



منطقة الفجيرة للصناعة البترولية
Fujairah Oil Industry Zone



FUJAIRAH

NEW SILK ROAD ENERGY MARKETS

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 287 | OCT 15th 2026

"I expect LNG spot prices to fall substantially over the next two to three years if the crisis subsides and planned capacity comes online. Prices could move towards \$6 per MBtu, although the outcome will depend on demand growth and the pace of new supply."

Dr. Fereidun Fesharaki
Chairman Emeritus,
FGNexantECA



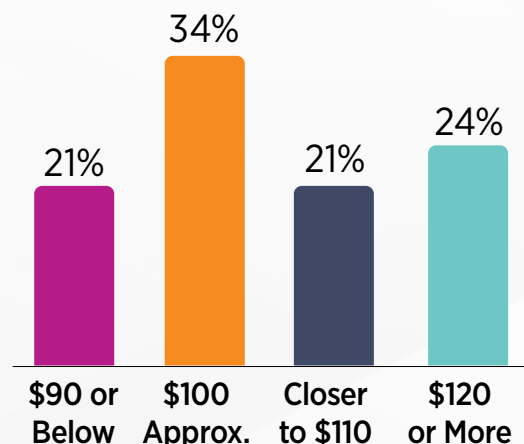
***"China's Energy Transition
is Redrawing the Map
for Gulf Producers!"***

Liao Na

Founder and Chief Consultant
of GF Consulting

TOP SURVEY

What will be the Price for a barrel of
Brent crude oil on Dec. 31st, 2026?



PODCAST OF THE WEEK



Marc Ostwald
Chief Economist & Global Strategist
ADM Investor Services International



Nadia Martin Wigen
Research Director
Svelling Capital



Andrew Laven
Managing Director
E-Cons



GI Publishing
Intelligence
Consultancy

FUJAIRAH WEEKLY OIL INVENTORY DATA

760,000 BBL
LIGHT
DISTILLATES



2,774,000 BBL
MIDDLE
DISTILLATES



3,291,000 BBL
LIGHT
DISTILLATES





Liao Na, Founder and Chief Consultant of GF Consulting

The biggest shock of the past decade was not the recent price spike, but the realisation that China's oil-demand peak was approaching. These changes began years ago, with strategic infrastructure investments including the first oil pipeline in 2004 and strategic petroleum reserves in 2006. China's refining throughput has peaked, breaking the traditional relationship between capacity growth and crude-import growth. We forecast that Chinese crude imports could fall by around 6% this year, while gasoline and diesel demand face substantial declines over the next five years. The recent supply disruption has accelerated an existing transition. China is adapting because it has spent years preparing for greater energy security and reduced dependence on imported oil.

How has China weathered the recent supply disruption?

The commonly cited estimate of China's oil inventory covers around 120 days of consumption, but this may not capture the full picture. China's state-owned companies, strategic reserves and commercial inventories need to be considered together. Based on our calculation of cumulative supply balances since 2006, China's total inventory could cover more than 200 days of consumption. This helps explain its ability to withstand a major supply disruption. China has also used fuel-export policy as a management tool, suspending exports when disruption intensified and subsequently reopening them before imposing restrictions again. Despite substantial refining capacity, state-owned refiners have not simply maximised production to capture attractive international margins. Energy security takes precedence over short-term profit.

How will China's economic transition reshape energy demand?

China is moving from growth 1.0 to growth 2.0. The first phase followed its entry into the World Trade Organization and emergence as the world's manufacturing centre. The next emphasises advanced manufacturing, high technology, artificial intelligence and domestic consumption. This changes the composition of energy demand. AI and high-tech industries require more electricity, not necessarily more oil or gas. Electrification is central to China's strategy. Renewable-energy installations have grown rapidly, supported by investment in storage and electricity transmission. The next stage is to electrify more industrial processes and develop technologies that turn renewable electricity into exportable products, including green hydrogen, ammonia and methanol. Through 2030, China's priorities will extend beyond headline GDP growth to industrial restructuring, energy security and technological competitiveness.

Is China's green transition primarily about energy security?

Energy security is a central driver. China imports a substantial proportion of its crude oil and natural gas, leaving it exposed to supply disruptions and vulnerable transport routes, particularly the Strait of Malacca. Diversification has been a priority for more than a decade. China has developed pipelines connecting it with Russia, Central Asia and Myanmar, even where projects have not initially been commercially attractive. The government evaluates these investments strategically rather than solely on profitability. The Green Transition reinforces this approach. China has considerable manufacturing capacity in solar, wind and battery technologies. What began partly as a response to European carbon policies has become an opportunity to build competitive industries and reduce reliance on imported fuels. Security, economic growth and decarbonisation are increasingly interconnected.

Will Gulf producers regain their lost share of China's crude imports?

Gulf producers accounted for approximately 56.6% of China's crude imports in 2024, but their share fell to around 36% in the first eight months of this year. Brazil and Russia have gained ground, with Brazil becoming one of China's three largest suppliers. Some of this change reflects immediate disruption, but not all the lost market share will return when shipping flows normalise. China has been diversifying its sources of supply for years, and that process is now more advanced. The Gulf will nevertheless remain important. Chinese refineries are configured to process Middle Eastern crude grades, and Gulf supplies remain economically competitive. However, producers should not expect a return to previous levels of dependence. China wants a diversified portfolio of suppliers, and energy security will continue to shape its purchasing decisions.

Can petrochemicals offset declining transport-fuel demand?

The direction is towards less oil-product consumption and a greater emphasis on petrochemicals and other higher-value products. Electric vehicles are a major factor in declining gasoline demand. In China, the lifetime cost of operating an electric vehicle can be substantially lower than that of a conventional vehicle. Refineries will need to adjust their product mix. China is likely to require less gasoline and diesel, while lighter feedstocks, including naphtha, will become more important in selected applications. However, petrochemicals cannot immediately compensate for declining transport-fuel demand. Although some refining margins remain attractive, downstream chemical producers face weak profitability. Domestic consumption remains subdued, and the petrochemical sector could remain near the bottom of its cycle for another two to three years.

Where do Gulf investors still have opportunities in China?

Gulf producers should focus on building long-term strategic relationships rather than simply selling crude cargoes. Integrated investments can secure supply, establish commercial partnerships and provide a more durable position in the Chinese market. Saudi Arabia has pursued this approach through major integrated projects in China. Such partnerships can secure outlets for Gulf crude while giving Chinese refiners greater supply certainty. They can also strengthen relationships with state-owned companies and policymakers. However, investors must understand the changing economics of the market. Opportunities are increasingly linked to chemical value chains, integration and long-term resource partnerships, rather than simply supplying fuel-oriented refining capacity. China's demand is changing, not disappearing. The challenge for Gulf producers is to adapt to the pace and composition of that change.

At what price will China rebuild its oil inventories?

Historically, around \$60 a barrel has been a comfortable level for China to accumulate crude inventories. Under current circumstances, the calculation is different because some inventories have fallen significantly, creating a need to replenish stocks. However, the need to rebuild inventories does not mean China will buy aggressively at any price. Even when prices are elevated, Chinese companies can continue trading according to market conditions rather than purchasing solely to increase stocks. ■

Source: Fujairah Energy Markets Forum 2026

YOUR ENERGY GATEWAY TO THE WORLD

#1 ENERGY HUB

In MENA & top 3 worldwide

14 MILLION M²

Total land area

17 TERMINALS

With direct access to
deep-water berths via
Port of Fujairah

120 MILLION BBL

Combined storage capacity
for light, middle & heavy
products



June Goh
Senior Oil Analyst,
Sparta Commodities

TOP 9 INSIGHTS

CHINA'S CHANGING OIL PLAYBOOK

GI Publishing
Intelligence
Consultancy

October 14th, 2026



1. CHINA CONTINUES BUYING BEYOND SPOT MARKETS

China has not withdrawn from crude purchasing despite elevated prices and geopolitical disruption. Instead, refiners are securing supplies through ADNOC and Iraqi crude tenders, reducing their need to participate openly in spot markets. This alternative procurement strategy allows China to maintain imports while limiting direct market exposure.

2. CHINA'S OIL INVENTORIES PROVIDE STRATEGIC FLEXIBILITY

China is maintaining inventories rather than drawing them down as aggressively as markets might expect. With an estimated three to four months of oil stocks available, the country retains a substantial supply buffer, allowing refiners to manage geopolitical uncertainty without immediately increasing spot purchases or exhausting reserves.

3. REFINING MARGINS FACE GROWING SUPPLY RISKS

Chinese refiners face a difficult balance between increasing refinery runs to capture attractive margins and protecting themselves against uncertain crude availability. With oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz remaining vulnerable, production decisions are increasingly cautious, while refined product export quotas provide another mechanism for managing output.

4. RISING ENERGY COSTS THREATEN CHINESE MANUFACTURING

As a major importer of raw materials, China faces increasing inflationary pressures from higher energy and freight costs. Manufacturers cannot indefinitely absorb rising input expenses without affecting profitability. After months of disruption, these pressures are expected to translate into higher consumer prices, extending the economic consequences.

5. OIL INFLATION SPREADS ACROSS GLOBAL ECONOMIES

The inflationary impact of prolonged energy disruption is beginning to extend beyond crude prices into industrial production and consumer markets. Economies dependent on oil and gas as manufacturing inputs face mounting costs, with delayed price transmission potentially becoming more visible after eight months of geopolitical instability.

6. CHINA'S CRUDE SUPPLIERS ABSORB SHIPPING RISKS

China's access to Gulf crude increasingly relies on ship-to-ship transfers, with suppliers and trading companies managing the associated logistics and liabilities. Saudi and Iraqi cargoes are offered outside the Strait of Hormuz, allowing Chinese buyers to secure supplies while minimizing their direct exposure to maritime disruption.

7. CHINA CHALLENGES INDIA'S RUSSIAN CRUDE ADVANTAGE

China has increased its purchases of Russian crude, intensifying competition with Indian refiners that previously benefited from relatively limited demand for discounted barrels. This changing trade dynamic is strengthening Russian crude pricing and reducing the purchasing advantage India enjoyed, while providing China with another alternative supply channel.

8. RUSSIAN CRUDE PREMIUM SIGNALS TIGHTENING COMPETITION

Competition for Russian crude has intensified sufficiently for some barrels to trade at a premium to Dated Brent. This represents a notable shift from earlier discounted pricing and highlights how constrained supply alternatives are reshaping purchasing economics, particularly as Chinese and Indian buyers compete for availability.

9. ENERGY RESERVES STRENGTHEN CHINA'S GEOPOLITICAL LEVERAGE

China's substantial energy reserves and selective purchasing strategy have strengthened its position relative to the United States during prolonged geopolitical tensions. By avoiding unnecessary spot purchases and buying when opportunities emerge, Beijing has preserved flexibility while maintaining a reactive approach to Washington's trade measures and negotiations.



Transforming energy markets

Outpace the market with
real-time clarity across
global energy flows and
pricing signals.

Trusted by leaders in
energy, freight and finance,
Vortexa turns complex trade
data into decisive action.

www.vortexa.com





TOP 9 TAKEAWAYS

FROM OPEC MONTHLY OIL MARKET REPORT AS OIL PRICES SURGING ON SUPPLY DISRUPTIONS AND SHIPPING COSTS OUTWEIGH WEAK DEMAND GROWTH

GI Publishing
Intelligence
Consultancy

October 14th, 2026



1. OIL PRICES JUMP DESPITE SUBDUED DEMAND GROWTH

Middle East geopolitical tensions, disrupted regional crude flows and strong demand for immediately available barrels lifted September's OPEC Reference Basket to \$110.59 a barrel, Brent to \$102.02 and WTI to \$95.69, showing how difficulties accessing supplies can push prices higher even when growth in global oil consumption remains relatively weak.

2. FUTURES CURVES SIGNAL PRESSURE ON IMMEDIATE SUPPLIES

Crude futures curves steepened because disrupted regional flows and strong demand for prompt barrels pushed immediate delivery prices higher relative to later contracts, while hedge funds increased bullish positions early in September before reducing them later, suggesting that speculative confidence moderated even as buyers continued to face near-term supply pressures.

3. GLOBAL OIL DEMAND GROWTH ALMOST STALLS IN 2026

OPEC forecasts global oil demand growth of just 200,000 barrels a day in 2026 because an expected 400,000-barrel-a-day increase outside the OECD is largely offset by a 200,000-barrel-a-day OECD decline, although the supplied highlights do not explain the underlying causes of weaker consumption or quantify the impact of higher prices.

4. OIL DEMAND IS FORECAST TO REBOUND SHARPLY IN 2027

Global oil demand is forecast to increase by approximately 2.6 million barrels a day in 2027, driven predominantly by non-OECD growth of around 2 million barrels a day alongside recovering OECD consumption, although the highlights do not explain why demand accelerates so sharply despite only modestly stronger global economic growth.

5. SUPPLY GROWTH OUTSIDE THE COOPERATION AGREEMENT REMAINS MODEST

Liquids production outside the Declaration of Cooperation is forecast to grow by approximately 600,000 barrels a day annually in 2026 and 2027, with Brazil, Canada and Argentina contributing across both years, the US supporting this year's expansion and Qatar next year's, leaving this growth below the projected 2027 demand increase.

6. COOPERATING PRODUCERS INCREASE OUTPUT AS FUTURE REQUIREMENTS RISE

Cooperating producers raised September crude output by 900,000 barrels a day to 39.07 million, while demand for their crude is forecast to reach 43.9 million in 2027, indicating a greater requirement for their supplies as projected global consumption growth substantially exceeds the expected production increase from countries outside the agreement.

7. SURGING FREIGHT RATES INCREASE THE COST OF OIL DELIVERY

September VLCC freight rates rose 88% from the Middle East to Asia and 142% from West Africa to Asia because returning disrupted flows, longer voyages, export inefficiencies, trade dislocations and industry consolidation tightened tanker availability, increasing transportation costs and demonstrating how logistical constraints can intensify pressure across global oil markets.

8. REFINING PROFITS DIVERGE AS ASIAN MARGINS TURN NEGATIVE

US Gulf Coast refining margins strengthened because maintenance, firm export demand and tight Atlantic Basin supplies supported middle-distillate prices, while Rotterdam margins declined as weakness elsewhere in the barrel outweighed those gains and Singapore margins turned negative because higher crude feedstock prices and freight costs increased the pressure on profitability.

9. INVENTORY GAINS MASK TIGHTER REFINED FUEL SUPPLIES

OECD commercial inventories rose by 36.6 million barrels in August, primarily because crude stocks increased by 29.5 million barrels, but product inventories remained 30.8 million below their five-year average, showing why a recovery in total stocks can coexist with tighter refined-fuel availability and continued pressure in individual petroleum product markets.

(Source: OPEC Oil Market Monthly Report)



Global infrastructure. Seamless delivery.

At BGN, our integrated global logistics and world class shipping operations enable us to deliver essential energy and commodities to customers in more than 120 countries, from around 20 locations worldwide.

bgn-int.com

LNG's New World Order: The US Wins, but Supply Security Remains at Risk

Dr. Fereidun Fesharaki, Chairman Emeritus, FGENexantECA

Can LNG become commercially viable in an environment of heightened supply security concern?

I have studied Alaska LNG repeatedly over the past 20 years, and my conclusion remains that the economics are difficult. Liquefaction costs could be around \$5 per million British thermal units, making the project challenging to justify commercially. Political pressure may encourage Taiwan, Japan or South Korea to express interest, but that's not the same as commercially viable commitments. Buyers can obtain LNG from established Gulf Coast suppliers so why choose a more expensive project if cheaper alternatives are available.

It seems the US comes out as the winner?

US LNG is attractive because domestic gas prices are relatively low. However, the rapid expansion of data centres and electricity demand could change that equation. If gas prices rise substantially, electricity costs will increase, affecting households, industry and

the competitiveness of data centres themselves. If domestic prices rise sufficiently, political pressure to restrict exports could become intense. Also, export contracts do not eliminate political risk. A future administration could invoke national security or other grounds to intervene in exports. A previous administration demonstrated that new LNG approvals could be paused. Buyers therefore cannot assume that US supply will always be available because of domestic circumstances.

Could the same political pressures undermine the broader LNG investment cycle?

Yes. If domestic gas prices rise sharply, projects that depend on cheap American gas may become uneconomic. Buyers signing long-term contracts today must consider what happens if US prices rise while international prices fall. My expectation is that oil-indexed LNG prices could become much more competitive over the next three or four years if the current crisis eases. That could leave some US LNG buyers paying more than the alternative market price.

How low must LNG prices fall to unlock the next wave of consumption, particularly in Asia, where coal remains a major competitor?

Coal is the key benchmark. In markets such as India and China, domestic coal can be extremely cheap. LNG must compete with that alternative, and I believe prices below approximately \$8 per million British thermal units would support additional demand in many markets. South Asia is particularly price-sensitive. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh could absorb significant volumes when prices are sufficiently attractive, but demand can retreat quickly when prices rise. There is also substantial existing gas-fired power-generation capacity that is underused because gas is too expensive. If LNG prices fall, some of that capacity can operate without requiring major new investment. This is one reason I remain optimistic on long-term demand.

China, however, is a different story. I expect Chinese LNG imports to rise only moderately, potentially reaching 80-90 million tonnes rather than the 150 million tonnes previously anticipated. Beijing prioritises security of supply and remains cautious about becoming too dependent on Russian pipeline gas.

With US gas production relatively cheap, why are major international energy companies not investing more heavily in American liquefaction?

Because the returns are not necessarily attractive. Companies such as ExxonMobil and Chevron can buy US LNG rather than assume the construction and operational risks of building liquefaction facilities themselves. Their strengths lie in upstream production, integrated project management and global trading. Liquefaction is capital-intensive, and the returns may not justify the risks for every company. In Canada and Australia, integrated projects can offer different commercial advantages, but each investment must be assessed on its own economics.

Qatar has traditionally insisted on long-term contracts, oil indexation and limited destination flexibility. Will the disruption force it to offer more flexible terms or discounts to secure customers?

There is no clear indication that Qatar intends to change its policy. It has maintained a disciplined approach to contracting, including long-term commitments and relatively firm commercial terms. That strategy has served Qatar well. However, if the disruption persists and buyers question the reliability of

deliveries, the balance may change. If substantial new capacity enters the market towards the end of the decade, Qatar will also face a more competitive environment.

If the crisis eases and new LNG projects start up in 2028-2030, could the market become oversupplied, sending spot prices sharply lower?

I expect spot prices to fall substantially over the next two to three years if the crisis subsides and planned capacity comes online. Prices could move towards \$6 per million British thermal units, although the outcome will depend on demand growth and the pace of new supply. Governments can tolerate unsold volumes more readily than private companies, which face shareholder pressure to earn returns. This creates different incentives for state-owned producers and commercial operators.

Does the crisis strengthen the case for regional gas pipelines as an alternative to LNG?

Pipelines can improve security by diversifying supply routes, but they create their own dependencies. Their viability depends on politics, pricing and the willingness of neighbouring countries to cooperate. Regional pipeline proposals have been discussed before, including projects

that could connect gas producers with Gulf markets. Yet infrastructure requires long-term commitments, and countries may be reluctant to supply competitors with gas at prices that undermine their own energy industries. The crisis may encourage greater cooperation among Gulf states, but whether this translates into new pipeline projects remains uncertain.

What is the outlook for Iran's gas industry?

Iran has enormous gas resources but has undermined its commercial potential through domestic pricing policies. When gas is sold at artificially low prices, consumption rises sharply, encouraging waste and leaving less gas available for exports. Iran could have developed major LNG projects, but its pricing system, investment constraints and political priorities have prevented that potential from being realised. The country continues to face domestic shortages, particularly during winter, despite its vast resources. The lesson is straightforward: energy sold too cheaply can destroy the value of the resource. Without pricing reform, investment and a more commercially sustainable approach, Iran will struggle to become a major international gas supplier. ■

Source: Fujairah Energy Markets Forum 2026

marinetraffic
by kpler

Kpler Oil intelligence

Real-time visibility across every cargo, route and refinery. Gain critical visibility into hard to monitor areas of the globe with highly accurate tracking.



Learn more by
scanning the QR code





Peter McGuire
CEO Australia
Trading.com (Formerly XM)

TOP 9 INSIGHTS



Publishing
Intelligence
Consultancy

October 15th, 2026



**PERSISTENT INFLATION, FED RATE HIKES & EQUITY
MARKET VOLATILITY THREATEN GLOBAL OUTLOOK**

1. US INFLATION REMAINS STUBBORNLY HIGH AS FEDERAL RESERVE FACES PRESSURE TO TIGHTEN

Persistent US inflation around 3.6%–3.7% is increasing pressure on monetary policymakers. While an October rate hike appears unlikely, December could bring renewed tightening, with further increases possible during the first half of 2027.

2. DECEMBER FED RATE HIKE COULD STRENGTHEN US DOLLAR INTO YEAR-END

A potential December interest rate increase could reinforce US dollar strength, placing additional pressure on global currencies. Elevated Treasury yields and persistent inflation are contributing to expectations of tighter financial conditions heading into 2027.

3. OIL PRICES REMAIN TRAPPED BETWEEN \$100 AND \$110 DESPITE GEOPOLITICAL ESCALATION

Crude oil continues trading within a narrow \$100–\$110 range despite mounting geopolitical tensions. Prices appear unable to sustain a move above \$110 or fall below \$100, limiting trading opportunities outside short-term market fluctuations.

4. ASIAN EQUITY MARKETS FACE SHARP CORRECTIONS FOLLOWING AI-DRIVEN RALLY

Significant volatility across Asian equity markets highlights growing concerns over stretched valuations. Sharp declines in Japanese and South Korean stocks, particularly AI-related investments, raise questions about whether previous market gains can withstand tighter monetary conditions.

5. ESCALATING GULF SECURITY THREATS FAIL TO GENERATE EXPECTED OIL PRICE WAR PREMIUM

Recent maritime incidents near Hormuz and regional security disruptions have failed to trigger significant oil price increases. Events that previously might have added \$20–\$30 per barrel in geopolitical premiums are now generating surprisingly limited market reactions.

6. US MIDTERM ELECTIONS COULD DELAY MONETARY TIGHTENING UNTIL DECEMBER

The November midterm elections could influence the timing of the Federal Reserve's next interest rate decision. A rate hike immediately before the vote appears unlikely, with November employment figures potentially providing additional guidance for a December policy move.

7. RISING DIESEL PRICES MAY NOT EASE BEFORE US MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Efforts to reduce diesel prices through changes in Russian energy policy may come too late to deliver meaningful relief before the November elections. Even if prices decline, the economic and inflationary benefits may take longer to reach consumers.

8. AI-DRIVEN STOCK MARKET GAINS FACE GROWING RISK OF FURTHER CORRECTIONS

The sustainability of the AI investment boom is increasingly uncertain amid elevated valuations and significant market volatility. More than half of S&P 500 stocks were described as in bear market territory, raising concerns about reliance on a small group of major technology companies.

9. PERSISTENT INFLATION AND ELEVATED ENERGY PRICES THREATEN GLOBAL INVESTMENT OUTLOOK

Sticky inflation, potential interest rate increases and crude prices holding above \$100 present mounting risks for investors. Continued equity market volatility and uncertainty surrounding AI investment could intensify financial pressures, with few signs of improvement in the broader macroeconomic outlook.

مجموعة واحدة
فرص لا محدودة.

One Group.
Endless Possibilities.



THE WEEK IN NUMBERS



WEEKLY AVERAGE OIL PRICES

BRENT CRUDE	WTI CRUDE	DME	MURBAN
\$105.45/bi	\$93.93/bi	\$108.53/bi	\$110.96/bi

*Time Period: Week 2, Oct. 15, 2026
Source: GME, OilPrice.com, GI Research

FUJAIRAH WEEKLY BUNKER PRICES

VLSFO	MGO	IFO380
High = \$987.50/mt	High = \$1725.50/mt	High = \$744.00/mt
Low = \$967.50/mt	Low = \$1677.00/mt	Low = \$711.50/mt
Average = \$978.50/mt	Average = \$1696.00/mt	Average = \$727.00/mt
Spread = \$20.00/mt	Spread = \$48.50/mt	Spread = \$32.50/mt

Source: Ship and Bunker, *Time Period: October 9 – October 15, 2026

FUJAIRAH BUNKER SALES VOLUME (M³)

70 180cst Low Sulfur Fuel Oil	149,202 380cst Low Sulfur Fuel Oil	58,339 380cst Marine Fuel Oil
111 Marine Gasoil	18,045 Low Sulfur Marine Gasoil	2,183 Lubricants

Source: FEDCom & S&P Global Platts

ENERGY WITH PURPOSE

طاقة هادفة

Sharjah National Oil Corporation (SNOC) is the government-owned oil and gas executive arm of the Emirate of Sharjah, operating under the auspices of the Petroleum Department of Sharjah. Established in 2010, SNOC owns and manages all Sharjah oil and gas assets and is the main supplier of natural gas across the Emirate.

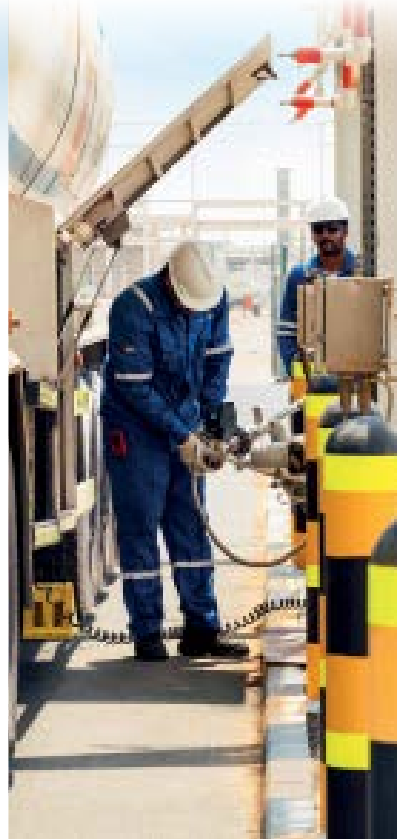
UPSTREAM



MIDSTREAM



TRADING



ENERGY TRANSITION



FUJAIRAH SPOTLIGHT

Fujairah shows why resilience is the Gulf's greatest energy asset

For a city sometimes unfairly described as “sleepy”, Fujairah is keeping the global energy industry awake these days. The Indian Ocean port has emerged as a crucial hub for the world economy, sustaining the UAE's energy exports despite the Hormuz crisis.

Source: *The National* <https://www.thenationalnews.com/business/energy/2026/10/11/fujairah-shows-why-resilience-is-the-gulfs-greatest-energy-asset/>



In Fujairah, the best energy forum east of Hormuz

The Energy Markets Forum in Fujairah is not the oil and gas industry's largest gathering, nor does it pretend to be. CERWeek in Houston has corporate firepower; Adipec in Abu Dhabi offers scale and spectacle; and Appec in Singapore is a showcase for Asia's petroleum business. But EMF in Fujairah offers something its grander rivals lack: immediacy, informality and the opportunity to get close to the industry's movers and shakers and hear what they really think – all on the frontline of the 2026 global energy tumult.

Source: <https://www.agbi.com/oil-and-gas/2026/10/in-fujairah-the-best-energy-forum-east-of-hormuz/>

FUJAIRAH DATA: Oil product stocks decline for third consecutive week

Oil product inventories at Fujairah in the UAE fell 9.9% in the week ended Oct. 12, led by a 30% decline in heavy distillates used as ship fuel and for power generation, according to Fujairah Oil Industry Zone data published Oct. 14.

Source: S&P Global Energy <https://www.spglobal.com/energy/en/news-research/latest-news/refined-products/101426-fujairah-data-oil-product-stocks-decline-for-third-consecutive-week>

HARNESS OUR EXPERTISE TO NAVIGATE TOWARDS SUCCESS.

At NBF, we bring decades of expertise in supporting the oil & gas, and marine sectors with a comprehensive suite of products and services. Addressing the specialised requirements of the offshore sector, terminal operators and oil traders, defines our expertise in business banking.

As you navigate to new frontiers, we support you with tailored financial solutions and steadily sail towards a sustainable future.

OUR SERVICES



Trade finance for oil, petroleum, and energy commodities



Structured commodity finance



Asset and equipment finance



Capex and working capital finance



Marine financing, and more

ENERGY AND MARINE

WHOLESALE BANKING – NATIONAL BANK OF FUJAIRAH



Call 600565551
to start our partnership
nbf.ae     



Neil Atkinson

Former Head of Oil Markets Division
International Energy Agency

TOP 9 INSIGHTS



Publishing
Intelligence
Consultancy

October 12th, 2026



US-RUSSIA DIESEL DEAL OFFERS LITTLE RELIEF AS EUROPE'S ENERGY CRISIS DEEPENS!

1. US-RUSSIA DIESEL DEAL UNLIKELY TO IMPACT GLOBAL MARKETS

Proposed Russian diesel shipments to the US will have negligible impact on global supply-demand fundamentals, given worldwide diesel consumption of approximately 27-28 million barrels per day and the relatively small volumes involved.

2. RUSSIAN DIESEL DELIVERIES TOO SMALL TO EASE SUPPLY CONSTRAINTS

An initial shipment of 300,000 tonnes per month would equate to approximately 70,000 barrels per day, a fraction of US diesel demand of 3.7 million barrels per day.

3. G7 STRATEGIC OIL RELEASES HAVE YET TO MATERIALIZE

The G7's announced release of 100 million barrels, including approximately 50 million barrels of petroleum products, mainly diesel, has yet to translate into significant physical deliveries to the market.

4. LATEST G7 OIL RELEASE MAY NOT REPRESENT ADDITIONAL SUPPLY

The recently announced 100 million barrels may simply reaffirm volumes included in the approximately 415-425 million barrels of strategic reserves pledged in March, rather than represent a fresh injection of supply.

5. STRATEGIC OIL RESERVES CANNOT BE FORCED INTO THE MARKET

Announcing strategic stock releases does not guarantee immediate supply, as barrels must first be offered under agreed commercial terms before buyers can take delivery.

6. LOGISTICS REMAIN A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO EMERGENCY OIL RELEASES

Accelerating strategic reserve releases requires tender documentation, decisions on volumes, storage locations and commercial terms, highlighting the practical challenges of delivering emergency supplies quickly.

7. EUROPE CANNOT EASILY RESTORE ENERGY TRADE WITH RUSSIA

Despite mounting energy pressures, Europe faces significant political and moral obstacles to restoring Russian diesel and gas imports, limiting its options for addressing the continent's energy challenges.

8. RISING ENERGY COSTS FUEL POLITICAL UNREST ACROSS FRANCE

Growing dissatisfaction over fuel, food and electricity prices is contributing to renewed demonstrations in France, with student protests and the anticipated return of the Yellow Vest movement intensifying political pressure.

9. IEA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING UNLIKELY TO RESOLVE OIL RELEASE UNCERTAINTY

The October 15 IEA Governing Board meeting is unlikely to significantly clarify strategic reserve arrangements, following earlier discussions on October 7, as emergency stock releases remain subject to logistical and commercial constraints.



Delivering
energy in partnership
for sixty years





ENERGY MARKETS VIEWS YOU CAN USE



Laury Haytayan

MENA Director, Natural Resource Governance Institute

Iran's Economic Pressure Raises Risks for Saudi Oil Supply

The renewed Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia cannot be viewed simply as a resurgence of historical grievances. They must also be understood within the context of mounting US economic pressure on Iran. Tehran may be using attacks on the world's largest oil exporter to drive prices higher and demonstrate its ability to resist American sanctions. If oil prices fail to respond, the risk is that attacks against Saudi Arabia could intensify ahead of November's US elections.

Europe Faces a Triple Energy and Security Shock

Europe is confronting three simultaneous pressures: tightening petroleum product markets, historically low gas storage levels, and growing security threats from Russia. These challenges expose structural weaknesses in Europe's energy system. The European Commission has acknowledged that Europe is paying \$100 billion more for the same volume of imported energy. Accelerating the green transition alone will not resolve these vulnerabilities. Europe must confront its energy security challenges through structural reforms and greater domestic supply resilience.

Energy Sovereignty Becomes a Strategic Priority

European governments face difficult choices between energy affordability and national security. Despite pressure to secure cheaper supplies, renewed dependence on Russia remains politically and strategically problematic. Italy's interest in expanding domestic oil and gas production and reconsidering nuclear energy illustrates the growing urgency of restoring energy sovereignty.

US Elections Could Determine the Next Phase of Escalation

Regional conflicts are increasingly interconnected, with US and Israeli elections influencing geopolitical decisions. Without credible negotiations, instability could intensify through November, prolonging uncertainty across global energy markets. ■

VTTI Fujairah Energy to Move Tomorrow

Driven by the expertise and commitment of our team, we deliver safe, reliable and efficient operations every day. As a regional terminal offering a wide range of storage solutions and services, we play a vital role in supplying both domestic and international markets.

Located at the Port of Fujairah, our facilities handle vessels of all sizes and a broad spectrum of products.

As part of VTTI's global network spanning 16 countries, Fujairah combines regional strength with global reach.

**Scan the QR code
to learn more:**





Marc Ostwald
Chief Economist & Global Strategist,
ADM Investor Services International

TOP 9 INSIGHTS



Publishing
Intelligence
Consultancy

October 13th, 2026



OIL MARKETS ARE UNDERPRICING GEOPOLITICAL RISKS AS ECONOMIC PRESSURES MOUNT

1. US CONSUMER SPENDING IS THE CRITICAL MARKET INDICATOR

With Chinese economic activity expected to remain weak, Ostwald identifies US consumer spending as the most important economic indicator over the next three to six months. A sharp deterioration in household expenditure could fundamentally alter the economic outlook.

4. EQUITY MARKETS ARE UNDERESTIMATING GLOBAL ECONOMIC RISKS

US equities continue to rally whenever Brent prices retreat, reflecting a strong appetite for risk. Ostwald questions whether this optimism is justified, arguing that markets are misreading the global economic outlook amid persistent geopolitical disruptions and elevated borrowing costs.

7. BRENT'S PRICE CEILING RESTS ON DANGEROUS ASSUMPTIONS

The market is pricing in a global economic slowdown from higher interest rates, subdued Chinese demand and an eventual easing of geopolitical tensions. Ostwald considers the assumption of a geopolitical resolution particularly unsafe, given persistent disruptions to global energy markets.

2. OIL OVERSUPPLY IS THE ONLY JUSTIFICATION FOR BRENT'S PRICE CEILING

Brent's inability to break above \$107-\$108 would only be justified if markets returned to a relatively normal environment without constant disruptions and with sufficient supply. Otherwise, the current price ceiling is difficult to reconcile with geopolitical risks.

5. EUROPE FACES PROLONGED RUSSIAN GEOPOLITICAL THREATS

European governments remain deeply skeptical of any near-term resolution to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Persistent disruptions and unconventional warfare reinforce the perception of a continuing Russian threat, with little confidence that peace will materialize anytime soon.

8. HOUSING WEAKNESS THREATENS BROADER US CONSUMPTION

Higher financing costs are weighing heavily on housing and commercial real estate. Reduced housing transactions are also limiting spending on furniture, household goods and related sectors, creating a potential drag on consumption as borrowing costs remain elevated.

3. PHYSICAL OIL PRICES SIGNAL INFLATIONARY PRESSURES

The disconnect between futures prices and physical energy costs is increasingly significant. Consumers ultimately pay physical prices, particularly for refined products such as diesel, making actual energy costs a more meaningful indicator of inflationary pressures than Brent futures alone.

6. EUROPE'S POLITICAL DIVISIONS CREATE STRATEGIC VULNERABILITIES

Europe's greatest weakness is its lack of political cohesion and meaningful dialogue, which Russia could exploit. Governments are accelerating efforts to strengthen Ukraine's defenses amid uncertainty over Washington's reliability, while US midterm elections are unlikely to change the fundamental security situation.

9. AMERICA'S UNEVEN CONSUMER ECONOMY MASKS GROWING RISKS

Strong equity markets and higher bond yields continue to support affluent consumers, while ordinary households face considerably greater financial pressures. This divergence complicates assessments of US economic resilience, particularly as rising household energy, electricity and gasoline costs threaten spending power.

A Global Energy Trader

BB Energy is among the world's leading independent energy trading companies. With over six decades of experience in energy markets around the world, we responsibly connect energy producers and suppliers with the people, communities and businesses that need it most.

Our unique entrepreneurial culture, backed by our global reach, allows us to meet our clients' needs by providing safe, efficient and reliable access to energy.

#energisinggrowth



BB Energy

bbenergy.com



ENERGY MARKETS VIEWS YOU CAN USE



Andrew Laven

Managing Director
E-Cons

Brent No Longer Tells the Full Story

Brent remains a valid benchmark, but its usefulness as an indicator of global economic conditions has diminished. The widening disconnect between benchmark prices and what consumers actually pay reflects soaring freight, insurance and transportation costs. These additional expenses have fundamentally changed the economics of physical oil markets. Rather than focusing solely on Brent, market participants should consider “Brent plus” — incorporating crude differentials, freight and other delivery costs to understand the true price paid by end users.

Volatility is Reshaping Trading Opportunities

Oil trading continues to fulfil its fundamental purpose: moving crude and refined products from where they are produced to where they are consumed. However, unpredictable volatility makes it increasingly difficult to establish market views and manage positions. While physical trading remains essential, opportunities involving storage, longer-term positioning and other trading strategies diminish when price movements cannot be linked to identifiable fundamentals.

Middle East Uncertainty Leaves Markets Without Direction

Gulf producers face extraordinary uncertainty over regional security and the intentions of other governments. The lack of clarity surrounding US-Iran relations and broader geopolitical developments has left decision-makers hesitant to act. For commodity traders, disrupted shipping patterns and limited visibility over Gulf export flows further complicate market assessments. The central challenge is no longer simply understanding today's disruptions but identifying a credible path towards stability. Without clearer strategic direction, governments and markets remain exposed to uncertainty, unpredictable responses and persistent operational risks. ■

DOW JONES ENERGY

Bringing together global energy intelligence through price reporting capabilities, deep research, proprietary data, world-class news, and influential events from trusted heritage brands:

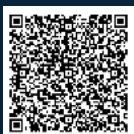
- OPIS
- McCloskey
- Chemical Market Analytics
- PetroChem Wire
- Axxis
- Eco-Movement
- A2i



**LEARN
MORE**



Dow Jones Energy Forum | October 21, 2026 | New York City



Securing Supply in a Volatile World

Request your invitation

djenergyforum.dowjones.com

© 2026 Oil Price Information Service, LLC. All rights reserved.



ENERGY MARKETS VIEWS YOU CAN USE



Omar Al-Ubaydli

Director of Research

Bahrain Center for Strategic International & Energy Studies

Oil Prices Mask Growing Supply Uncertainty

Oil markets are increasingly difficult to interpret amid geopolitical disruption, opaque shipping movements and strategic inventory management. China and the United States have adjusted their reserve positions, while oil continues moving through the Strait of Hormuz through less transparent channels. Establishing true supply and demand has become exceptionally challenging. Despite escalating attacks on Saudi Arabia, prices have remained relatively unresponsive because production capacity has not been materially affected. However, one or two successful attacks on critical facilities could dramatically change market conditions.

Gulf Economic Recovery Hinges on Hormuz

The long-term economic consequences for Gulf economies depend heavily on restoring sustainable passage through the Strait of Hormuz. If normal flows resume, the lasting damage could be relatively limited. In the short to medium term, however, the disruption could resemble COVID, with significant economic losses while trade and exports remain constrained. A durable regional security arrangement, including reduced incentives for Iran to disrupt shipping, remains essential.

Technology Could Restore Energy Trade Confidence

The shift from just-in-time to just-in-case logistics may not be permanent. Efficient supply chains generate substantial economic benefits, creating powerful incentives to develop technologies capable of neutralizing drone and missile threats. Advances in defensive systems, including lasers, could progressively reduce the risks facing energy infrastructure and maritime trade. Within five years, these threats could become considerably less disruptive. Rather than assuming today's crisis represents a permanent transformation, markets should recognize the potential for technological innovation to restore confidence, lower security risks and revive more efficient international energy trade. ■



مرفأى الفجيرة
FUJAIRAH TERMINALS

Energy moves. We make it possible.

From ship to shore and beyond,
Fujairah Terminals powers resilient
energy supply chains through world-class
infrastructure, seamless multimodal
connectivity, and integrated logistics.
Building stronger connections.
Strengthening resilience.
Enabling the future of
global energy trade.

Connecting energy.
Enabling trade.
Driving growth.

www.adports.ae



ENERGY MARKETS VIEWS YOU CAN USE



Victor Yang

Senior Analyst
JLC Network Technology

China's Oil Demand Stabilizes as Crude Inventory Drawdowns Ease

China's crude oil demand is expected to remain largely stable through the final quarter of 2026, with limited prospects for further growth. Refinery runs, particularly among independent refiners, are likely to decline slightly as domestic gasoline consumption weakens in November and December. Despite reports of significant inventory declines, China's overall crude stock position remains relatively resilient. Inventory builds during the first quarter were substantially larger than subsequent drawdowns in May and June. With crude imports around 9 million barrels per day and domestic production at approximately 4.3–4.4 million barrels per day, available supplies broadly match current refinery requirements. Consequently, inventory drawdowns are unlikely to persist through year-end, while crude imports are expected to remain stable.

Fiscal Pressures Challenge China's Economic Recovery

China's widening fiscal deficit and local government debt remain significant economic challenges. With real estate no longer providing its traditional growth engine, Beijing is increasingly relying on infrastructure investment and emerging industries to support economic activity. However, high-tech manufacturing, including electric vehicles and batteries, requires fewer workers than traditional industries, creating employment challenges and reinforcing the need for additional investment.

US-China Trade De-escalation Remains Critical

Despite ongoing trade tensions, China and the United States remain deeply economically interconnected. Both countries recognize the economic damage caused by escalating trade restrictions, providing grounds for further negotiations. De-escalation remains essential to preserving economic stability and supporting continued cooperation. ■

YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER IN ENERGY MARKETS



Independent market intelligence, strategic advisory and consulting for the global oil, gas, LNG, petrochemicals and energy transition sectors.

01

MARKET INTELLIGENCE

Supply, demand, trade & price forecasting across oil, gas, LNG, NGLs & petrochemicals

02

STRATEGIC ADVISORY

M&A support, feasibility studies, technology evaluation & project finance

03

ENERGY TRANSITION

Hydrogen, e-fuels, low-carbon fuels & clean-tech market analytics

04

DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Client portals, interactive dashboards & scenario modelling tools



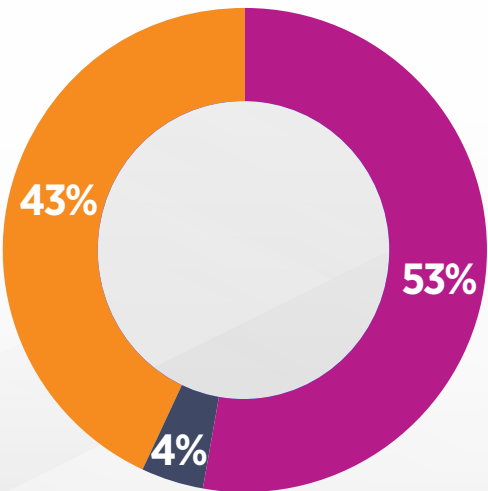
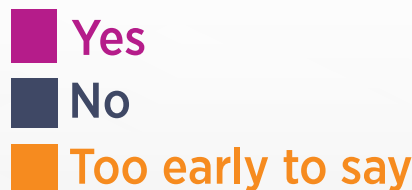
Lumen by FGE NexantECA

Proud Branding Partner — Fujairah Energy Markets Forum 2026

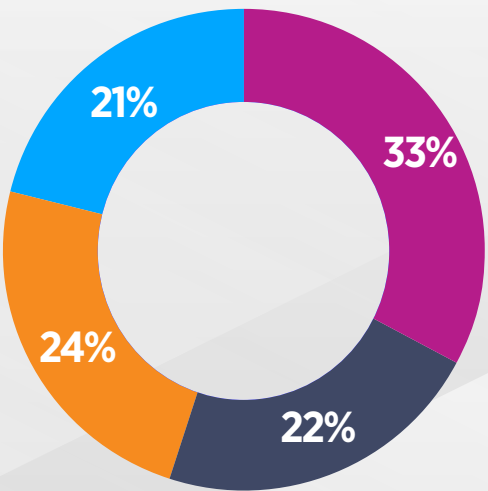
fgenexanteca.com

GI WEEKLY SURVEY

Has the era of “Just-in-Time” energy supplies and delivery logistics ended?



Brent Crude oil has averaged \$93 a barrel year to date – what will be the AVERAGE price in 2027?



What impact will Trump’s shift of support for Russia over Ukraine have on oil prices?



EVERY BARREL TELLS A STORY. SEE THE WHOLE PICTURE.

From crude oil flows to refined products demand, access the trusted intelligence behind today's markets and tomorrow's trends—with Platts price benchmarks, market insights and CERA outlooks.

Explore Crude & Refined Solutions >



ENERGY MARKETS COMMENTARY

WEEK IN REVIEW

ADNOC **DAILY ENERGY MARKETS VII SEASON** **PODCAST**
MONDAY / Oct. 12th

Omar Najia
 Derivatives Trader
 BB Energy

Laury Haytayan
 MENA Director, Natural Resource
 Governance Institute

Neil Atkinson
 Former Head of Oil Markets Division
 International Energy Agency

ON AIR
GI

GI Publishing Intelligence Consultancy

ADNOC **DAILY ENERGY MARKETS VII SEASON** **PODCAST**
TUESDAY / Oct. 13th

Marc Ostwald
 Chief Economist & Global Strategist
 ADM Investor Services International

Nadia Martin Wigen
 Research Director
 Sveland Capital

Andrew Laven
 Managing Director
 E-Cors

ON AIR
GI

GI Publishing Intelligence Consultancy

ADNOC **DAILY ENERGY MARKETS VII SEASON** **PODCAST**
WEDNESDAY / Oct. 14th

Omar Al-Ubaydli
 Director of Research, Bahrain Center for
 Strategic International & Energy Studies

June Goh
 Senior Oil Analyst
 Sparta Commodities

Paul Hickin
 Chief Economist & Editor-in-Chief
 Petroleum Economist

ON AIR
GI

GI Publishing Intelligence Consultancy

ADNOC **DAILY ENERGY MARKETS VII SEASON** **PODCAST**
THURSDAY / Oct. 15th

Peter McGuire
 CEO Australia
 Trading.com
 (Formerly XM)

Victor Yang
 Senior Analyst
 JLC Network Technology

Alan Gelder
 SVP Refining, Chemicals & Oil Markets
 Wood Mackenzie

ON AIR
GI

GI Publishing Intelligence Consultancy

LISTEN ON





**Built on trust.
Backed by
liquidity.**

Markets and data
happen here.



FUJAIRAH WEEKLY

OIL INVENTORY DATA

TOP TAKEAWAYS

- Total oil product stocks in Fujairah stood at 6.825 million barrels. Overall, there was a net drop of 749,000 barrels, or a 9.9% week-on-week drop. The weekly stock movement in Fujairah saw a draw in heavy residues offset builds in light distillates and middle distillates.
- Stocks of light distillates, including gasoline and naphtha, rose by 201,000 barrels, or up 36% week-over-week, to 760,000 barrels, rising from their all-time low seen last week. The gasoline complex was expecting some downward pressure, driven by expectations that Chinese exports would resume despite firm regional demand. Restrictions on Chinese exports to foreign destinations were heard no longer in place; however, Chinese gasoline export volumes are expected to moderate to about 400,000-500,000 metric tons, a source said. In the Middle East, product flows through the Strait of Hormuz continued to be threatened by rising tensions, with an uptick in attacks on vessels in the region in recent days.
- Stocks of middle distillates, including diesel and jet fuel, also rose, seeing a build of 482,000 barrels, or a 21% rise week on week, to 2.774 million barrels. The East of Suez gasoil complex, softened with Russia's partial lift of its diesel export ban

despite the uncertainty over the Russia-Ukraine energy ceasefire. The Russian government said the diesel export ban was partially lifted from Oct. 10 and allows for the export of 500,000 mt of diesel at this stage. Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak said that Russia is ready to supply 300,000 mt of diesel to the US market and other partners in October. Meanwhile, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that Ukraine has received no commitment from Russia to stop striking its energy infrastructure, according to his address at the Warsaw Security Forum on Oct. 12.

- Stocks of heavy distillates and residues saw a draw this week, with a week-on-week fall of 1.432 million barrels, or a 30.3% draw on the week to stand at 3.291 million barrels. At Fujairah in the bunker market on Oct. 13, suppliers were heard able to offer fuel oil products mostly from Oct. 15-17 onward. On Oct. 13, most offer indications for the Fujairah-delivered 0.5%S marine fuel grade were heard around \$995-\$1,005/mt. The Fujairah-delivered 380 CST HSFO grade was heard offered as low as \$720/mt for prompt delivery, but primarily offers were around \$740-\$750/mt.



Source: S&P Global Energy

Our energy for change

Because energy is the driving force behind industry and everyday life. Even and especially in challenging times. That's why our heart beats for a reliable, flexible and increasingly greener energy supply.

We are shaped by change and our strength is our experienced team. We are doing all we can to accelerate the green transformation. Like no other company, we master the interplay between electricity and gas – both regionally and on the international markets.

We deliver the right energy to the right place at the right time at the right price – for all our customers.

Uniper. The beating heart of energy.



**uni
per**

PLENARY SESSION INSIGHTS REPORT



F U J A I R A H

14thENERGY
MARKETS
FORUM 2026

***“Resilience & Optionality are Both Sides
of same PPP “Public Private Partnership” Coin
Necessary to Deliver the Economic Viability
of ‘Just in Case’ Redundancy!”***


[CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)
Oct. 12th, 2026

MONDAY MORNING QUARTERBACK

ENERGY MARKETS WEEKLY BRIEFING NOTE


[CLICK HERE!](#)

***“The New Economics of Energy Security:
Why Public-Private Partnerships Must Make
‘Just-in-Case’ Redundancy Pay!”***

The Monday Morning Quarterback
Series is supported by:



Supporting energy security to help the world flow forward



Vopak Horizon Fujairah Limited, established in 1998, provides storage and infrastructure solutions for vital products that enrich everyday life. With a focus on sustainability, the terminal ensures safe, clean and efficient storage and handling of the full spectrum of petroleum products and crude oil. Strategically located at Port of Fujairah, Vopak Horizon Fujairah is the leading storage and handling service provider for petroleum products and crude oil in Fujairah. As the world evolves towards a sustainable economy, we are working with partners and customers to accelerate the development of infrastructure solutions for new energies including bio-fuels. Vopak Horizon Fujairah is a joint venture between Royal Vopak, Horizon Terminals Ltd, the Government of Fujairah and Independent Petroleum Group.

Terminal highlights

- Designed to state of-the-art specifications, complying with the most stringent safety and environmental standards
- World-class deepwater storage terminal with about 2.65 million cubic meters capacity, capable of handling VLCCs with ease
- International Sustainability and Carbon Certification ISCC+ and ISCC Europe, demonstrating our capabilities to safely handle biofuels.
- Dedicated team of well experienced and qualified specialists

Vopak Horizon Fujairah Ltd.

Phone: +971 9 228 1800

P.O.Box 1769, Fujairah, United Arab Emirates

www.vopakhorizonfujairah.com

GI SOUNDINGS WEEK IN REVIEW***“Oil Markets Face Prolonged Tightness as Diesel Shortages, Geopolitical Risks and Supply Uncertainty Persist!”***

Over the last week, Gulf Intelligence has held high-level interviews with energy experts in the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and the US. This intel is harvested from the exclusive briefings.

IS THE BRENT CONTRACT BROKEN?

“Prices reflect the greatest shortage – freight and diesel are much tighter than crude, making Brent look “cheap.” About 3% of VLCCs have been damaged by war yet the Black Sea is more feared than the Straits of Hormuz. New national players – UAE, Iraq – are willing to take freight at higher prices to get their oil out while their consumers (COSCO) hesitate to sail into the SOH. Diesel has been toying with demand destruction levels – in Q4 we should see increased working from home in Europe, taking out 0.5 mbd of consumer demand.”

Nadia Martin Wigger, Research Director, Svelland Capital

**CHINA OIL INVENTORIES DECLINE**

“China’s oil inventories declined by almost 140 million barrels from their peak earlier in the year as China lowered imports and later allowed exports. However one thing is clear: the Strategic Petroleum Reserve was not used. The decline in Chinese inventories was mostly from commercial and refinery inventories. Most of the decline came from independent groups, not from the Chinese oil majors.”

Anas Alhajji, Managing Partner, Energy Outlook Advisors



GI SOUNDINGS WEEK IN REVIEW**OIL HEADING TOWARDS \$120**

"What we're seeing is a divergence between market prices and reality, because while some suggest the Strait of Hormuz remains open, the reality is that ships are burning. I remain bullish on oil prices, with WTI's \$86 low already in, prices heading towards \$120 this year."

Omar Najia, Derivatives Trader, BB Energy

**DANGEROUS FORECASTING ASSUMPTIONS**

"What's interesting about many oil demand forecasts, not just OPEC's, is the assumption that the dominant scenario is a war that has ended. That's a very delicate position for any forecaster to take, given the uncertainty surrounding the conflict."

Paul Hickin, Chief Economist & Editor-in-Chief, Petroleum Economist

**DELAYING THE DIESEL CRUNCH**

"Releasing inventories now takes the peak out of diesel prices, depending on when the Strait of Hormuz reopens. But it doesn't fundamentally resolve the shortage. Instead, it shifts the timing of inventory drawdowns and potentially extends market tightness further into the future."

Alan Gelder, SVP Refining, Chemicals & Oil Markets, Wood Mackenzie





Publishing
Intelligence
Consultancy