



GIBSON DUNN

The Current (and Future)
State of Oil and Gas M&A

January 10, 2018



Agenda

- Part 1: State of the Industry
- Part 2: Recent History – How Did We Get Here?
- Part 3: Outlook – Where Are We Going in 2018?

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Part 1: State of the Industry

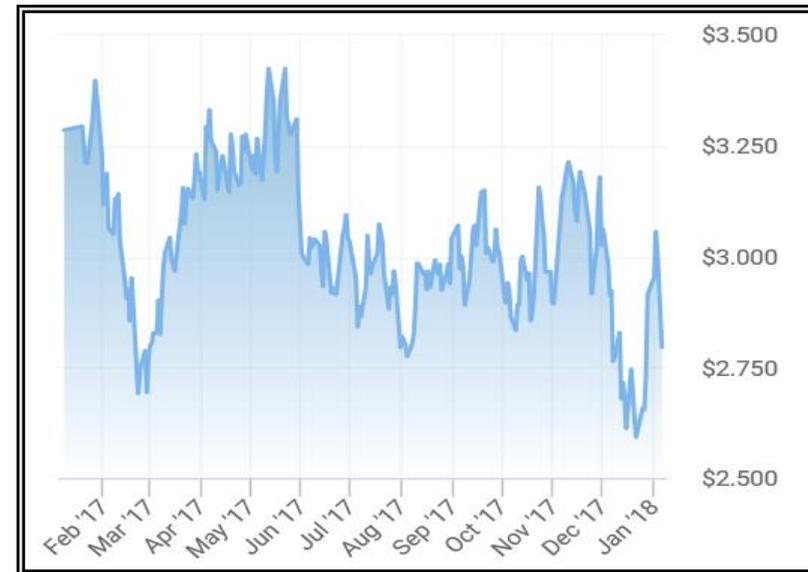
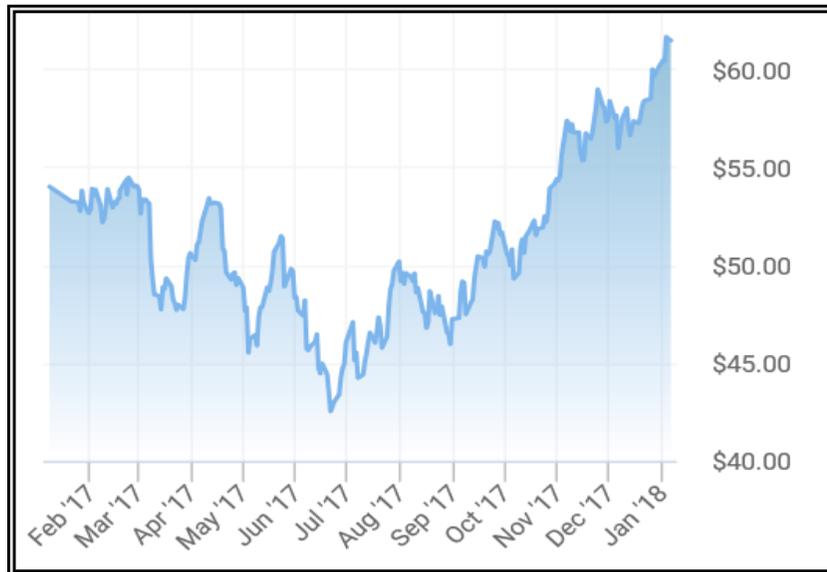
Part 1: State of the Industry

- I. Stabilized commodity prices
- II. U.S., OPEC & global energy landscape
- III. Investor sentiment
- IV. Scarcity of traditional financing sources
- V. Good, not great, deal flow

I. Commodity Prices

Stable/sustained prices – finally?

- Oil pricing forecasted to be range-bound between \$45 and \$65/bbl
- Natural gas pricing forecasted to remain flat



II. Global Energy Landscape

- IEA: “United States is turning into the undisputed global leader for oil and gas”
 - U.S. record daily oil production of 10.0+ million barrels in 2018
 - U.S. now a net exporter of natural gas
 - U.S. forecasted to be global LNG leader in 2020s
 - U.S. to be net exporter of hydrocarbons in 2026
- OPEC curtailments
 - OPEC’s curtailments appear to have worked (20% drawdown in inventories), but could be undermined by 2018 increases in U.S. production (see above)
 - Differing views regarding global shortages vs. global oversupply in 2018
- Prices remain susceptible to geopolitical events – e.g., recent Iranian protests

III. Investor Sentiment

- Positive sentiment beginning to reemerge, but public company investors increasingly focused on profits rather than production
 - 2012-2016 focus: production, acreage, years of drilling inventory, etc.
 - 2017+ focus: ROCE, cash flow neutrality, balance sheet strength, etc.
- Public energy equities underperformed in 2017
 - S&P 500 Index at +20%
 - S&P Energy Index at -3%
 - E&P sub-index at -7%
- Private equity has raised \$100 billion since 2014 for oil and gas investments...and the amount continues to grow – e.g., EnCap’s \$7.0 billion Fund XI (Dec. 2017)
 - Ability to act quickly; assemble talented management teams; not live and die by quarter-by-quarter performance metrics, etc. has, in most cases, allowed PE to be tremendously successful

IV. Financing Sources

- Significant decrease (~-60%) in public equity financings year-over-year
 - 2016: \$31.7 billion over 82 transactions
 - 2017: \$10.9 billion over 36 transactions
- Decrease (~-18%) in bond markets YoY, but not as significant
 - 2016: \$31.4 billion over 59 transactions
 - 2017: \$26.1 billion over 48 transactions
- Non-traditional sources and structures have (partially) filled the gap
 - PE remains a key source of capital
 - SPACs
 - Numerous “drillco” joint ventures announced in 2017 – over \$2.0 billion in prior 24 months
 - “Cash flow neutrality” requires continued asset monetizations

M&A Related Follow-On Equity Issuance (\$MM)

Access to equity capital has been a driver of M&A activity. When follow-on equity issuance has been used for M&A, it has covered 39% of the cash consideration to sellers



V. Deal Activity

- Steady deal activity
 - 2016: \$70.9 billion over 428 transactions
 - 2017: \$68.2 billion over 485 transactions
- Several drivers for deal activity
 - Adding core acreage for independents and majors – e.g., Exxon’s purchase of Clayton Williams
 - Monetizing non-core assets – e.g., ConocoPhillip’s exit of San Juan Basin to Hilcorp/Carlyle
 - Play consolidation – e.g., EQT-Rice merger
- “Lease, drill, and flip” model is much less pervasive
 - Many unconventional plays are entering into development phase
 - Number of unleased unconventional plays is limited (and “tier 1” acreage has been drilled)
 - PE moving back into PDP conventional opportunities
- Permian remains leader for deal flow
 - Permian continued to be a hot area for deal-making in 2017, but activity slowed from H1 to H2
 - Eagle Ford, Marcellus, and Rockies accounted for a significant number of transactions in 2017

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Part 2: Recent History – How Did
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- I. Up to July 2014 (Peak Oil Price)
- II. Thanksgiving Day 2014
- III. What did 2015 have in store for us?
- IV. What were the expectations for 2016 (and what really happened)?
- V. 2017 tended to be a continuation of 2016

I. Up to July 2014 (Peak Oil Price)

- Very active energy M&A market
- Length of run
 - Several years, beginning in 2010 (maybe earlier)
 - Tied to success of unconventional resource plays
 - Slight stall in 2013 (first half)
 - Peak years in 2012 and 2014 (first ten months)
 - Very active capital markets
- Type of transactions
 - Straight-forward asset-level purchase and sale
 - Cash-and-carry (asset level)
 - Private M&A
 - Public M&A
- Upstream versus midstream

II. Thanksgiving Day 2014

- Gradual price decline beginning in July, leading up to Thanksgiving
- OPEC (Saudi Arabia) announced that they would protect market share, as opposed to supporting price
- The following Friday
 - Huge oil price drop
- The following Monday
 - Deals cratered
- The remainder of 2014 was quiet

III. What Did 2015 Have in Store for Us?

- Significant slow-down in M&A activity in all three areas (upstream, midstream and services)
- Deal mix trending toward midstream transactions
- Upstream transactions weighted toward asset deals; midstream transactions weighted toward equity deals
- Trend toward valuation of PDP only; less value attributed to PUDs
- General consensus
 - Upstream M&A activity would pick-up
 - Producers forced to sell to raise cash
 - Price stability leading to closure of “bid-ask spread”

III. What Did 2015 Have in Store for Us? (cont'd)

- Producers' financial conditions did not deteriorate as quickly as expected
- "False start" in mid-year
- Toward the end of the year, midstream M&A slowed down as well
- Advent of the "DrillCo"
- Some public M&A, both in upstream and midstream
- A number of producers filed for bankruptcy, and many more were heading in that direction

IV. What Were the Expectations for 2016 (and What Really Happened)?

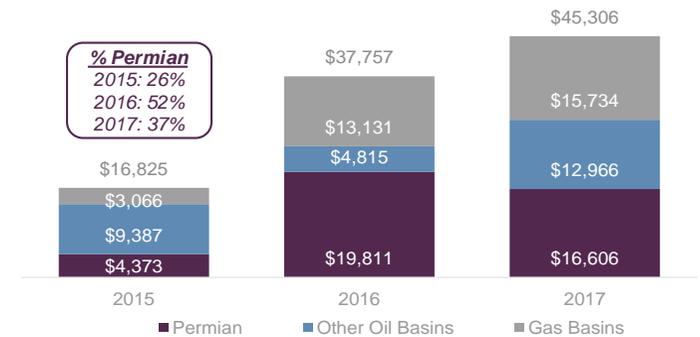
- More asset-level A&D on the horizon
 - Sales to improve liquidity
 - Sales to comply with borrowing base redeterminations
 - Larger companies divesting non-core assets
- Possibility of public M&A
 - Consolidation, generally
 - Majors acquiring smaller E&Ps
- What did 2016 actually bring?
- Restructuring and bankruptcy-related sales
- Asset-level A&D activity
 - Not as many deals as expected
 - Numbers tended to be smaller
- Public M&A activity
 - Some transactions
 - Not as many as expected
- Permian, Permian, Permian
- SPACs

V. 2017 Tended to Be a Continuation of 2016

- Similar number of transactions, but numbers tended to be smaller
- Permian remained the leader
- Significant activity in other basins
 - SCOOP, STACK, Eagleford, Marcellus
- Continuing trends of “coring up”, consolidating and monetizing non-core assets
- Oilfield services M&A picked up in the first half but slowed again going into year end

U.S. E&P M&A Activity by Basin (\$MM)⁽¹⁾

M&A activity is basin skewed with the Permian accounting for 41% of deals since 2015



GUGGENHEIM (1) Source: 1Derrick, excludes deals <\$500MM and GOM deals.

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Part 3: Outlook – Where Are We
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- I. What are expectations for commodity prices? Lower for longer/forever?
- II. What will drive deal activity in 2018? Will tax reform have a significant impact?
- III. Do we expect consolidation in oilfield services?
- IV. Will M&A activity in midstream continue?
- V. Will the Permian finally be knocked out of the top spot for upstream M&A?

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