

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Tuesday, May 5, 2026 · As of May 5, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Neutral

Global energy markets saw mixed signals on Tuesday, May 5, 2026. Crude oil prices eased after a tumultuous period marked by Strait of Hormuz disruptions, though levels remained elevated. Natural gas prices edged higher, while the shipping sector continued to grapple with geopolitical risks, driving up tanker rates and secondhand vessel values. Equities rallied on the back of easing oil prices.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	150,000	80,000
Suezmax, 130	WAF-UKC	85,000	55,000

CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	60,000	45,000
MR, 37	USG-UKC	40,000	32,000

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	70,000	129.0	138.0
Suezmax, 150+	55,000	88.0	88.0

LNG (\$/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	80,000	Flat	100,000
174M3 TFDE (Atlantic)	75,000	Soft	95,000

LPG (\$/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	45,000
VLGC, 44 (USG-Japan)	52,000

BUNKERS (\$/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	750.0	650.0	850.0
Rotterdam	765.0	660.0	870.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 <small>United States</small>	7,259.22	+58.47
Dow Jones Industrial Average <small>United States</small>	49,298.25	+356.35
FTSE 100 <small>United Kingdom</small>	8,100.50	-115.00

DEVELOPMENTS

OPEC+ Agrees to Further Production Adjustment Amid Market Volatility

Seven OPEC+ nations, including Saudi Arabia and Russia, decided on May 3, 2026, to implement a collective oil production adjustment of 188,000 barrels per day (...)
OPEC.org · May 3, 2026

Strait of Hormuz Reopens as US Launches 'Project Freedom' to Safeguard Shipping

Oil prices eased on May 5, 2026, as commercial ships began transiting the Strait of Hormuz under the escort of 'Project Freedom,' a U.S. military operation. Thi...
The Energy Report / YouTube · May 5, 2026

Sempra Seeks Authorization for Port Arthur LNG Cooldown Cargo

Sempra filed a request with the Department of Energy on May 5, 2026, for authorization to import a cooldown cargo and re-export it as part of the Port Arthur LN...
FactSet Insight · May 5, 2026

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	109.87	-4.00
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	104.50	-3.80

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	365.00	-5.00
ULSD Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	398.00	-7.00

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.83	+0.16
TTF (Europe) ICE	EUR/MWh	38.50	-0.50

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	850.00	+5.00
US Mont Belvieu Ethane NYMEX	c/gal	35.00	+0.50

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	43.43	+1.50
ULSD/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	48.00	+1.20

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	75.50	75.60
California Carbon Allowances (Spot)	USD/ton	42.10	42.20

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.17	0.00
\$/JPY	158.20	+0.15

VLCC Secondhand Prices Soar Above Newbuild Costs Amid Geopolitical Risks

The secondhand market for VLCC tankers saw five-year-old vessels trading at a premium of \$9 million over newbuild contract prices, reaching \$138 million. This s...
iMarine / Seatrade Maritime News · May 7, 2026

Commonwealth LNG Reaches Final Investment Decision

Caturus LLC announced in May 2026 that it had reached a Final Investment Decision (FID) on its proposed Commonwealth LNG facility in Louisiana, securing \$9.75 b...
FactSet Insight / Industrial Info Resources · May 15, 2026

Talos Energy Announces Q1 2026 Operational and Financial Results

Talos Energy announced its first quarter 2026 operational and financial results on May 5, 2026, following a prior announcement to release results and host an ea...
Stock Titan · May 5, 2026