

Net proved reserves, 12/14: oil, 6.925 bill. bbls.; natural gas, 23.065 trill. cu. ft. Avg. 5-yr. finding costs: \$5.17 a barrel (vs. ind. avg. \$4.21). 5-yr. reserve replacement rate: 89% (vs. ind. avg. 95%).

Chevron's second-quarter production

was up. The supermajor hiked its prod-

uction by 2%, to 2.60 million barrels of oil

equivalent per day (mmboe/d). This was a

result of project ramp-ups in the U.S. (in

particular the Midland and Delaware

basins), as well as production increases in

Argentina.

and

State Street, 5.8%; Vanguard, 5.6% (4/15 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.

36226 ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '12-'14 5 Yrs. of change (per sh) to '18-'20 7.5% 12.5% 1.5% 7.0% 1.0% 3.0% Sales "Cash Flow" Earnings Dividends Book Value 6.0% 9.5% 13.0% 13.0% 2.5% 10.5% 16.0% 5.0% 3.5%

10890

Current Liab.

23965

1086

36919

2087

24714

1099

36168

463

Bangladesh

Cal-	QUARTERLY SALES (\$ mill.) A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2012	60705	62608	58044	60552	241909
2013	56818	57369	58503	56158	228848
2014	53265	57938	54679	46088	211970
2015	34558	40357	38640	41760	155315
2016	39000	40700	42900	43000	165600
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE B Full				
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
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	1.85	10.14
2015	1.37	.30	.95	1.38	4.00
2016	1.50	1.65	1.80	1.85	6.80
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID C=				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
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	1.07	4.21
2015	1.07	1.07	1.07		

maintenance-related downtime, primarily reflecting the absence of a major turnaround at the Tengizchevroil subsidiary in Kazakhstan, also aided volumes. But sales and earnings were down. Revenue fell 30%, to \$40 billion, and share net dropped to \$0.30, from \$2.98. This was

to be expected, due to the 50%-or-so drop in the price of oil since last June. However, the magnitude of the sales fall on the Upstream (Exploration & Production) side was greater than anticipated, and the stock tacked down. The decline could have been worse but for the fact that profits in the Downstream (Refining & Marketing) division rose from \$721 million to \$2.56 billion. This was thanks to higher margins on refined products such as gasoline and jet fuel. Costs for the major raw material (oil) were down. In addition, this operation

banked a \$1.6 billion gain from the sale of its interest in Caltex Australia.

We now look for 2015 sales and earnings of \$155 billion and \$4.00 a share, respectively. This compares to last year's sales and share earnings of \$212 billion and \$10.14, respectively. We don't see things changing much in the second half. Crude oil and natural gas prices are likely to stay depressed as production over-capacity has swamped moderate global demand. Moreover, costs associated with curtailing underperforming operations and ramping up the better ones ought to squeeze margins. Production will probably tally 2.63 mmboe/d, compared to 2.52 mmboe/d last year.

This might be a good time to buy this top-quality stock, particularly for the long haul. There's no guarantee oil and gas prices won't fall any further, but we think the stock's upside now outweighs the downside. Furthermore, thanks to strong finances, the dividend should continue to provide generous income. Future hikes in the payout are likely, too, if possibly more modest.

Jeremy J. Butler

September 4, 2015

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

Dividends historically paid on or about 10th of March, June, September, and December.

loss: '98, \$0.48. Incl. nonrecur. loss of \$1.41: Dividend reinvestment plan available. **(D)** In '01. Next earnings report due late October. **(C)** millions, adj. for stock split.

Lower

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability A++ 85 Price Growth Persistence 50 **Earnings Predictability** 60

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