## Energy Market Update, March 27, 2024 NYMEX Prices



Product	Month	Close	Wk. Change						
Crude Oil	May 24	81.35	33						
RBOB Gas	Apr 24	2.6847	-0.0485						
NYH ULSD	Apr 24	2.5986	-0.0971						
Nat. Gas	May 24	1.718	+0.019						

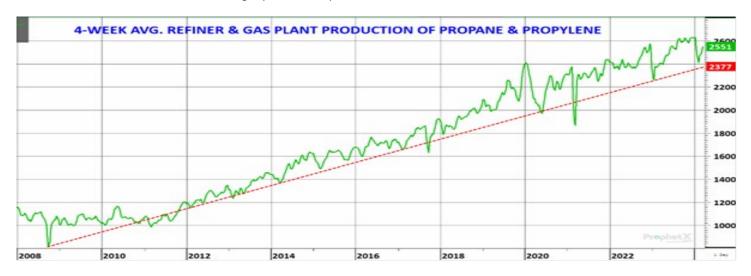
## **Market Comments:**

- Oil and fuel prices posted losses in Wednesday trading as the markets fell for a second consecutive day.
- Today's DOE report showed that crude oil (+3.2 M bbls) and Cushing, OK (+2.1M bbls, marking the largest weekly increase in more than a year) stockpiles increased by more than expected.
- Fresh signs that refineries continue to ramp up production as the end of turnarounds near appeared to weigh on prices in midweek trading.
- Additional downward pressure in the energy markets appeared to come from a stronger dollar and worries surrounding EU economic growth.
- Of note in today's trading was that spot month ULSD prices closed at a 2.5 month low.

	<u>Crude</u>				<u>Gasoline</u>			<u>Distillate Fuel</u>				
	Change Total	<u>3-Yr.</u>	<u>5-Yr.</u>	Chanas	T-4-1	<u>3-Yr.</u>	<u>5-Yr.</u>	Chamaa	Tabal	<u>3-Yr.</u>	<u>5-Yr.</u>	
		Avg.	Avg.	Avg.	Change	<u>Total</u>	Avg.	Avg.	Change	<u>Total</u>	Avg.	Avg.
EIA	3.2	448.2	457	456	1.3	232.1	236	236	-1.2	117.3	146	148
Est.	-2.300 / +1.800			-2.700 /-0.900			-1.100 / +1.200					
Propane	Total 52.2 0.0			Midwest 12.8 -0.1		Gulf Coast 31.6 0.4						
API	Crude 9.34 Cushing 2.4			G	Gasoline -4.4		Distillates 0.5					

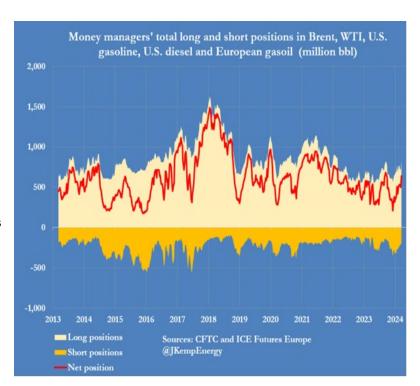
Increased levels of refinery and natural gas plant production of LP could help rebuild inventories and potentially depress propane prices in the coming months.

• Four-wk. avg. production has now increased by close to 140 bbls/d or 5.8% from its winter low (cold winter weather which shuttered refineries and gas production) over the past four weeks and is only 3% from its record high (Dec. 2023).



## New speculative length in the oil and fuel markets has helped drive petroleum prices higher this month.

- OPEC+'s recent decision to extend their production cut agreement until the end of the second quarter and expectations of increased global demand (Asia and the US) has sparked new speculative longs to enter the markets at the fastest pace in more than four years.
- Last week, hedge funds and other money managers bought the equivalent of 140M bbls of oil and fuel in the six most important futures and options contracts linked to petroleum prices.
- The buying was the fastest since Dec. 2023 and among the one of 10 fastest weeks since record began in 2013.



## **Upcoming Weather Forecast Has Potential For Planters To Roll**



Above

- The current 8-14 day weather forecast, valid from March 29th -April 4th appears mild.
- Expectations are for temperatures across the Midwest to fall in the normal range.
- Farmers will be anxious to get the planters rolling with the calendar flipping to April soon.
- The west coast is below average, and the east coast is above average.
- Precipitation amounts in the Midwest are calling for slightly above-average rainfall amounts.
- If these conditions remain until next month, the stage for an early spring planting season will be set.
- Why it Matters: If the agriculture community starts planting soon, regional diesel demand could pick up, resulting in basis swings at the rack level.