

Net proved reserves, 12/13: oil, 7.112 bill. bbls.; natural gas, 24.098 trill. cu. ft. Avg. 5-yr. finding costs: \$5.44 a barrel (vs. ind. avg. \$4.15). 5-yr. reserve replacement rate: 92% (vs. ind. avg. 102%).

State Street, 5.4%; Vanguard, 5.4% (4/14 proxy). Chairman and CEO: John S. Watson. Inc.: DE. Addr.: 6001 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon, CA 94583. Tel.: 925-842-1000. www.chevron.com.

ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '11-'13 of change (per sh) 5 Yrs. to '17-'19 2.5% 8.0% 1.5% 3.5% Sales "Cash Flow" 9.5% 15.5% 2.5% 7.0% 6.0% 6.0% 9.0% 14.5% Earnings 21 0% Dividends Book Value 16.0%

22776

34212

127

23210 2126

10890

36226

23812

10873

36793

2108

Accts Payable Debt Due

Current Liab.

Cal-	QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.) A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2011	60341	68948	64432	59985	253706
2012	60705	62608	58044	60552	241909
2013	56818	57369	58503	56158	228848
2014	53265	57938	54679	54388	220270
2015	55600	57000	55700	54200	222500
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE B				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2011	3.09	3.85	3.92	2.58	13.44
2012	3.27	3.66	2.69	3.70	13.32
2013	3.18	2.77	2.57	2.57	11.09
2014	2.36	2.98	2.95	2.96	11.25
2015	2.70	2.80	3.00	2.85	11.35
Cal-	al- QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C=				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2010	.68	.72	.72	.72	2.84
2011	.72	.78	.78	.81	3.09
2012	.81	.90	.90	.90	3.51
2013	.90	1.00	1.00	1.00	3.90
2014	1.00	1.07	1.07		

Chevron's operating margin expanded in the third quarter. Although sales fell 6.5%, to \$54.7 billion, share net rose 15%, to \$2.95. This was mainly thanks to wider margins on refined products due to lower input costs (oil) and gains from derivative instruments. Chevron is oil-weighted, and lower oil prices combined with a flat production figure resulted in the decreased revenue tally.

We look for much of the same in the final quarter. Combined oil and gas production may be a little better than the third quarter as we head into the harsher months of the year, particularly if we get a colder-than-normal winter. Margins on refined products should continue strong, especially as GDP growth ought to be better than last year's fourth quarter.

Chevron is one of the leading spenders when it comes to capital investments. As of September 30th, it had spent \$31 billion. Much of this was used to develop the natural gas liquids operation as well as explore deeper regions of the Gulf of Mexico. CVX is also exploiting the huge natural gas fields of The Gorgon and Wheatstone in Australia, and the Permian

Basin in the southern U.S. By yearend, CVX ought to have spent in excess of \$42 billion on these endeavors. The idea is to more balanced commodity create a pipeline, one where gas and condensates constitute a larger portion of total production. Too, Chevron wants to ensure it has maintained its market share when global demand for energy improves.

In the meantime, we don't look for share net and cash flow to increase at the same high rate as in the past. The older fields have matured and been depleted, and it will be a while before the newer fields yield noticeable benefits. Rising costs at large LNG projects in Austra-lia won't help. Good refining margins should aid earnings and cash flow, though. This timely and high-quality stock is a solid addition to a well-rounded portfolio. The higher-than-average dividend payout should be amply supported by strong finances, which should also cover ongoing high capital spending needs. The stock's price pullback since our September report renders improved total return potential to 2017-2019. Jeremy J. Butler December 5, 2014

(A) Sales exclude (consumer) petroleum & chemicals excise taxes. 2005 sales figures restated to account for UNOCAL merger. (B) Based on diluted shares. Excl. nonrecur.

loss: '98, \$0.48. Incl. nonrecur. loss of \$1.41: Dividend reinvestment plan available. **(D)** In '01. Next earnings report due early February. **(C)** Dividends historically paid on or about 10th of March, June, September, and December.

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A++ 90 Price Growth Persistence 70 **Earnings Predictability** 60