COMMENTARY: PETROLEUM COMPLEX (WTI | BRENT | ULSD | RBOB)

WTI crude oil futures posted losses for a third consecutive session today following bearish crude oil stock data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) and news that Iran and Oman have agreed on a Hormuz shipping route, despite reports of fresh Houthi threats in the Red Sea and weakness in the US dollar index. As noted in Pipeline, Bloomberg reported that Houthi spokesperson Yahya Saree has said that the group would escalate attacks on Saudi vessel in the northern Red Sea to prevent them from transiting the area. Later in the day, however, Bloomberg reported that Iran stated it had reached an agreement with its Omani counterparts on a proposed route for commercial shipping through the Strait of Hormuz – a potential step towards reopening the critical waterway and ending hostilities in the Persian Gulf. According to Bloomberg, Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister said this would be a "temporary route" that could only remain active "for two to four months", while also stating that Iran will in no way accept foreign interference in the strait. In this week's Petroleum Status Report, the EIA reported a surprise build in commercial crude oil inventories, but an unexpected decline in distillate stockpiles and a smaller-than-predicted build in propane/propylene storage. The EIA, meanwhile, reported an as-anticipated draw from gasoline stocks (see our DOE report for details). In US economic news today, the July S&P Global Composite PMI was finalized at 54.5, beating the 53.6 flash estimate. The ISM Services Index for the same, however, missed expectations by coming in at 54.1, below the 54.5 Bloomberg survey consensus. Also unsupportive, private payrolls in the US rose by 44,000 month-on-month in July, against forecasts calling for a larger 65,000 monthly increase in employment. US shares were trading mixed but mostly higher this afternoon with the S&P 500 up just 0.1% and the Dow having added 0.9%, while the Nasdaq has lost 0.5%. European equities closed mixed about the unchanged mark today as the German DAX edged down just 0.29%, while the French CAC 40 and the UK FTSE 100 edged up just 0.03% and 0.08%, respectively. The US dollar had depreciated by 0.2% against a basket of foreign currencies as of this writing, which is supportive for crude oil prices.

TECHNICAL LEVELS: ULSD (HO)

TECHNICAL LEVELS: ULSD (HO)			Price
RESISTANCE	↑	3	$4.0673
		2	$3.9650
		1	$3.8401
SETTLEMENT PRICE			$3.7962
SUPPORT	↓	1	$3.7054
		2	$3.5000
		3	$3.3700

VOLUME	107,939	LOW
RSI	46.5	NEUTRAL
SLOW STOCHASTICS		BEARISH
MACD		NEUTRAL
CANDLE STICKS		BEARISH
MOVING AVERAGES		BULLISH
ADX	32.8	FALLING
TECHNICAL DIRECTION		↓

COMMODITY	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHANGE $	CHANGE %
WTI Crude	$75.17	$76.70	$74.24	$75.22	-$0.55	-0.7%
BRENT Crude	$78.72	$80.95	$78.11	$79.45	+$0.09	+0.1%
ULSD (HO)	$3.7221	$3.8582	$3.6743	$3.7962	+$0.0257	+0.7%
RBOB Gasoline	$2.8422	$2.8880	$2.7975	$2.8388	-$0.0134	-0.5%
Natural Gas	$2.687	$2.708	$2.660	$2.688	+$0.006	+0.2%

COMMENTARY: NATURAL GAS | WEATHER | INVENTORIES

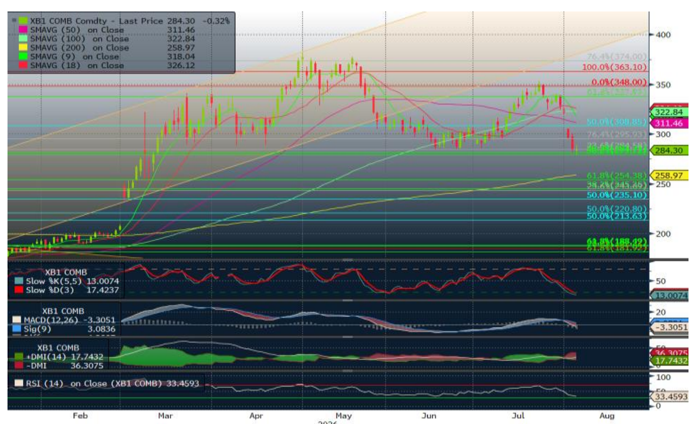
NYMEX natural gas futures edged higher today amid a slightly tighter daily US market balance expectation, despite further losses in gas prices abroad. In supportive US news today, Bloomberg sees total US demand rising by 0.5bcf/d to 98.8bcf/d today, while total US supply is seen down by 1.7bcf/d at 98.1bcf/d, now implying a storage withdrawal of 0.7bcf/d. International gas prices, on the other hand, continued lower today as Dutch TTF prices tumbled 96.9 cents lower to $17.994/mmBtu and Japan Korea Marker prices lost 78.8 cents to hit $19.397/mmBtu. Meanwhile, the GFS sees 207 cooling degree days for the Lower 48 states over the next two weeks, unchanged from yesterday's outlook and still above the 30-year average of 193. Moreover, the nuclear power outage rate in the US held steady at 3% today, which is in line with last year's outage rate but above the 2% five-year average. The weekly EIA natural gas storage report due tomorrow, for the week ended July 31, is expected to show a 28bcf build according to a Bloomberg survey of analysts.

ULTRA LOW SULFUR DIESEL (HO)

ULSD ($/gallon)	8/5/2026	8/4/2026	Change (△)		
SEP 26	$3.7962	$3.7705	↑	$0.0257	+0.7%
OCT 26	$3.7014	$3.6776	↑	$0.0238	+0.6%
NOV 26	$3.5904	$3.5619	↑	$0.0285	+0.8%
Strip: 12-Months Ratable	$3.3015	$3.2770	↑	$0.0245	+0.7%
Strip: 9-Months Ratable	$3.4077	$3.3798	↑	$0.0279	+0.8%
Strip: Winter (Oct-Apr)	$3.2969	$3.2675	↑	$0.0293	+0.9%

RBOB GASOLINE and PROPANE

RBOB ($/gallon)	8/5/2026	8/4/2026	Change (△)		
SEP 26	$2.8388	$2.8522	↓	$0.0134	-0.5%
OCT 26	$2.6003	$2.6040	↓	$0.0037	-0.1%
NOV 26	$2.4819	$2.4819	→	$0.0000	+0.0%
PROPANE ($/gallon)	**8/4/2026**	**8/3/2026**	**Change (△)**		
Mt. Belvieu	$0.6743	$0.6829	↓	-$0.009	-1.3%
Conway	$0.6087	$0.6192	↓	-$0.010	-1.7%



COMMENTARY: ENERGY TECHNICALS (WTI | ULSD | RBOB | NG)

ULSD (HO) futures edged up 0.7% but in a downside session (lower high, lower low). We'll continue to side with the bears, still looking to the 100-day ma ($3.8401 – tested today) and then to $3.9650 for resistance. Next support can still be seen at $3.7054 (tested at the lows), followed by the $3.5000 psychological level. Slow stochastics and candlesticks remain bearish, while the moving averages are bullish, and the RSI and the MACD are neutral. RBOB futures fell by 0.5% in a downside session, which was consistent with our favor for downside chances. We'll keep our bearish bias, now seeing next support at $2.7972 and then at the 200-day ma ($2.5897), with $2.8458 (taken out today) and $2.9593 expected to offer nearby resistance. Slow stochastics are now oversold, and the RSI has little room to fall at 33.3 before confirming oversold conditions. Candlesticks point south, whereas the MACD and moving averages are neutral. WTI futures gapped lower and ended settling 0.7% weaker in a downside session – in line with our bearish bias which we maintain. Slow stochastics, the RSI, and candlesticks all point south, while the MACD and moving averages remain neutral. The $73.62 and $65.65 Fibonacci retracements are still our next support levels, with resistance still seen at the 200-day ma ($76.35 – tested at the highs) and then at the 18-day ma ($82.28). NYMEX natural gas futures edged up 0.2% in an inside session (lower high, higher low), which was consistent with our flat-to-higher price perspective. Slow stochastics point south, along with moving averages and the MACD, while the RSI and candlesticks are more neutral. We'll keep our neutral/bullish bias, continuing to see support at the top of the downward price channel ($2.544) and then at $2.500, with next resistance still seen at the 9-day ma ($2.742) and the 18-day ma ($2.819).

Wednesday, August 5, 2026 Tel: (800) 709-2949

CRUDE OIL: WTI

WTI ($/barrel)	8/5/2026	8/4/2026	Change (△)	
SEP 26	$75.22	$75.77	-$0.55	-0.7%
OCT 26	$74.05	$74.40	-$0.35	-0.5%
NOV 26	$72.94	$73.15	-$0.21	-0.3%

NATURAL GAS: HH

NG ($/MMBTU)	8/5/2026	8/4/2026	Change (△)	
SEP 26	$2.6880	$2.6820	$0.0060	+0.2%
OCT 26	$2.7360	$2.7280	$0.0080	+0.3%
NOV 26	$2.9640	$2.9520	$0.0120	+0.4%

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	5-Aug	4-Aug	Change (△)	
DJI	54,491	54,086	404.97	+0.7%
Dollar Index (DXY)	99.67	99.86	-0.19	-0.2%
EUR/USD	$1.1554	$1.1529	$0.0025	+0.2%
Gold	$4,256.7	$4,095.4	$161.3	+3.9%

NYMEX FORWARD CURVES

MONTH	ULSD	RBOB	WTI	NAT GAS
Sep26	$3.7962	$2.8388	$75.22	-$0.013
Oct26	$3.7014	$2.6003	$74.05	-$0.010
Nov26	$3.5904	$2.4819	$72.94	-$0.001
Dec26	$3.4649	$2.3853	$71.87	-$0.026
Jan27	$3.3802	$2.3326	$71.04	-$0.041
Feb27	$3.3073	$2.3210	$70.38	-$0.033
Mar27	$3.2245	$2.3312	$69.89	-$0.010

EIA Inventories

Week to: 31-Jul-2026

COMMODITY	Current	Previous	Change (△)	
Crude Oil (mbbl)	406.987	404.508	2.479	0.6%
Cushing (mbbl)	20.955	18.599	2.356	12.7%
Distillates (mbbl)	107.159	110.632	-3.473	-3.1%
East Coast	25.155	22.150	3.005	13.6%
Heating Oil	6.226	6.370	-0.144	-2.3%
East Coast	0.271	0.323	-0.052	-16.1%
ULSD	96.844	100.103	-3.259	-3.3%
East Coast	24.184	21.123	3.061	14.5%
New England	2.706	2.471	0.235	9.5%
Mid Atlantic	11.528	10.724	0.804	7.5%
Propane (mbbl)	103.103	102.286	0.817	0.8%
East Coast	6.916	6.698	0.218	3.3%
Refinery Utilization (%)	96.50	97.20	-0.700	-0.7%
Natural Gas (bcf)	3,084	3,056	28	0.9%