustain near-term exports using inventories. However, if critical processing equipment requires replacement, repairs could take weeks to months, increasing upside risk to oil prices if inventories begin to decline.

Exxon, Chevron warns of prolonged fuel market tightness

- **Oil majors expect diesel market to stay tight:** ExxonMobil and Chevron warned that global diesel and refined product markets are likely to remain tight through 2H26 as the Iran conflict continues to disrupt energy supply chains. Chevron CEO Mike Wirth expects upward pressure on fuel prices to persist into 3Q26 and potentially beyond, supported by resilient demand for distillates such as diesel and heating oil.
- **Refineries operating near capacity:** Exxon reported record 2Q26 diesel production, while Chevron achieved record refinery throughput of more than 1mbd in the U.S. However, both companies cautioned that current utilization rates are unsustainably high, suggesting limited spare refining capacity to offset supply disruptions.

US Weekly data (as of 24 July 2026)

(m bbls)	Weekly change	Consensus	Last week
Crude Oil	-7.167	0.700	2.010
Gasoline	0.007	0.700	0.765
Distillates	1.062	0.200	1.395

Source: EIA

Ex 1: Saudi Energy Infrastructure Map



Saudi Arabia's East-West Pipeline built for supply redundancy

Source: ENR logo

- **Impact:** The comments reinforce our constructive view on the refining sector. With global refining capacity stretched and Middle East disruptions persisting, diesel cracks and refining margins are likely to remain supported, benefiting Asian refiners such as SPRC TOP and BCP.

Oil volatility stalls polymer buying despite firm offers

- **Oil volatility dampens buying, not pricing:** Volatile crude prices have hurt buyer confidence across Southeast Asia's PP and PE markets, leading to hand-to-mouth purchases and slower trading. Sellers largely maintained firm offers, supported by higher feedstock costs, while buyers remained cautious amid weak downstream demand and comfortable inventories.
- **Cost support, not supply disruption:** Unlike the March–April rally, which was driven by actual supply disruptions to Middle East petrochemical production, the current strength reflects mainly geopolitical risk premiums in crude. With regional production and exports largely unaffected, buyers see little fundamental justification for a sustained polymer price rally.
- **HDPE–naphtha spread remains weak:** The HDPE–Naphtha spread dropped sharply to US\$187/t in latest week from peak of US\$557 in April. This suggests recent polymer price gains have largely been offset by higher feedstock costs rather than stronger market fundamentals.
- **Impact:** Maintain SELL on the petrochemical sector. Higher oil prices may support polymer prices temporarily, but weak demand and oversupply should continue to cap margins.

Ex 2: Prices And Spreads

Unit		This	Last	%	Quarterly						Yearly		
		week	week	chg	2Q25	3Q25	4Q25	1Q26	2Q26	3Q26	2024	2025	2026
Upstream													
Dubai	(US\$/bbl)	79	85	-7%	66	68	63	78	88	77	80	71	83
Brent	(US\$/mmbtu)	90	100	-10%	67	68	63	79	97	85	80	71	91
Henry hub	(US\$/mmbtu)	2.7	2.9	-5%	3.5	3.1	4.1	3.5	2.9	2.9	2.4	3.7	2.9
JKM Spot	(US\$/mmbtu)	21.5	22.1	-3%	12.4	11.8	10.8	13.2	17.4	19.2	11.9	13.2	18.3
Dutch TTF	(EUR/MWh)	59	62	-4%	36	33	30	40	46	54	35	41	50
NEX coal price	(US\$/tonne)	130	131	0%	100	109	108	119	137	130	136	104	134
Crack spreads over Dubai													
Gasoline	(US\$/bbl)	34.0	31.1	9%	11.5	10.3	15.7	9.6	28.4	31.8	13.0	11.3	30.1
Jet fuel	(US\$/bbl)	67.4	63.6	6%	14.2	16.1	24.6	36.3	62.9	60.3	15.7	17.0	61.6
Diesel	(US\$/bbl)	72.2	70.4	2%	15.8	18.7	24.5	35.4	63.0	62.3	15.8	18.0	62.7
HSFO	(US\$/bbl)	3.1	(2.8)	-210%	1.7	(5.5)	(7.0)	(2.6)	2.5	2.5	(5.2)	(3.2)	2.5
Freight cost	(US\$/bbl)	(9.2)	(9.3)	-1%	(1.6)	(1.7)	(2.8)	(5.4)	(8.9)	(8.4)	(1.1)	(1.9)	(8.7)
SG GRM	(US\$/bbl)	26.5	24.0	10%	7.0	5.9	8.8	8.3	22.7	23.7	6.1	6.1	23.2
Aromatics													
PX-naphtha	(US\$/tonne)	137	56	146%	207	236	243	262	274	186	274	188	230
BZ-naphtha	(US\$/tonne)	72	(4)	-1794%	173	158	123	93	162	109	335	245	136
Olefin													
HDPE-naphtha	(US\$/tonne)	187	166	13%	374	348	331	322	532	314	338	324	423
LDPE-naphtha	(US\$/tonne)	417	386	8%	587	568	496	484	743	548	503	497	646
PP-naphtha	(US\$/tonne)	167	116	44%	414	373	307	313	460	256	326	338	358
Others													
Integrated PET	(US\$/tonne)	170	191	-11%	134	113	116	177	275	189	140	119	232
Phenol-BZ	(US\$/tonne)	119	98	21%	55	56	118	103	97	113	6	76	105
BPA -Phenol	(US\$/tonne)	235	257	-9%	337	337	291	323	444	289	300	333	367

Sources: TOP, Bloomberg

Ex 3: Valuation

	Rating	Current price	Target price	Upside/ (Downside)	Market cap	Norm EPS grw		Norm PE		EV/EBITDA		— P/BV —		— Yield —		— ROE —	
		(Bt)	(Bt)	(%)	(US\$ m)	26F	27F	26F	27F	26F	27F	26F	27F	26F	27F	26F	27F
						(%)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
BANPU	BUY	5.80	7.20	24.1	1,740	na	22.1	11.5	9.4	5.5	5.0	0.5	0.5	5.6	6.4	4.5	5.4
BCP	BUY	44.75	41.00	(8.4)	1,973	(11.9)	(24.0)	6.0	7.9	3.4	3.5	0.8	0.7	6.0	3.2	14.1	9.6
IRPC	SELL	2.20	1.45	(34.1)	1,346	na	(66.4)	12.5	37.4	4.9	5.7	0.6	0.6	1.4	1.4	5.2	1.7
IVL	SELL	22.10	21.00	(5.0)	3,715	na	(22.5)	16.9	21.8	6.8	6.5	1.0	0.9	3.2	3.8	6.7	4.9
OR	BUY	12.80	13.50	5.5	4,599	(14.6)	31.4	17.9	13.7	6.5	5.3	1.3	1.3	3.1	4.0	7.4	9.4
PTG	BUY	7.55	10.50	39.1	378	(27.4)	63.4	17.0	10.4	4.0	3.1	1.2	1.2	5.3	5.3	7.4	11.7
PTT	BUY	38.50	43.00	11.7	32,928	49.6	(9.7)	10.8	11.9	4.0	3.9	0.9	0.9	6.5	6.0	8.8	7.7
PTTEP	SELL	149.00	111.00	(25.5)	17,713	13.2	(9.9)	9.4	10.4	3.1	3.1	1.0	1.0	6.0	5.4	11.3	9.4
PTTGC	SELL	36.75	31.00	(15.6)	4,962	na	(47.2)	18.2	34.5	6.9	7.5	0.5	0.5	1.4	1.4	3.3	2.4
SCC	SELL	254.00	192.00	(24.4)	9,127	157.9	33.3	23.8	17.9	15.6	10.6	0.9	0.9	2.4	2.8	3.7	4.9
SPRC	BUY	11.10	12.50	12.6	1,441	182.9	(50.2)	3.7	7.4	2.4	3.8	1.0	1.0	12.6	6.8	30.2	13.2
TOP	BUY	65.50	60.00	(8.4)	4,381	26.3	(18.2)	10.0	12.2	6.8	7.6	0.7	0.7	4.3	3.3	7.8	6.3

Sources: Company data, ttb wealth estimates

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