www.eia.doe.gov

Motor Gasoline Watch

July 28, 1999

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

NOTICE

EIA Releases Delayed and Revised Issues of the *Weekly Petroleum Status Report*

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) released on Wednesday, July 28, 1999, at 9:00 a.m., its scheduled publication of the Weekly Petroleum Status Report for the week ending July 23, 1999, as well as the delayed data for the week ending July 16, and revised data for the weeks ending July 2 and July 9, 1999.

The postponement of the July 16 publication and the associated revisions for the previous two weeks were the result of unforeseen problems in the computer systems used to collect and aggregate the petroleum supply data included in the report. In the process of completing routine enhancements to the software that imputes data for non-responding companies in the weekly processing system, a set of indexes became corrupted. This generated duplicate records in some data fields for those imputed companies. The greatest impact occurred in overstated product stock levels for the weeks ending July 2 and July 9. As a result, product supplied (demand) levels for those petroleum products were underestimated.

In addition to these revisions, crude oil stocks for PADD's 2, 3, and 4 have been revised to reflect resubmissions of survey data correcting earlier filings. Normally, EIA does not publish the impact of resubmissions on historical weekly data, but in this instance the need to reprocess prior weeks' data allowed the opportunity to include these revisions. Additionally, the historical impact of resubmissions on monthly data for the current year are published in Table C1 of the Petroleum Supply Monthly.

SUPPLY

- Stocks declined last week for the seventh consecutive week. Last week, total motor gasoline stocks decreased 3.5 million barrels to end the week at 205.4 million barrels. Stocks of reformulated gasoline rose 0.5 million barrels to 41.5 million barrels while stocks of other finished gasoline fell 3.9 million barrels to 119.3 million barrels. Stocks of motor gasoline blending components ended the week at 43.2 million barrels, 0.2 million barrels below the level at the end of the prior week.

- Total motor gasoline stocks at the primary storage level were 12.0 million barrels below the level for the same week last year. Imports of total gasoline averaged 452 thousand barrels per day of which 113 thousand barrels per day were reformulated and 221 thousand barrels per day were blending components.

Gasoline Production by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Thousand Barrels per Day)

District	Total Finished Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
	07/02/99	07/09/99	07/16/99	**07/23/99**	*07/24/98*	07/02/99	07/09/99	07/16/99	**07/23/99**	*07/24/98*
East Coast (PADD I)	1,178	1,005	1,119	**1,098**	*996*	644	547	642	**650**	*571*
Midwest (PADD II)	2,021	R1,846	2,025	**1,946**	*1,789*	291	290	290	**256**	*302*
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	3,593	3,603	3,597	**3,510**	*3,611*	639	714	649	**712**	*655*
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	R269	R275	276	**259**	*261*	NA	NA	NA	**NA**	*NA*
West Coast (PADD V)	R1,137	R1,222	1,208	**1,233**	*1,372*	R867	R985	913	**904**	*980*
U.S. Total	R8,199	R7,952	8,226	**8,047**	*8,030*	R2,441	R2,536	2,494	**2,522**	*2,508*

Gasoline Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Million Barrels)

District	Total Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
	07/02/99	07/09/99	07/16/99	**07/23/99**	*07/23/98*	07/02/99	07/09/99	07/16/99	**07/23/99**	*07/23/98*
East Coast (PADD I)	R66.5	R63.8	61.3	**59.1**	*63.3*	R20.6	R20.9	18.8	**20.5**	*21.6*
Midwest (PADD II)	R55.8	R56.7	57.3	**55.1**	*54.1*	1.9	2.4	2.4	**2.2**	*1.2*
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	R61.1	R60.1	59.0	**60.7**	*63.7*	9.9	9.4	9.8	**9.2**	*10.1*
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	R6.9	R6.2	6.1	**5.7**	*6.0*	NA	NA	NA	**NA**	*NA*
West Coast (PADD V)	R24.4	R24.3	25.2	**24.8**	*30.3*	R9.4	R9.6	10.0	**9.7**	*14.1*
U.S. Total	R214.6	R211.0	208.9	**205.4**	*217.4*	R41.8	R42.3	41.0	**41.5**	*47.0*

R Revised.

For information about this report, please contact the National Energy Information Center: 202-586-8800. E-mail: infoctr@eia.doe.gov.

PRICES

- As of July 26, 1999, petroleum markets have yet to fully recover from a comment almost a week ago by the president of Venezuela's state oil company that the price for West Texas Intermediate crude oil should not be allowed to exceed $22. The following day, statements that the country had no plans to change production levels came amid an industry report of a 5.5 million barrel build in crude oil stocks. The New York Harbor spot price for conventional regular gasoline was 59.23 cents per gallon on July 26, 1999, down 0.15 cent. On July 15, 1999, Chevron was granted the first product quality waiver relieving the requirement for California-grade gasoline for 45 days while the Richmond refinery undergoes repairs and Tosco's Avon refinery and the Olympic product pipeline slowly return to full operations.

- The average retail price for regular gasoline was up 8.0 cents in the last four weeks, 2.4 cents most recently, to 119.3 cents per gallon on July 26, 1999, more than 14 cents higher than last year. October 1997 was the last time the average reached this level.

Regular Gasoline Spot Prices by City (Cents per Gallon)

City	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline				
	07/06/99	07/12/99	07/19/99	**07/26/99**	*07/27/98*	07/06/99	07/12/99	07/19/99	**07/26/99**	*07/27/98*
New York	55.55	57.50	59.38	**59.23**	*40.47*	57.63	59.05	60.53	**60.58**	*42.73*
Chicago	57.43	58.65	60.18	**58.98**	*44.23*	NA	NA	NA	**NA**	*NA*
Houston	54.73	56.10	57.55	**57.13**	*39.60*	56.88	57.78	59.20	**58.05**	*41.23*
Los Angeles	86.00	91.50	87.50	**82.00**	*45.25*	89.00	94.00	91.50	**85.00**	*50.00*

Source: Reuters Information Services.

Regular Gasoline Retail Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Cents per Gallon, Including Taxes)

District	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline				
	07/05/99	07/12/99	07/19/99	**07/26/99**	*07/27/98*	07/05/99	07/12/99	07/19/99	**07/26/99**	*07/27/98*
East Coast (PADD I)	106.0	107.8	110.0	**111.4**	*98.6*	112.2	114.3	115.9	**117.6**	*105.4*
Midwest (PADD II)	109.9	110.7	113.4	**117.0**	*104.9*	113.5	117.3	116.5	**119.7**	*109.6*
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	105.9	108.0	110.2	**111.6**	*98.5*	104.2	105.7	107.6	**109.5**	*98.2*
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	122.5	122.4	124.5	**128.3**	*113.1*	NA	NA	NA	**NA**	*NA*
West Coast (PADD V)	133.0	134.0	137.1	**139.3**	*115.0*	132.1	137.3	145.4	**147.0**	*118.3*
U.S. Average	110.4	111.6	114.1	**116.6**	*103.2*	117.0	120.3	123.2	**125.2**	*109.0*

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-878, Motor Gasoline Price Survey.
For information about this report, please contact the National Energy Information Center: 202-586-8800. E-mail: infoctr@eia.doe.gov.