

December 1998

# Louisiana Energy Facts

Department of Natural Resources

Technology Assessment Division

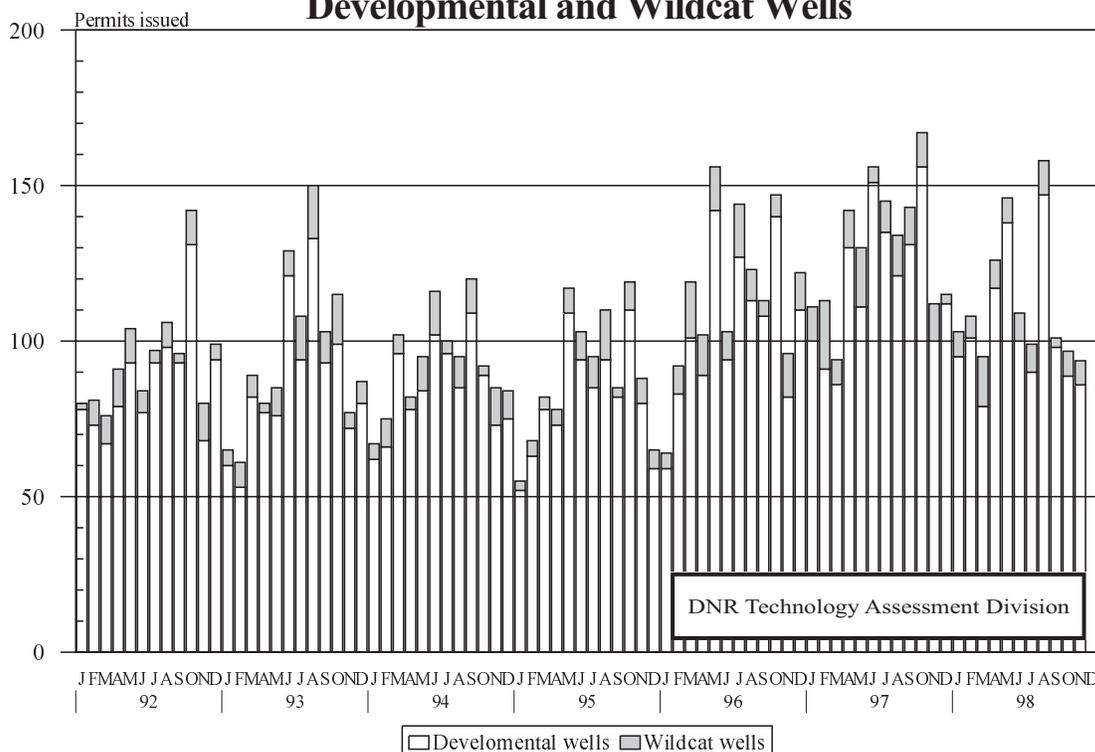
Crude prices continue to fall. The South Louisiana Sweet average crude oil price fell to around \$10.00 per barrel for the first half of December 1998. The last time prices were this low was in July 1986 when the price was \$10.75 per barrel. London's Centre for Global Energy Studies stated that with oil prices so depressed even military action against Iraq would have only caused a temporary spike in oil prices. The only good news concerning low crude oil prices is that average U.S. retail regular gasoline prices will stay below \$1 per gallon as long as crude stays around \$10.00 per barrel.

## Louisiana Oil and Gas Drilling Permits Issued by State of Louisiana

Month	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Percentage Change 97/98 or 96/97
January	65	67	55	64	111	103	-7.21%
February	61	75	68	92	113	108	-4.42%
March	89	102	82	119	94	95	1.06%
April	80	82	78	102	142	126	-11.27%
May	85	95	117	156	130	146	12.31%
June	129	116	103	103	156	109	-30.13%
July	108	100	95	144	145	99	-31.72%
August	150	95	110	123	134	158	17.91%
September	103	120	85	113	143	101	-29.37%
October	115	92	119	147	167	97	-41.92%
November	77	85	88	96	112		16.67%
December	87	84	65	122	115		-5.74%
<b>Year Average</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>114*</b>	

\*Partial year

## Louisiana Drilling Permits Issued for Developmental and Wildcat Wells



	OCT 98	SEP 98	OCT 97	SOURCE
<b>SPOT MARKET PRICES</b>				
Louisiana Natural Gas Average (\$/MMBTU)	1.98	1.57	3.02	E
Louisiana Sweet Crude-St. James (\$/barrel)	14.15 <sup>2</sup>	14.94 <sup>2</sup>	21.39	B
<b>BAKER HUGHES RIG COUNTS</b>				
North Louisiana	17	20	21 <sup>2</sup>	A
South Louisiana Inland Waters	18	18	19 <sup>2</sup>	A
South Louisiana Inland	29	26	60	A
Louisiana Offshore (State + OCS)	91	97	103 <sup>2</sup>	
Total Louisiana (OCS included)	156	161	203 <sup>2</sup>	A
The United States Total	734	774	996 <sup>2</sup>	A
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
<u>LOUISIANA STATE JURISDICTION ONLY</u>				
Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	11.1	11.1	11.6 <sup>2</sup>	
Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	128.4	128.6	133.2 <sup>2</sup>	

	JUN 98	MAY 98	JUN 97	SOURCE
<b>PRODUCTION</b>				
<u>LOUISIANA FEDERAL OFFS ORE (OCS)</u>				
Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	30	29	28 <sup>2</sup>	C
Natural Gas Marketed Production (BCF)	336	330	335	C
<u>UNITED STATES TOTAL</u>				
Crude Oil & Condensate (MMB)	189	198	190	C
Natural Gas & Casinghead (BCF)	1,553	1,631	1,541	C
<b>IMPORTS</b>				
<u>UNITED STATES</u>				
Crude Oil (MMB)	262	278	252	C
Natural Gas (BCF)	250	257	235	C
<b>PERMITS</b>				
<u>LOUISIANA STATE JURISDICTION ONLY</u>				
Total Oil and Gas	109	146	156	
Wildcats	9	8	5	
State Offshore (Wildcats included)	7	8	3	
<b>PRICES</b>				
<u>CRUDE OIL (\$/barrel)</u>				
OPEC Average (F.O.B.)	9.78	10.53	15.61	C
U.S. Imports Average (F.O.B.)	10.10	11.28	15.99	C
U.S. Wellhead Average	10.00	11.49	15.90	C
Gulf OCS Wellhead Average	11.37	12.57	17.14	C
State Wellhead Average	13.16	13.03	19.34	D
<u>NATURAL GAS PRICES (\$/MCF)</u>				
U.S. City Gate	2.97	3.12	3.38 <sup>2</sup>	C
U.S. Imports Average	1.69	1.87	1.88 <sup>2</sup>	C
U.S. Wellhead Average	1.71	1.88	2.01 <sup>2</sup>	C
State Royalty Wellhead Average	2.19	2.37 <sup>2</sup>	2.44 <sup>2</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> Estimated                      <sup>2</sup> Revised                      MMBTU: Million BTU                      OCS: Outer Continental Shelf                      MMB: Million Barrels  
BCF: Billion Cubic Feet                      F.O.B.: Free on board                      MCF: Thousand Cubic Feet                      N/A: Not Available  
Note: Unless otherwise specified, Louisiana data excludes Federal OCS.

DATA SOURCES  
Unless otherwise specified, data is from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.  
A: Oil and Gas Journal  
B: Wall Street Journal  
C: U.S. Department of Energy  
D: Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation  
E: Natural Gas Clearinghouse

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**Spot Market Price Monthly Average**

	<b>December 1998</b>
Louisiana Natural Gas	\$2.07/MMBTU
	<b>November 1998</b>
Louisiana Sweet Crude-St. James	\$12.50/barrel

**PERMITS - Louisiana Jurisdiction Only**

	<b>October 1998</b>
Total Oil and Gas	97
Wildcats	8
State Offshore (Wildcats included)	9

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