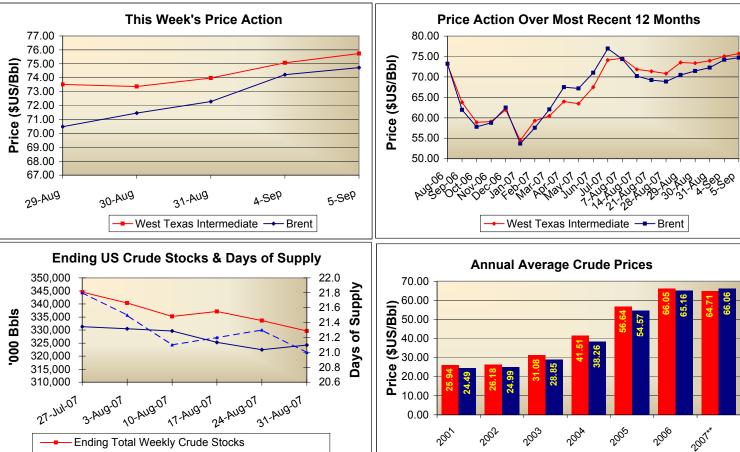
	Week									COMMEN
	Ended	Current Week					August 29 -	September		For the
							September 5	Month-to-	2007 Year-	West Texa
Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	28-Aug-07	29-Aug	30-Aug	31-Aug	4-Sep	5-Sep	Average	Date	10-Date	\$3.95 wee
- West Texas Intermediate	70.82	73.52	73.37	73.98	75.07	75.74	74.34	75.41	04./1	\$75.74. B
- Brent Crude	68.89	70.48	71.46	72.29	74.22	74.72	72.63	74.47	66.06	to close at



West Texas Intermediate Brent Crude

COMMENTARY: ► For the August 29 - September 5 period, West Texas Intermediate closed higher by \$3.95 week-over-week, ending the week at \$75.74. Brent gained \$5.06 week-over-week to close at \$74.72.

▶ US Crude stocks decreased by 4.0 million bbls. At the same time, days of crude supply decreased by 0.3 to 21.0 days of supply. Gasoline and distillate stocks increased by 3.3 million bbls.

This week, both WTI and Brent prices moved sharply higher. After some softness early in August, both WTI and Brent are up against \$75 levels - nearly as high as they have been any time during the last 14 months. Although driving season came to an official end this past Labour Day weekend, gasoline demand is still running high and fears over supplies are lingering in the minds of many analysts and traders. The primary push for this week's strong gains appears to have been stocks data which showed an unexpected decline in crude stocks of nearly 4.0 million bbls. Furthermore, although total gasoline and distillate stocks were higher by 1.8 million bbls overall, this masks the fact that gasoline inventories were actually down by 1.5 million bbls and much higher distillate inventories were solely responsible for the increase in that category. This trend seems supportive of steady to higher prices both in gasoline and crude.

## Sources/Notes:

1. West Texas Intermediate and Brent Crude prices are spot prices as reported weekly by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) of the Department of Energy (DOE) in the United States.

2. Inventory stocks are reported weekly by the EIA and include all inventories held with "primary" enterprises such as refiners and wholesalers of crude. Secondary and tertiary inventories held by retailers or end users are not included. Crude stocks include all unrefined crude; gasoline stocks include all grades of gasoline; and distillate stocks include all grades of distillates (including home heating fuel and diesel fuel).

Ending Total Weekly Gasoline and Distillate Stocks

Days of Crude Supply

3. Annual and monthly average prices for spot WTI and Brent crude from 2001 to 2007 are simple averages calculated from daily prices as reported by EIA.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Natural Resources Energy Branch Energy Economics Division

\*\*NOTE: 2007 figures are

year-to-date.

