

## Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Friday, April 17, 2026 · As of Apr 17, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bearish

Global energy markets saw significant shifts on April 17, 2026, as crude oil prices plunged following the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz and easing Middle East tensions. This geopolitical de-escalation fueled a strong rally in equity markets, with the S&P 500 reaching new highs.

### SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

#### DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	75,000	120,000

#### CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	55,000	70,000

#### TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	95,000	127.0	110.0

#### LNG (\$/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	15,000	Flat	35,000

#### LPG (\$/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	38,000
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#### BUNKERS (\$/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	500.0	420.0	580.0

### COMMODITIES & MARKETS

#### EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,126.06	+1.20

### ENERGY PRICES

#### CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	88.67	-10.80
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	83.78	-11.50

#### PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	300.48	-15.89
Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	355.00	-10.00

#### NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.67	+0.03

#### NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	370.00	-5.00

#### PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	37.53	+4.13

### CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	69.50	69.70

### CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.18	+0.01

### DEVELOPMENTS

#### Strait of Hormuz Reopens, Triggering Steep Oil Price Drop

The Iranian Foreign Minister announced the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz for commercial traffic, ending a six-week blockage and causing WTI and Brent crude...

The Motley Fool / TheStreet · Apr 17, 2026

#### Global Equities Rally to Record Highs as Middle East Tensions Ease

Wall Street extended its rally, with the S&P 500 closing at a new record high, as investors reacted positively to hopes of a ceasefire and de-escalation in the...

Axon Markets Blog / The Motley Fool · Apr 17, 2026

#### Brent Crude Falls to \$88.67/bbl Amid Ceasefire Hopes

Brent crude futures dropped significantly to \$88.67 per barrel, down 10.8%, as diplomatic efforts to resolve the Middle East conflict gained traction, reducing...

TheStreet / Marex · Apr 17, 2026

#### Natural Gas Prices Remain Weak Despite Slight Rise, LNG Market Rebalancing

US natural gas markets continued to show weakness, with Henry Hub prices slightly up but overall sentiment soft due to seasonal factors, while global LNG trade...

Daily Forex / Energy News Beat · Apr 17, 2026

#### Tanker Rates See Sharp Moderation from March Highs as Shipping Routes Normalize

After surging to historic highs in early March due to Middle East disruptions, VLCC spot rates are expected to moderate significantly with the reopening of the...

Horizon Offshore Services / Riviera Maritime Media · Apr 17, 2026

#### Pan Ocean Continues VLCC Fleet Expansion with Newbuild Orders

South Korean shipping company Pan Ocean is actively expanding its VLCC fleet through newbuild orders, with recent contracts for ammonia-ready vessels valued at...

Ship2Shore / iMarine · April 2026