

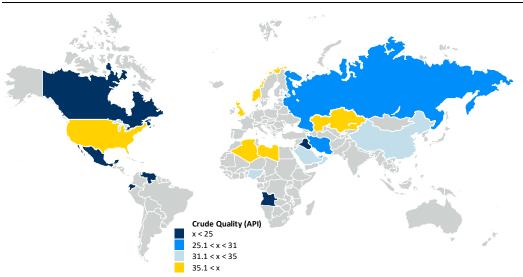
# **RBC Capital Markets**

December 13, 2018

## Oil Strategy: Overlooked and Underestimated Themes for 2019

- The Outlook: Global supply and demand should reach a fine balance next year with the market ebbing and flowing on either side of equilibrium compared to trending for prolonged periods of over and undersupply as seen since the turn of the decade. Whether that is enough to bring apprehensive investors back to the table remains the topic du jour. While there is no shortage of captivating subplots to the market, next year could be one in which prices gyrate over short periods without providing compelling indication on long-term direction. Here, we highlight key indicators to watch to protect against downside risks.
- Investor Sentiment Matters: We believe that the market is oversold and describe our
  outlook as a moderately constructive OPEC driven view with our eyes wide open toward
  downside risk. However, the parade of fundamentally driven energy-dedicated traders
  exiting the space presents a structural issue that muddles how investors interpret the signal
  to noise ratio. We see WTI and Brent averaging \$60 and \$68/bbl next year, respectively.
- Light(en)ing Up the Market: Not all production cuts are equal. Participating countries will
  evaluate their crude slates and look to cut the least economic barrel. In many cases, it will be
  the heavy barrel, particularly leading into IMO 2020. This could raise challenges given that
  near term production is trending lighter and sweeter, not necessarily originating solely from
  US shale, but also from various regions over the coming years.
- Global Oil Demand: We see the OECD contributing very little to demand growth in the
  coming years, and while the Emerging Asia demand engine has continually delivered over
  recent years, the concentration risk always presents an asymmetric risk profile to the
  downside.
- The One Indicator to Watch: Market participants fixate on crude balances, but we see poor gasoline margins as the single biggest fundamental downside risk to the oil market for the year ahead. The question of how far gasoline can fall is open-ended, but one that appears to have few constructive catalysts in sight. We highlight the ripple effect of weak gasoline margins originating in Asia and cascading through to the Mediterranean, Northwest Europe and ultimately across the Pacific to the US. Simply put, the potential for weak gasoline cracks setting off a domino effect of economic run cuts across geographies warrants watching.

Figure 1: Select Major Global Crude Oil Benchmarks by Grade\*



Source: RBC Capital Markets, EIA, BP, Country & Government Reports, \*See Appendix for crude grades referenced in chart

RBC Capital Markets, LLC Michael Tran

Commodity Strategist (212) 266-4020 michael.tran@rbccm.com

#### **Helima Croft**

Global Head of Commodity Strategy (212) 618-7798 helima.croft@rbccm.com

#### **Christopher Louney**

Commodity Strategist (212) 437-1925 christopher.louney@rbccm.com

#### Megan Schippmann

Associate Strategist (212) 301-1531

megan.schippmann@rbccm.com

All values in USD unless otherwise noted.

Priced as of prior trading day's market close, ET (unless otherwise stated).

For Required Conflicts Disclosures, please see page 15.

Disseminated: December 13, 2018 01:35ET; Produced: December 13, 2018 01:35ET



# **Table of Contents**

Section 1: Oil Price Outlook	
Unintended Consequences of the OPEC Cut – Crude Quality Matters	
Light(en)ing Up The Market	ε
Section 2: The Macro View on Oil Demand	6
Concentration Risk Persists	7
Section 3: China – The Difference between Stranded and Sold	8
Section 4: The One Indicator to Watch	8
Poor Gasoline Margins in the East can be Problematic for the West	8
The Bearish Domino Effect	g
How Susceptible is the US to Run Cuts? Watch the US East Coast	10
Global Supply/Demand Balances	13

Global supply and demand should find a fine balance next year but seasonality of demand may pose a challenge

The ongoing exit of energy dedicated traders presents a structural issue that alters how we think about the signal to noise ratio

## **Section 1: Oil Price Outlook**

OPEC's resolve, even in the face of unprecedented political pressure, should solidify investor confidence given its commitment to return the market to a balanced state. At a minimum, swift action should put a floor into global oil prices, while also injecting renewed optimism back into a market that has fallen wildly out of favor. Global supply and demand should reach a fine balance on an annualized basis next year with the market ebbing and flowing on either side of equilibrium compared to trending for prolonged periods of over and undersupply as seen since the turn of the decade. With the challenge of roping countries into a unified agreement put to rest, the next issue facing OPEC is demand seasonality. The first quarter is seasonally the weakest period of the year with Q1 demand routinely some 1.1 mb/d lower than the annual average. The bullish take is that swift action will prevent a materially oversupplied market (note: Canada's recent mandated cut makes paper balances appear tighter than physical balances would imply). The bearish view is that investor patience may run thin given that the first quarter may still see some barrels struggling to clear, irrespective of cuts. With OPEC reconvening again in April, the assumption of ongoing active market management should signal a well-balanced market. Whether that is enough to bring apprehensive investors back to the table remains the topic du jour. We believe that the market is oversold and describe our outlook as a moderately constructive OPEC driven view with our eyes wide open toward downside risk. However, the parade of fundamentally driven energy-dedicated traders exiting the space presents a structural issue that muddles how investors interpret the signal to noise ratio. OPEC+ has indicated that it will defend a price floor, but the recent retracement is a keen reminder that investor sentiment, government energy policy, and market fundamentals can undergo seismic shifts over extremely short lengths of time. Investor length in WTI remains at multi-year lows and while the shorts have piled up over recent weeks, the notional level of the aggregate short position is not nearly as high as seen in previous years (see Figure 4). This means that short covering will not have as profound an impact as in the past, leaving the bulls to do much of the legwork to muscle prices higher. Given the combination of active market management, adequate non-OPEC supply, broad macroeconomic concerns and dwindling conviction levels from the investor community, we anticipate supportive pricing, but far from a runaway market. We see WTI and Brent averaging \$60 and \$68/bbl next year, respectively. While there is no shortage of captivating subplots to the market ranging from OPEC policy to IMO to the role of US oil exports re-shaping global trade, next year could be one in which prices gyrate over short periods without providing compelling indication on long-term direction.

Figure 2: WTI Pricing Scenarios – Bull, Bear, Base Case\*

Figure 3: Global Supply and Demand Balance

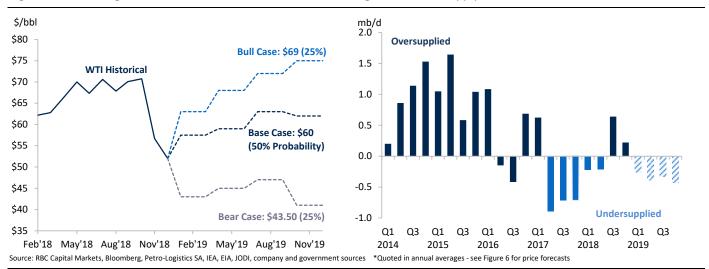
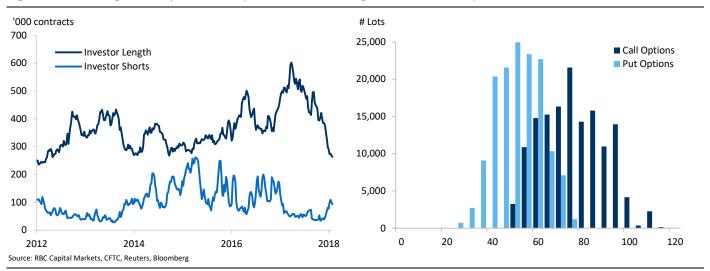


Figure 4: WTI Managed Money Futures & Options Position

Figure 5: Jun'19 WTI Open Interest across Various Strikes



Supply outages from geopolitical hotspots remain a clear and present danger for a market that has become complacent about disruption risk

The objective was very clear the last time OPEC+ announced production cuts in late 2016. The goal of returning global stockpiles back toward seasonally normal levels was well telegraphed to a market that was keen on keeping score in real time. The current aim is to prevent the market from tipping into material over or under supply, and while we anticipate diligent active management to continue, the market considers the goalposts as more nebulous and less defined from a generalist tracking perspective.

Supply outages from geopolitical hotspots remain a clear and present danger for a market that has become complacent about disruption risk. Upcoming Nigerian elections and the recent disruptions in Libya are important reminders that we can see acute and episodic issues, while outages in other regions, like Venezuela, remain structural. In a similar vein, the market is pricing as if the worst-case scenario for Iran is already behind us, but it is important to remember that even though Iranian production has already fallen by some 700 kb/d from spring levels, November 4<sup>th</sup> marked the start of sanctions, certainly not the end.

Producers and consumers should be hedging price volatility, currency fluctuations and basis differentials when attractive prospects arise Fundamentally speaking, we believe that prices have approached a bottom, but the options market would suggest otherwise. Lower strike put options hold far and away the largest open interest on the board for the June 2019 contract (see Figure 5). Producers and consumers alike should capitalize on key opportunities to mitigate energy price risk by layering in hedges during episodes of price volatility, currency fluctuations and basis differentials when attractive prospects arise. Prudent risk management has arguably rarely been more imperative. Much of our work in this report is geared towards highlighting overlooked and often underestimated themes while also highlighting leading indicators of potential weakness in the oil complex.

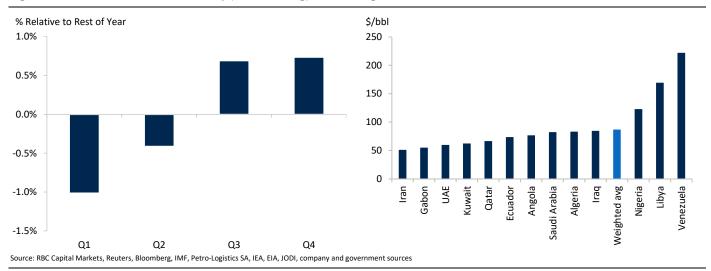
Figure 6: Oil Price Forecasts

Price Forecast (\$/bbl)	(\$/bbl) 2018					2019				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	'18 Avg	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	'19 Avg
WTI	\$62.89	\$67.50	\$68.91	\$62.00	\$65.33	\$57.50	\$59.00	\$63.00	\$62.00	\$59.73
Brent	\$67.23	\$75.00	\$78.86	\$72.00	\$73.30	\$66.50	\$66.50	\$71.00	\$71.00	\$68.02
WTI-Brent Spread	-\$4.34	-\$7.50	-\$9.95	-\$10.00	-\$7.97	-\$9.00	-\$7.50	-\$8.00	-\$9.00	-\$8.28

Source: RBC Capital Markets estimates

Figure 7: Global Oil Demand Seasonality (Five Year Avg)

Figure 8: 2018 OPEC Fiscal Breakeven Estimates



#### Unintended Consequences of the OPEC Cut – Crude Quality Matters

While the market has centered its attention on the notional size of the announced cuts from OPEC+, we believe that an important factor is being overlooked. While a rising tide lifts all boats, the devil is in the details. OPEC exemptions and participants of the coordinated output cut are important from a market compliance perspective, but we are focused on the type of crude taken offline. It is not just the size of the cut, but crude quality matters. While OPEC has suggested that it will attempt to address issues with crude quality, the bottom line is that participating countries will be evaluating their individual crude slates and ultimately look to cut the least economic barrel. In many cases, the heavy barrel will likely be cut, particularly leading into an IMO 2020 world.

The exemption granted to Libya means that some of the lightest and sweetest barrels remain online with the onus of the aggregate OPEC cut falling on the shoulders of medium and heavy oil producing nations. This seemingly subtle detail has outsized implications for the market given that not all barrels are entirely fungible. The coordinated cuts among OPEC+ will stem the multi-month slide in oil prices, but the deal inadvertently tightens the medium and heavy balances incrementally more so than the light, sweet market.

While exempt, we anticipate sanctioned Iranian crude to continue to trend lower in the coming quarters and these medium, sour crudes are becoming increasingly difficult to replace. In fact, the Brent premium to Dubai has narrowed from a peak of \$3.74/bbl earlier this spring to current levels sub \$1.50/bbl (see Figure 9). We see global medium and heavy balances tightening over the near term. So where will the medium and heavy, sour barrels come from? Structural declines in Mexico, a region that has seen output fall some 700 kb/d since the oil price collapse of 2014 means that additional heavy barrels are being sidelined. While temporarily stabilized, we have a difficult time seeing a silver bullet that reverses the fortunes of heavy oil producing Venezuela. Even before last week's historic call for mandatory production cuts, heavy Canadian crudes were already largely landlocked with few prospects of reaching global markets.

OPEC+ will be evaluating their individual crude slates and ultimately look to cut the least valuable barrel

Lost medium and heavy barrels are difficult to replace given the challenges in Iran, Venezuela, Mexico and Canada

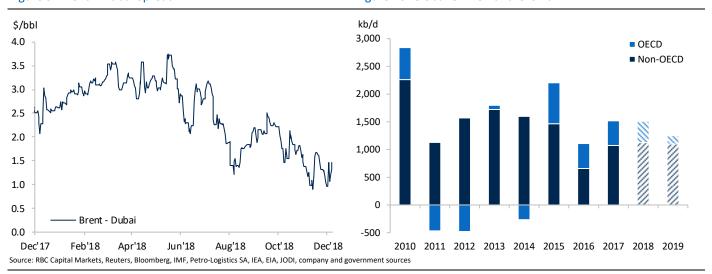
#### Light(en)ing Up The Market

While medium and heavy, sour crudes are being curtailed, the incremental barrel coming to market over the near term is trending lighter and sweeter, not necessarily originating solely from US shale, but also from developments in regions like Guyana and the Former Soviet Union countries. While this bodes well in an IMO world, this could prove challenging given that global oil demand is centered on growth from only a few key countries, notably China and India, countries that own refining slates typically geared towards running medium and heavier sour barrels (see Appendix for a list of global crude grades by quality).

We have long argued the point of watching the Atlantic Basin as a proxy for the health of the global oil market and this time is no different. The region is the first to become soggy if light, sweet barrels have difficulty finding a home. One lesson learned over recent years is that despite the depth of the financial oil market, it only takes a handful of distressed, unsold physical cargos to materially weigh on the market. In other words, not all cuts should be viewed as equal. A cut to light, sweet barrels from Nigeria or Libya would be incrementally more constructive for global physical balances than a similar magnitude cut of medium to heavy crudes from Venezuela or Iraq. As such, we expect benchmarks like Dubai to continue to outperform its lighter counterparts like Brent and WTI. If it were not for the looming ripple effect of IMO 2020, we would be keenly bullish heavy, sour benchmarks over the next cycle.

Figure 9: Brent - Dubai Spread

Figure 10: Global Oil Demand Growth



## Section 2: The Macro View on Oil Demand

Despite headlines of a slowing global macro backdrop, we anticipate status quo steady-enough oil consumption near 1.2 mb/d. Such levels are far from spectacular, but certainly not slow. Global demand growth has averaged a robust annualized rate of 1.5 mb/d since the oil price collapse of 2014. During that period, OECD oil demand growth contributed an annualized rate of 475 kb/d, accounting for nearly one-third of global growth. This past year saw the developed world contribute less than 270 kb/d and we see little to stem the slowing trend in the years ahead.

The strong economy and low unemployment spurred robust growth near 460 kb/d this year in the US. The issue being that tepid demand through much of the rest of the OECD and significant contractions in major economies like Japan and Germany offset much of the US growth. Put another way, the recent weak oil price environment spurred a temporary period



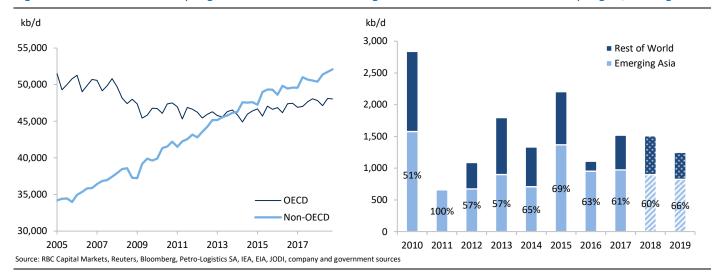
OECD oil demand will revert to a structural downward trend of demand growth for a developed world cohort that has otherwise been in structural decline for much of the past decade.

The years following the oil price collapse saw three major pillars for oil consumption growth: the US, Europe, and Emerging Asia. And while the former two are unlikely to experience a dramatic drop off, with US consumption near full capacity and Europe set for further contractions, the world will soon be left with Emerging Asia as the sole major contributor to oil demand growth. While many will suggest that the slower pace of demand growth is driven by a murky economic outlook, the truth is that OECD oil demand peaked a decade ago before the financial crisis and efficiency gains will continue to drive this structural trend of softening regional oil demand in the OECD region (see Figure 11). In short, we see limited demand growth from OECD countries in the years ahead and episodes of growth should be viewed as an upside surprise rather a region counted on to carry the load.

See <u>Spotlight on Demand</u> for our previously published deep dive into key components driving oil demand growth by key region.

Figure 11: Global Oil Demand by Region

Figure 12: Global Oil Demand Growth by Region, YoY Chg



Emerging Asia has typically carried oil demand growth, the concentration risk presents an asymmetric downside risk

#### **Concentration Risk Persists**

The engine of global oil demand growth can ultimately be distilled down to China, India, and the rest of Emerging Asia. This subset of countries accounted for nearly two-thirds of global demand growth so far this decade. While this cohort has continually delivered, the concentration risk always presents an asymmetric risk profile to the downside.

This means that the market is significantly dependent on a small handful of countries and if major regions like China or India falter, this entire market can unravel in a hurry. And while the market has persistently raised concerns centered around mainstream fuels like distillate or gasoline due to slowing Chinese economic activity or the recent deceleration of domestic vehicle sales, we argue that often overlooked components of the barrel, like aviation fuel, have surprised to the upside and will remain robust.

See <u>Spotlight on Chinese Demand</u> for our previously published refined product outlook in the world's largest oil demand growth country.

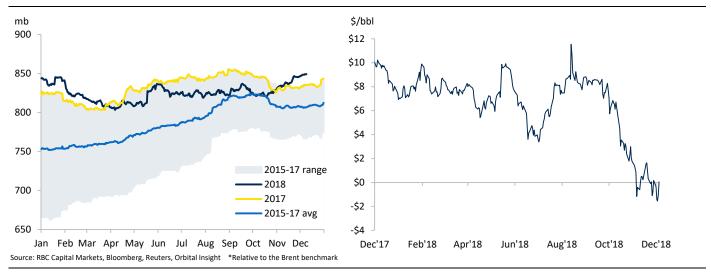
The biggest downside threat to the oil market is not a crude issue...it's a gasoline issue

## Section 3: China – The Difference between Stranded and Sold

It is no secret that China has played an instrumental role in anchoring the global rebalancing over recent years. Subtle changes in Chinese purchasing patterns can prove materially impactful for prices and balances. Historically, there has been little seasonality to crude imports, particularly during erratic periods of stockpiling into SPR. As we know, big buying sprees can significantly tighten markets, while lulls can reverberate into temporary and transient pockets of oversupply. Heavy purchasing intervals can also mask weak periods by cleaning up barrels that would otherwise have difficulty finding a home. Physical pricing for marginal barrels in regions like the Atlantic Basin remained firmer than had China not imported at record levels earlier this fall. Satellite imaging technology used to monitor the floating rooftops of storage facilities suggests that China built oil inventories by some 25 mb since the October peak in prices. While China's irregular purchasing schedule does not necessarily correspond with price action of the futures market, changes in import patterns can have a wide and reverberating impact on physical crudes and is often the difference between a sold or stranded barrel.

Figure 13: China Floating Roof Tank Oil Storage

Figure 14: Asia Gasoline Refining Margin\*



## Section 4: The One Indicator to Watch

#### Poor Gasoline Margins in the East can be Problematic for the West

In our opinion, the biggest potential downside threat to the global oil market for next year is not a crude problem, but rather a gasoline issue that begins with China. While the Asian giant will be counted on to once again support the oil market next year, a paradox exists. Chinese refinery throughput is higher by 8% YoY, meaning that rigorous runs have played a major role in absorbing global crude that would otherwise have difficulty clearing the market. On the other hand, the heavy runs have resulted in an oversupplied regional gasoline market. Slowing runs would clean up the gasoline overhang, but in turn exacerbate an already soggy crude market. Alternatively, continuing down the path of the current elevated refinery run rate would intensify gasoline balances that are already downward spiraling and potentially kick off a domino effect in which a gasoline glut created in the East ultimately reverberates westward and results in an oil market led lower by an oversupply of refined product.

The Asian gasoline refining margin relative to the Brent benchmark averaged sub 45¢/bbl last month and is currently trading in negative territory (see Figure 14). This means that the

Market participants fixate on crude balances, but we see weak gasoline margins as the single biggest fundamental downside risk to the oil market

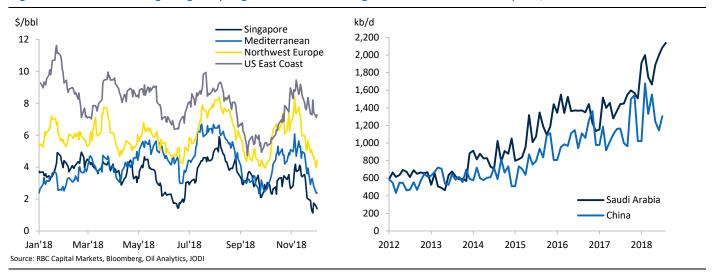
Refining gasoline in Asia is currently a money-losing proposition

Oil Market Paradox: Cutting refiner runs would come at the detriment of crude, continuing to run exacerbates the gasoline market gasoline refining process is currently a money-losing proposition. Looked at another way, the flailing margin means that while Brent crude prices have dropped precipitously this fall, gasoline margins are falling at an even faster pace. Strong distillate cracks are sustaining regional refining margins, but current data does not suggest any meaningful shift towards reducing gasoline production and attempting to maximize other refined products despite how poor gasoline margins have been. Put simply, we have not seen Chinese refiners try to tweak yields to curtail gasoline production. Chinese refiners were, over recent years, configured to maximize gasoline output and while refining is a cyclical industry, switching to maximize diesel yield is a not a quick shift.

Despite soft gasoline margins, total Chinese refinery runs remain robust, up by an average of nearly 600 kb/d YoY over the past three months. This occurred largely on the back of independent teapot refineries ramping up runs given the government hike in domestic prices, but recent price cuts could have the opposite result. Under the current pricing mechanism, the Chinese government adjusts refined product pricing to reflect a change if global crude prices move by more than 50 yuan per tonne and remain at such levels for 10 working days. Lobbying efforts from state owned oil companies have resulted in the Ministry of Commerce raising export quotas to incentivize refiners to continue to run. This attempt to export out of a regional gasoline glut has potential for a wide-ranging bearish ripple effect.

Figure 15: Gasoline Refining Margins by Region

Figure 16: Refined Product Exports, Saudi Arabia & China



Saturated gasoline balances are a supply issue and not to be confused with a weak demand story

#### **The Bearish Domino Effect**

Earlier this spring we <u>warned</u> of an impending gasoline glut in Asia and highlighted that rising Chinese <u>gasoline exports</u>, at times earmarked for unconventional regions like South America, Europe and even the US West Coast, was a release valve for a market that was becoming soggier. In short, the steady increase in product exports is a function of domestic refineries producing more than needed (see Figure 16). To be clear, this is a supply driven issue, and not to be confused with a <u>demand</u> weakness story.

We have highlighted the recent softening in <u>Chinese vehicle sales</u> as a factor worth watching given that it is the first indication of a discretionary change in consumption potentially affecting oil demand. Saudi gasoline exports reached record highs this year and have averaged almost 240 kb/d higher compared to previous year levels. Product exports from the Kingdom are often slated for Asia, but the saturated regional market means that the barrels will likely be crowded out and pushed westbound into the Mediterranean. The warning signal to watch is further weakness in Asian refining margins reverberating through and

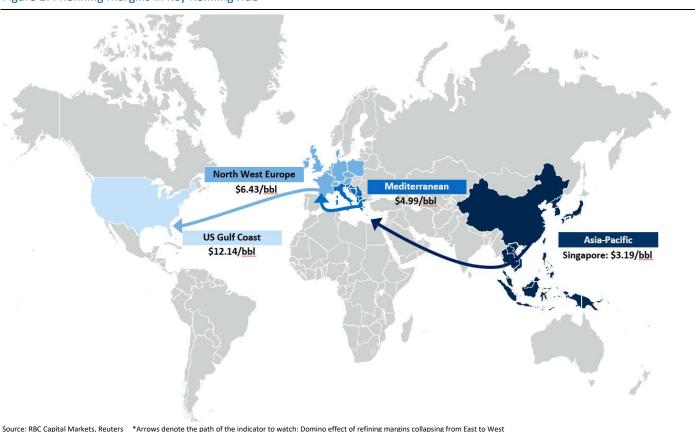
December 13, 2018

The question of how far gasoline can fall is an open-ended question, but one that appears to have few constructive catalysts in sight

collapsing margins in the Mediterranean, Northwest Europe and potentially across the Atlantic into the US. Such a sign could pose the risk of an oil market led lower by gasoline weakness starting in the East and moving further West.

Market participants often fixate on crude balances, but we have identified weak gasoline margins as the key variable to watch and the single biggest fundamental downside risk to the oil market for the year ahead. The question of how far gasoline can fall is an open-ended question, but one that appears to have few constructive catalysts in sight. While margins for other refined products like distillate remain relatively robust and are anchoring the strong level of global refinery runs, the potential for weak gasoline cracks setting off a domino effect of economic refinery run cuts across multiple geographies warrants watching.

Figure 17: Refining Margins in Key Refining Hub\*



## How Susceptible Is the US to Run Cuts? Watch the US East Coast

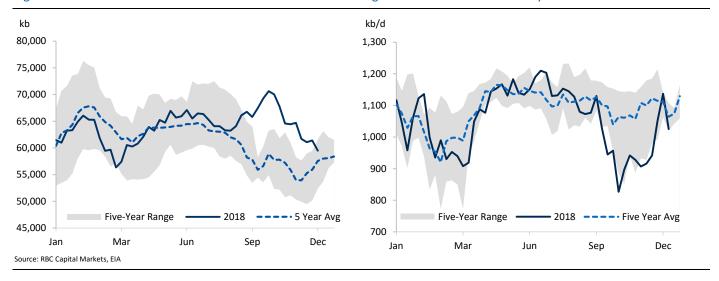
Aggregate US gasoline stocks appear high but the story is largely concentrated on the East Coast and Gulf Coast regions given that the other PADDs are entirely in line with seasonally normal levels. Broadly speaking, US refiners continue to run hard despite struggling with production of gasoline that exceeds demand, and this is clearly being reflected in a gasoline crack that has fallen by nearly half over the past two months. Despite the weakness in gasoline refining margins domestically, aggregate runs remain strong and some 400 kb/d north of normal levels. This is manageable despite soft gasoline margins given that the wide slate of economic value added refined products is carrying the day. Put simply, strong distillate economics are more than making up for weak gasoline pricing.

The US East Coast is the most susceptible US region to economic refinery run cuts

The US East Coast is a different story given that the production strapped region pays Brent linked pricing and has refinery yields that bend significantly toward producing more gasoline than distillate. In fact, as a region, PADD 1 refiners produce ten times more gasoline as distillate. This means that while distillate margins remain healthy, the strong diesel economics are anchored by weak gasoline margins. This makes the region the most susceptible to economic run cuts and the leading barometer for domestic refinery activity. In fact, early signs of economic run cuts may already be in place. Regional refinery runs and utilization fell to multi-year lows over recent months despite a relatively tepid PADD 1 maintenance season. While this helps to work down the surplus of gasoline stocks, it exacerbates an already tight regional distillate balance. Refinery runs have rebounded over the past several weeks (see Figure 19), but PADD 1 remains unequivocally the region to watch for signs of economic run cuts domestically. While cutting runs does little to alleviate tight Northeast distillate balances, the region can revert to increasing product imports to the benefit of Canadian East Coast refiners.

Figure 18: US North East Gasoline Inventories







## Appendix: Select Global Crude Oil Benchmarks by Quality\*

		% Sulphur	
Crude Benchmark	API	Content	Country
BCF-17	16.5	2.53%	Venezuela
Western Canadian Select	20.3	3.43%	Canada
Maya	22.0	3.40%	Mexico
Dalia	23.1	0.52%	Angola
Basra Heavy	23.7	4.12%	Iraq
Oriente	24.1	1.51%	Ecuador
Kuwait	30.0	2.50%	Kuwait
Dubai	30.0	2.10%	UAE
Iran Heavy	30.2	1.77%	Iran
Urals	31.0	1.40%	Russia
Daqing	32.2	0.11%	China
Oman	33.0	1.10%	Oman
Arab Light	33.0	1.70%	Saudi Arabia
Bonny Light	35.0	0.20%	Nigeria
Es Sider	36.0	0.50%	Libya
Azeri (BTC)	36.8	0.15%	Azerbaijan
Brent	37.5	0.40%	North Sea
WTI	39.0	0.50%	USA
Kashagan	42.0	0.80%	Kazakhstan
Sahara	46.0	0.10%	Algeria
Source: RBC Capital Markets, EIA, Bloomberg, BP, Govern	ment Reports		



# **Global Supply/Demand Balances**

Figure 20: Global Supply & Demand Balance (mb/d)

Global Supply & Demand Balance			2018					2019		
mb/d	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YoY	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YoY
Demand										
OECD	47.5	47.3	47.4	47.7	0.4	47.2	47.2	48.0	48.0	0.1
Non-OECD	50.6	51.9	52.2	52.5	1.1	51.9	53.0	53.3	53.5	1.1
Total Demand	98.0	99.2	99.6	100.2	1.5	99.1	100.2	101.3	101.5	1.2
Supply										
OPEC Crude	31.5	32.0	32.0	32.2	-0.2	31.0	30.7	30.9	30.7	-1.1
OPEC Other Liquids	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	0.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	0.0
Non-OPEC Crude & Biofuels & Proc Gain	59.4	60.1	61.3	61.3	2.4	60.9	62.1	63.0	63.4	1.8
Total Supply	97.8	99.0	100.3	100.4	2.3	98.8	99.8	101.0	101.0	0.8
Stock Change	-0.2	-0.2	0.6	0.2		-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	
Call on OPEC	31.7	32.2	31.4	31.9		31.2	31.1	31.3	31.1	

Source: RBC Capital Markets estimates, Petro-Logistics SA, IEA, EIA, JODI, company and government sources

Figure 21: Global Oil Demand (kb/d)

OECD Demand		2018	3			2019	9			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YoY'18	YoY'19
US	20,576	20,632	21,004	20,743	20,602	20,944	21,157	20,996	468	186
Canada	2,322	2,345	2,506	2,459	2,341	2,331	2,488	2,470	-37	-1
Mexico	1,994	2,021	1,972	1,959	1,967	2,012	1,972	1,956	2	-10
Total North America	24,892	24,998	25,482	25,161	24,910	25,287	25,617	25,422	434	176
OECD Europe										
Germany	2,334	2,258	2,300	2,338	2,254	2,293	2,355	2,318	-152	-3
UK	1,568	1,616	1,594	1,587	1,572	1,623	1,603	1,589	7	6
Other Europe	10,150	10,279	10,457	10,388	10,027	10,411	10,752	10,352	52	67
Total OECD Europe	14,052	14,153	14,351	14,313	13,853	14,327	14,710	14,259	-93	70
OECD APAC	8,512	8,152	7,544	8,225	8,486	7,626	7,655	8,280	43	-97
Total OECD Demand	47,456	47,303	47,377	47,699	47,249	47,240	47,982	47,961	383	149
Non-OECD Demand		2018	3			2019	9			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YoY'18	YoY'19
South & Central America										
Argentina	747	752	719	720	739	730	724	728	-23	-4
Brazil	2,946	2,914	3,073	3,099	2,931	2,981	3,094	3,083	6	14
Other South & Central America	2,638	2,749	2,673	2,650	2,632	2,697	2,673	2,655	-34	-13
South & Central America	6,331	6,415	6,465	6,469	6,302	6,408	6,491	6,466	-50	-3
Middle East										
Iran	2,008	2,004	1,995	1,995	2,077	1,984	1,967	1,938	-41	-9
Saudi Arabia	2,930	3,184	3,380	3,190	2,866	3,312	3,505	3,108	-102	27
Other MidEast	3,172	3,354	3,405	3,191	3,183	3,278	3,439	3,251	65	7
Middle East	8,110	8,542	8,780	8,376	8,126	8,574	8,911	8,297	-77	25
Emerging APAC										
China	12,722	13,020	13,175	13,347	13,106	13,413	13,549	13,736	490	385
India	4,820	4,911	4,574	5,046	5,063	5,171	4,838	5,235	270	239
Other	9,062	9,359	9,345	9,398	9,450	9,442	9,386	9,685	347	200
Emerging APAC	26,604	27,290	27,094	27,791	27,619	28,026	27,773	28,656	1,108	824
Africa	4,331	4,289	4,166	4,357	4,456	4,406	4,283	4,431	3	108
Non-OECD Europe	734	744	774	802	761	779	805	806	6	24
FSU	4,481	4,632	4,963	4,725	4,593	4,797	5,052	4,847	137	122
Total Non-OECD Demand	50,591	51,912	52,242	52,520	51,857	52,990	53,315	53,503	1,126	1,100

Source: RBC Capital Markets estimates, IEA, EIA, JODI, company and government sources



Figure 22: Global Oil Supply (kb/d)

Non- OPEC Supply		20	018			20	019			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YoY'18	YoY'19
US	14,384	15,058	15,955	16,128	16,127	16,611	17,002	17,253	2,117	1,367
Canada	5,189	4,973	5,118	5,032	4,750	5,015	5,075	5,075	263	-99
Mexico	2,154	2,119	2,072	2,019	1,997	1,998	1,954	1,930	-143	-121
Total North America	21,727	22,150	23,145	23,179	22,874	23,624	24,031	24,258	2,237	1,146
Argentina	574	576	582	574	569	582	559	554	6	-11
Brazil	2,714	2,719	2,633	2,710	2,869	2,971	3,112	3,277	-45	363
Colombia	855	862	859	850	858	855	844	844	-4	-6
Other South & Central America	356	336	336	318	339	338	325	321	-30	-6
Total South & Central America	4,499	4,493	4,410	4,452	4,635	4,746	4,840	4,996	-73	341
Norway	1,959	1,790	1,797	1,786	1,818	1,698	1,712	1,784	-137	-80
UK	1,079	1,043	992	1,003	1,082	1,076	1,043	1,112	16	49
Other OECD Europe	534	504	510	501	544	521	521	479	25	4
Total OECD Europe	3,572	3,337	3,299	3,290	3,444	3,295	3,276	3,375	-95	-27
Azerbaijan	806	794	782	798	774	774	784	823	12	-6
Kazakhstan	1,936	1,947	1,877	1,955	1,878	1,878	1,887	1,943	89	-32
Russia	11,341	11,381	11,646	11,715	11,447	11,447	11,603	11,659	163	18
Other FSU	348	287	319	461	533	552	585	594	26	213
Total FSU	14,431	14,409	14,624	14,929	14,632	14,651	14,859	15,019	290	192
Non-OPEC Africa	1,448	1,480	1,459	1,442	1,440	1,445	1,425	1,423	52	-24
	·			·		,				
Non-OPEC Mideast	1,859	1,880	1,875	1,901	1,931	1,910	1,865	1,895	43	22
China	3,817	3,858	3,799	3,740	3,725	3,717	3,722	3,702	-68	-87
India	854	848	834	837	796	794	796	787	-14	-50
Malaysia	739	715	695	725	714	686	676	712	1	-22
Thailand	429	412	416	426	390	382	374	374	-19	-41
Other Non-OPEC Asia Pacific	1,684	1,551	1,526	1,612	1,771	1,789	1,774	1,799	-59	190
Total Non-OPEC APAC	7,523	7,384	7,270	7,340	7,396	7,368	7,342	7,374	-159	-9
Processing Gains	2,262	2,302	2,282	2,317	2,348	2,344	2,346	2,369	26	61
Global Biofuels	2,052	2,675	2,920	2,461	2,185	2,754	3,024	2,652	108	127
Total Non-OPEC Supply	59,373	60,110	61,284	61,311	60,886	62,137	63,008	63,361	2,428	1,828
Global Supply	97,824	99,001	100,260	100,440	98,843	99,843	100,964	101,036	2,283	790
OPEC Supply		20	018			20	019			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YoY'18	YoY'19
Algeria	1,062	1,140	1,276	1,163	1,134	1,134	1,111	1,180	89	-21
Angola	1,548	1,497	1,509	1,455	1,418	1,418	1,570	1,573	-153	-8
Ecuador	557	542	567	507	494	494	563	544	3	-20
Equatorial Guinea	132	110	130	124	121	121	125	119	-1	-2
Gabon	218	193	183	166	161	161	187	189	-17	-15
Iran	3,662	4,066	3,516	3,055	2,805	2,685	2,635	2,405	-210	-942
Iraq	4,478	4,485	4,707	4,648	4,532	4,532	4,726	4,791	45	65
Kuwait*	2,811	2,761	2,723	2,820	2,749	2,749	2,837	2,887	28	27
Libya	1,108	967	986	1,183	967	925	961	987	211	-101
Nigeria	1,662	1,510	1,636	1,679	1,637	1,637	1,322	1,291	107	-150
Qatar	644	619	609	601	675	659	619	644	15	31
	9,734	10,179	10,269	10,755	10,486	10,486	10,672	10,747	229	364
Saudi Arabia*		2.002	2.050	3,199	3,119	3,119	3,139	3,164	43	82
Saudi Arabia* UAE	2,972	2,982	3,059	3,133	3,113	0,113	-,			
	2,972 1,565	1,523	1,450	1,405	1,338	1,271	1,093	776	-596	-366
UAE								776 <b>30,652</b> <b>7,023</b>	-596 <b>-222</b> <b>77</b>	-366 -1,087 49

 $Source: RBC\ Capital\ Markets\ estimates, Petro-Logistics\ SA,\ IEA,\ EIA,\ JODI,\ company\ and\ government\ sources$ 



## **Required disclosures**

## **Conflicts disclosures**

The analyst(s) responsible for preparing this research report received compensation that is based upon various factors, including total revenues of the member companies of RBC Capital Markets and its affiliates, a portion of which are or have been generated by investment banking activities of the member companies of RBC Capital Markets and its affiliates.

## **Conflicts policy**

RBC Capital Markets Policy for Managing Conflicts of Interest in Relation to Investment Research is available from us on request. To access our current policy, clients should refer to <a href="https://www.rbccm.com/global/file-414164.pdf">https://www.rbccm.com/global/file-414164.pdf</a> or send a request to RBC Capital Markets Research Publishing, P.O. Box 50, 200 Bay Street, Royal Bank Plaza, 29th Floor, South Tower, Toronto, Ontario M5J 2W7. We reserve the right to amend or supplement this policy at any time.

## Dissemination of research and short-term trade ideas

RBC Capital Markets endeavors to make all reasonable efforts to provide research simultaneously to all eligible clients, having regard to local time zones in overseas jurisdictions. RBC Capital Markets' equity research is posted to our proprietary website to ensure eligible clients receive coverage initiations and changes in ratings, targets and opinions in a timely manner. Additional distribution may be done by the sales personnel via email, fax, or other electronic means, or regular mail. Clients may also receive our research via third party vendors. RBC Capital Markets also provides eligible clients with access to SPARC on the Firm's proprietary INSIGHT website, via email and via third-party vendors. SPARC contains market color and commentary regarding subject companies on which the Firm currently provides equity research coverage. Research Analysts may, from time to time, include short-term trade ideas in research reports and / or in SPARC. A short-term trade idea offers a short-term view on how a security may trade, based on market and trading events, and the resulting trading opportunity that may be available. A short-term trade idea may differ from the price targets and recommendations in our published research reports reflecting the research analyst's views of the longer-term (one year) prospects of the subject company, as a result of the differing time horizons, methodologies and/or other factors. Thus, it is possible that a subject company's common equity that is considered a long-term 'Sector Perform' or even an 'Underperform' might present a short-term buying opportunity as a result of temporary selling pressure in the market; conversely, a subject company's common equity rated a long-term 'Outperform' could be considered susceptible to a short-term downward price correction. Short-term trade ideas are not ratings, nor are they part of any ratings system, and the firm generally does not intend, nor undertakes any obligation, to maintain or update short-term trade ideas. Short-term trade ideas may not be suitable for all investors and have not been tailored to individual investor circumstances and objectives, and investors should make their own independent decisions regarding any securities or strategies discussed herein. Please contact your investment advisor or institutional salesperson for more information regarding RBC Capital Markets' research.

For a list of all recommendations on the company that were disseminated during the prior 12-month period, please click on the following link: <a href="https://rbcnew.bluematrix.com/sellside/MAR.action">https://rbcnew.bluematrix.com/sellside/MAR.action</a>

The 12 month history of SPARCs can be viewed at <a href="https://www.rbcinsightresearch.com/">https://www.rbcinsightresearch.com/</a>

## **Analyst certification**

All of the views expressed in this report accurately reflect the personal views of the responsible analyst(s) about any and all of the subject securities or issuers. No part of the compensation of the responsible analyst(s) named herein is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed by the responsible analyst(s) in this report.

## Third-party-disclaimers

References herein to "LIBOR", "LIBO Rate", "L" or other LIBOR abbreviations means the London interbank offered rate as administered by ICE Benchmark Administration (or any other person that takes over the administration of such rate).



## **Disclaimer**

RBC Capital Markets is the business name used by certain branches and subsidiaries of the Royal Bank of Canada, including RBC Dominion Securities Inc., RBC Capital Markets, LLC, RBC Europe Limited, Royal Bank of Canada, Hong Kong Branch and Royal Bank of Canada, Sydney Branch. The information contained in this report has been compiled by RBC Capital Markets from sources believed to be reliable, but no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made by Royal Bank of Canada, RBC Capital Markets, its affiliates or any other person as to its accuracy, completeness or correctness. All opinions and estimates contained in this report constitute RBC Capital Markets' judgement as of the date of this report, are subject to change without notice and are provided in good faith but without legal responsibility. Nothing in this report constitutes legal, accounting or tax advice or individually tailored investment advice. This material is prepared for general circulation to clients and has been prepared without regard to the individual financial circumstances and objectives of persons who receive it. The investments or services contained in this report may not be suitable for you and it is recommended that you consult an independent investment advisor if you are in doubt about the suitability of such investments or services. This report is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities. Past performance is not a guide to future performance, future returns are not guaranteed, and a loss of original capital may occur. RBC Capital Markets research analyst compensation is based in part on the overall profitability of RBC Capital Markets, which includes profits attributable to investment banking revenues. Every province in Canada, state in the U.S., and most countries throughout the world have their own laws regulating the types of securities and other investment products which may be offered to their residents, as well as the process for doing so. As a result, the securities discussed in this report may not be eligible for sale in some jurisdictions. RBC Capital Markets may be restricted from publishing research reports, from time to time, due to regulatory restrictions and/ or internal compliance policies. If this is the case, the latest published research reports available to clients may not reflect recent material changes in the applicable industry and/or applicable subject companies. RBC Capital Markets research reports are current only as of the date set forth on the research reports. This report is not, and under no circumstances should be construed as, a solicitation to act as securities broker or dealer in any jurisdiction by any person or company that is not legally permitted to carry on the business of a securities broker or dealer in that jurisdiction. To the full extent permitted by law neither RBC Capital Markets nor any of its affiliates, nor any other person, accepts any liability whatsoever for any direct or consequential loss arising from any use of this report or the information contained herein. No matter contained in this document may be reproduced or copied by any means without the prior consent of RBC Capital Markets.

#### Additional information is available on request.

To U.S. Residents: This publication has been approved by RBC Capital Markets, LLC (member FINRA, NYSE, SIPC), which is a U.S. registered broker-dealer and which accepts responsibility for this report and its dissemination in the United States. Any U.S. recipient of this report that is not a registered broker-dealer or a bank acting in a broker or dealer capacity and that wishes further information regarding, or to effect any transaction in, any of the securities discussed in this report, should contact and place orders with RBC Capital Markets, LLC.

**To Canadian Residents:** This publication has been approved by RBC Dominion Securities Inc. (member IIROC). Any Canadian recipient of this report that is not a Designated Institution in Ontario, an Accredited Investor in British Columbia or Alberta or a Sophisticated Purchaser in Quebec (or similar permitted purchaser in any other province) and that wishes further information regarding, or to effect any transaction in, any of the securities discussed in this report should contact and place orders with RBC Dominion Securities Inc., which, without in any way limiting the foregoing, accepts responsibility for this report and its dissemination in Canada.

To U.K. Residents: This publication has been approved by RBC Europe Limited ('RBCEL') which is authorized by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA') and the Prudential Regulation Authority, in connection with its distribution in the United Kingdom. This material is not for general distribution in the United Kingdom to retail clients, as defined under the rules of the FCA. RBCEL accepts responsibility for this report and its dissemination in the United Kingdom.

To German Residents: This material is distributed in Germany by RBC Europe Limited, Frankfurt Branch which is regulated by the Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (BaFin).

To Persons Receiving This Advice in Australia: This material has been distributed in Australia by Royal Bank of Canada - Sydney Branch (ABN 86 076 940 880, AFSL No. 246521). This material has been prepared for general circulation and does not take into account the objectives, financial situation or needs of any recipient. Accordingly, any recipient should, before acting on this material, consider the appropriateness of this material having regard to their objectives, financial situation and needs. If this material relates to the acquisition or possible acquisition of a particular financial product, a recipient in Australia should obtain any relevant disclosure document prepared in respect of that product and consider that document before making any decision about whether to acquire the product. This research report is not for retail investors as defined in section 761G of the Corporations Act.

To Hong Kong Residents: This publication is distributed in Hong Kong by Royal Bank of Canada, Hong Kong Branch, which is regulated by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the Securities and Futures Commission ('SFC'), RBC Investment Services (Asia) Limited and RBC Investment Management (Asia) Limited, both entities are regulated by the SFC. Financial Services provided to Australia: Financial services may be provided in Australia in accordance with applicable law. Financial services provided by the Royal Bank of Canada, Hong Kong Branch are provided pursuant to the Royal Bank of Canada's Australian Financial Services Licence ('AFSL') (No. 246521).

To Singapore Residents: This publication is distributed in Singapore by the Royal Bank of Canada, Singapore Branch, a registered entity licensed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. This material has been prepared for general circulation and does not take into account the objectives, financial situation, or needs of any recipient. You are advised to seek independent advice from a financial adviser before purchasing any product. If you do not obtain independent advice, you should consider whether the product is suitable for you. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. If you have any questions related to this publication, please contact the Royal Bank of Canada, Singapore Branch. Royal Bank of Canada, Singapore Branch accepts responsibility for this report and its dissemination in Singapore.

To Japanese Residents: Unless otherwise exempted by Japanese law, this publication is distributed in Japan by or through RBC Capital Markets (Japan) Ltd. which is a Financial Instruments Firm registered with the Kanto Local Financial Bureau (Registered number 203) and a member of the Japan Securities Dealers Association ("JSDA").

Registered trademark of Royal Bank of Canada. RBC Capital Markets is a trademark of Royal Bank of Canada. Used under license.

Copyright © RBC Capital Markets, LLC 2018 - Member SIPC
Copyright © RBC Dominion Securities Inc. 2018 - Member Canadian Investor Protection Fund
Copyright © RBC Europe Limited 2018

Copyright © Royal Bank of Canada 2018
All rights reserved



# **Global Macro, Economics & Rates Strategy Research Team**

## **Europe**

#### **RBC Europe Limited:**

Vatsala Datta	UK Rates Strategist	+44 20 7029 0184	vatsala.datta@rbccm.com
Cathal Kennedy	European Economist	+44 20 7029 0133	cathal.kennedy@rbccm.com
Peter Schaffrik	Global Macro Strategist	+44 20 7029 7076	peter.schaffrik@rbccm.com

## **Asia-Pacific**

## **Royal Bank of Canada – Sydney Branch:**

Su-Lin Ong	Head of Australian and New Zealand FIC Strategy	+612-9033-3088	su-lin.ong@rbccm.com
Robert Thompson	Macro Rates Strategist	+612 9033 3088	robert.thompson@rbccm.com

## **North America**

#### **RBC Dominion Securities Inc.:**

Mark Chandler	Head of Canadian Rates Strategy	(416) 842-6388	mark.chandler@rbccm.com
Simon Deeley	Rates Strategist	(416) 842-6362	simon.deeley@rbccm.com

## **RBC Capital Markets, LLC:**

Michael Cloherty	Head of US Rates Strategy	(212) 437-2480	michael.cloherty@rbccm.com
Jacob Oubina	Senior US Economist	(212) 618-7795	jacob.oubina@rbccm.com
Tom Porcelli	Chief US Economist	(212) 618-7788	tom.porcelli@rbccm.com

# **Commodities Strategy Research Team**

## **North America**

## **RBC Capital Markets, LLC:**

Helima Croft	Global Head of Commodity Strategy	(212) 618-7798	helima.croft@rbccm.com
Christopher Louney	Commodity Strategist	(212) 437-1925	christopher.louney@rbccm.com
Michael Tran	Commodity Strategist	(212) 266-4020	michael.tran@rbccm.com
Megan Schippmann	Associate	(212) 301-1531	megan.schippmann@rbccm.com