

REPORT OF THE  
NATIONAL PETROLEUM COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY

MAY 28, 1953

CHAIRMAN: L. F. McCollum

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

601 Commonwealth Building  
1625 K Street, N. W.  
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Houston, Texas  
May 28, 1953

Mr. Walter S. Hallanan, Chairman  
National Petroleum Council  
Suite 601, 1625 K Street, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hallanan:

Attached hereto is a tabulation showing the U. S. Availability and Production, January 1953, which corresponds to Table 6, page 23, of the Report of the NPC Committee on Oil and Gas Availability, entitled "Petroleum Productive Capacity", and dated January 29, 1952. The present report was prepared as a result of the request by Mr. H. A. Stewart, Acting Director, Oil and Gas Division, United States Department of the Interior. In his letter of December 2, 1952, Mr. Stewart stated: "It will be appreciated if the Council will again make an up-to-date study of the petroleum productive capacity of the United States as of January 1, 1953."

The data were compiled in the same manner and by substantially the same individuals who gave freely of their time in the preparation of the prior report mentioned.

It will be noted that the availability of crude oil and natural gas liquids has increased 859,000 barrels per day, to a total of 8,159,000 barrels per day, in the period from January 1951 to January 1953. The rate of production in January 1953 was 7,204,000 barrels daily.

It must be recognized, however, that the necessary expansion of petroleum productive capacity will require unremitting exploration and drilling activities. As has been stated many times in the past, the continuing provision of adequate supplies of petroleum, for civilian and defense purposes, will require "reasonable economic incentives, adequate materials, and a favorable climate for private investment."

Respectfully submitted,

L. F. McCollum, Chairman  
NPC Committee on Petroleum  
Productive Capacity

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U. S. AVAILABILITY AND PRODUCTION OF PETROLEUM, JANUARY, 1953  
(Thousands Barrels Daily)

District	Availability			Production			Reserve Productive Capacity		
	Crude Oil	Nat. Gas Liquids	All Oils	Crude Oil	Nat. Gas Liquids	All Oils	Crude Oil	Nat. Gas Liquids	All Oils
1 - East Coast	49	19	68	49	19	68	0	0	0
2 - Mid-Continent	1,238	98	1,336	1,181	89	1,270	57	9	66
3 - Southwest	4,686	481	5,167	4,004	456	4,460	682	25	707
4 - Rocky Mountain	394	9	403	327	8	335	67	1	68
5 - California *	<u>1,098</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>1,185</u>	<u>990</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>114</u>
Total	7,465	694	8,159	6,551	653	7,204	914	41	955

\* Including Elk Hills

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Revised 5/13/53

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
Oil and Gas Division  
Washington 25, D. C.

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December 2, 1952

Mr. Walter S. Hallanan  
Chairman, National Petroleum Council  
1625 K Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hallanan:

The National Petroleum Council has made several reports on the available petroleum productive capacity of the United States. The most recent of these reports "Petroleum Productive Capacity", dated January 29, 1952 has been found valuable, and of great assistance to the Federal Government and particularly to the Petroleum Administration for Defense.

It is desirable now to have up-to-date figures on present productive capacity of crude oil and of natural gas liquids. Therefore, it will be appreciated if the Council will again make an up-to-date study of the petroleum productive capacity of the United States as of January 1, 1953, the information to be made available as soon as practicable.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ H. A. Stewart

H. A. Stewart  
Acting Director