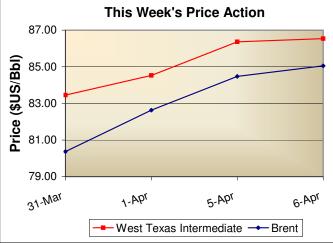
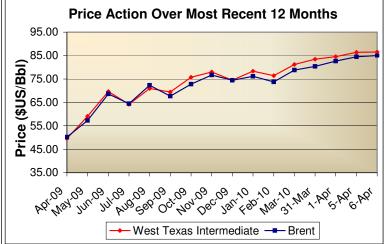
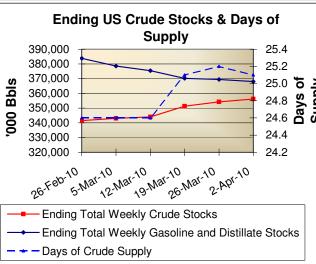
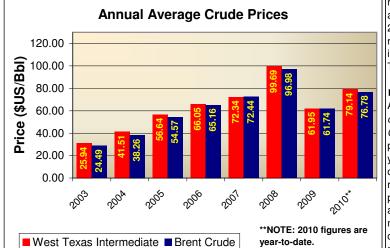
Weekly Crude Price Report - For the Week Ending April 6, 2010

	March 24	Current Period				March 31		
	March 30					- April 6	April Month	2010 Year-
Benchmark Crudes (US\$/bbl)	Average	31-Mar	1-Apr	5-Apr	6-Apr	Average	to-Date	to-Date
- West Texas Intermediate	80.87	83.45	84.53	86.36	86.54	85.22	85.81	79.14
- Brent Crude	78.80	80.37	82.63	84.48	85.05	83.13	84.05	76.78









COMMENTARY:

- ► For the March 31 April 6 period, the average price for West Texas Intermediate was higher by \$4.35 week-overweek, at \$85.22. Brent prices were higher by \$4.33 week-over-week, averaging \$83.13.
- ▶ WTI began the period at \$83.45, growing through the week and ending at \$86.54 by April 6. Brent prices began the period at a low of \$80.37, and ending at \$85.05 by April 6
- ▶ The average crude prices for 2010 year-to-date increased from the previous period with WTI up \$0.41 to \$79.14 and Brent up \$0.42 to \$76.78.
- ▶ US crude stocks increased by 1.976 million bbls this period. At the same time, days of crude supply decreased by 0.1 from the previous period at 25.2 days of supply. US gasoline and distillate stocks decreased by 1.424 million bbls
- ▶On April 6, the EIA released their Short-Term Energy and Summer Fuels Outlook. The EIA expects WTI prices to average above \$81 per barrel this summer, slightly less than \$81 per barrel for 2010 on average, and \$85 per barrel by the fourth quarter of 2011. EIA projects that world oil consumption will grow by 1.5 million bpd in 2010 and 1.6 million bpd in 2011. This growth is the result of an expected recovery in the global economy, EIA has revised its assessment for Asia upwards and Europe downwards for 2010 in response to preliminary first-quarter data for those regions. Most of the growth in oil consumption is expected in the Asia-Pacific and Middle East regions. Next Short Term Energy Release is scheduled for May 11, 2010.
- ▶ According to a IHS Cambridge Energy Research Associates (IHS CERA) news release on its report, Fields of Dreams: The Great Iraqi Oil Rush—Its Potential, Challenges, and Limits, Iraq's plans to boost crude oil production to as much as 12 million bpd in six to seven years is not likely to be met given political, security, operational and infrastructure challenges. The news releases stated that Iraq will be challenged to match this pace, given Saudi Arabia (security and infrastructure advantages) took between four and five years to expand its net output capacity by some 2 million bpd. IHS CERA's current outlook for Iraq is reaching an output level of 4.3 million bpd in 2015 and 6.5 million bpd in 2020.

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 discolors).
- 3. Annual and monthly average prices for spot WTI and Brent crude from 2002 to 2009 are simple averages calculated from daily prices as

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

