Natural Gas and Oil Royalty Trusts

A Weekly Analysis April 13, 2007

Appreciation Potential on Tax Confusion

Summary and Recommendation

Stock prices for buy-recommended **Canadian Oil Sands Trust (COSWF)** and **Penn West Energy Trust (PWE)** have increasing relative appreciation potential as other Canadian and energy producer stocks advance strongly. A possible negative last month, a proposed U.S. tax change far from enactment, may not have much net effect in the end. Amid little public notice, Congressman Richard E. Neal representing the Second District of Massachusetts introduced on March 23, 2007, the tax bill H.R. 1672 that would have distributions of certain non-U.S. entities taxed as ordinary income rather than at the reduced rate for qualified dividends. Presumably Canadian income trusts would be among the entities targeted. We also presume that the tax would be largely or fully offset initially by depletion, or return of capital. At long life COSWF annual depletion to offset taxable distributions might be 5% of investor cost basis while at shorter life PWE it might be 15%. Thus, the proposed move would add to paperwork without generating much new revenue which is a good reason for it not being enacted for Canadian oil and gas income trusts.

Don't Mess with Success

Partnerships and trusts have an important economic advantage over traditional corporations because the unit holders or shareholders control reinvestment more directly. That leads to better capital decisions to enhance economic progress, we believe. Partnerships and trusts thrive on tax treatment that facilitates high rates of cash distribution with less double taxation at both the intermediate and final level.

We don't like Congressman Neal's idea because it would be a step backward from a nice simple compromise that generates more taxes for the government without complexity. Changing the dividend qualification for Canadian income trusts would renege on past promises. U.S. investors made long-term commitments on the basis of government tax policy.

The added complication could be moot in a few years. Canada may go ahead with unwanted tax changes that would spur most income trusts to convert to a new form. With every day's delay we become more encouraged that will not happen. Similarly, the reduced rate of dividend taxation in the U.S. expires in 2011, unless renewed by Congress. We think the renewal should be enacted as reduced double taxation of dividends is one of the most positive U.S. government actions in the decade.

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Historical independent energy investment analysis by Kurt Wulff doing business as McDep Associates is posted at <u>www.mcdep.com</u>. Analyses are prepared from sources and data believed to be reliable, but no representation is made as to their accuracy or completeness. Mr. Wulff is not paid by covered companies. Neither he nor his spouse trade a subject stock within a week before or after a change in rating.

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Natural Gas and Oil Royalty Trusts Rank by McDep Ratio: Market Cap and Debt to Present Value

			Price (\$/sh)		Market	Net Present	Debt/	
	Symbol/		12-Apr	Shares	Cap	Value	Present	McDep
	Rating		2007	(mm)	(\$mm)	(\$/un)	Value	Ratio
U.S. Royalty Trusts								
Cross Timbers Royalty Trust	CRT		44.83	6.0	270	46.00	-	0.97
Sabine Royalty Trust	SBR		43.00	14.6	630	45.00	-	0.96
Permian Basin RT	PBT		14.58	46.6	680	16.50	-	0.88
Dorchester Minerals, L.P.	DMLP		23.59	28.2	670	27.00	-	0.87
Mesa RoyaltyTrust	MTR		57.38	1.9	110	70.00	-	0.82
San Juan Basin Royalty Trust	SJT	В	32.15	46.6	1,500	40.00	-	0.80
Hugoton RoyaltyTrust	HGT	В	25.29	40.0	1,010	34.00	-	0.74
Total or Median					4,900			0.87
Canadian Income Trusts (US\$)								
Pengrowth Energy Trust	PGH		16.84	241.0	4,060	17.00	0.26	0.99
Enerplus Resources Fund	ERF		42.56	123.0	5,230	47.00	0.11	0.92
Penn West Energy Trust	PWE	В	30.19	239.5	7,230	36.00	0.15	0.86
Canadian Oil Sands Trust	COSWF	В	24.84	479.0	11,900	35.00	0.08	0.73
Total or Median					28,400		0.13	0.89

B = Buy

McDep Ratio = Market cap and Debt to present value of oil and gas and other businesses

Natural Gas and Oil Royalty Trusts Rank by EV/Ebitda: Enterprise Value to Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Deprec.

	Symbol/ Rai	ting	Price (\$/sh) 12-Apr 2007	Adjstd Resrvs/ Prod NTM	PV/ Ebitda NTM	EV/ Ebitda NTM	P/E NTM	Divd or Distrib NTM (%)
U.S. Royalty Trusts		0						
Cross Timbers Royalty Trust	CRT		44.83	12.3	12.7	12.3	12.7	7.9
Sabine Royalty Trust	SBR		43.00	9.7	11.6	11.1	11.1	9.0
Mesa RoyaltyTrust	MTR		57.38	24.4	11.7	9.6	10.9	9.2
Dorchester Minerals, L.P.	DMLP		23.59	8.5	10.6	9.2	14.6	9.9
San Juan Basin Royalty Trust	SJT	В	32.15	9.8	10.6	8.5	10.3	9.8
Permian Basin RT	PBT		14.58	8.1	9.5	8.4	9.9	10.1
Hugoton RoyaltyTrust	HGT	В	25.29	13.1	9.6	7.2	9.8	10.2
Median				9.8	10.6	9.2	10.9	9.8
Canadian Income Trusts (US\$)								
Canadian Oil Sands Trust	COSWF	В	24.84	23.4	12.4	9.1	12.4	6.3
Pengrowth Energy Trust	PGH		16.84	7.4	7.5	7.4	24.4	15.5
Enerplus Resources Fund	ERF		42.56	9.0	7.0	6.4	11.6	10.3
Penn West Energy Trust	PWE	В	30.19	7.5	7.3	6.3	12.2	11.7
Median				8.2	7.4	6.9	12.3	11.0

EV = Enterprise Value = Market Cap and Debt; Ebitda = Earnings before interest, tax, depreciationand amortization; NTM = Next Twelve Months Ended March 31, 2008; P/E = Stock Price toEarnings; PV = Present Value of oil and gas and other businesses

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Natural Gas and Oil Royalty Trusts Rank by NTM Distribution Yield

	Revenu Sumh al David		Natural Gas/ Ebitda	Dist/	Dist/	NTM Distribution		Dist. Yield
	Symbol	Royalty (%)	Ebiidd (%)	Ebitda	Equity Ebitda	(\$mm)	(\$/un)	(%)
U.S. Royalty Trusts		(70)	(70)	Londa	Lonuu	(<i>qmm)</i>	(<i>\phi un</i>)	(70)
Cross Timbers Royalty Trust	CRT	84	70	0.98	0.98	21	3.54	7.9
Sabine Royalty Trust	SBR	100	59	1.00	1.00	56	3.87	9.0
Mesa RoyaltyTrust	MTR	-	75	0.88	0.88	10	5.27	9.2
San Juan Basin Royalty Trust	SJT	-	99	0.83	0.83	146	3.14	9.8
Dorchester Minerals, L.P.	DMLP	64	77	0.92	0.92	66	2.34	9.9
Permian Basin RT	PBT	35	41	0.84	0.84	69	1.47	10.1
Hugoton RoyaltyTrust	HGT	-	90	0.73	0.73	103	2.58	10.2
Total or Median	ı		75	0.88	0.88	500		9.8
Canadian Income Trusts (US\$)								
Canadian Oil Sands Trust	COSWF	-	(10)	0.51	0.56	748	1.56	6.3
Enerplus Resources Fund	ERF	-	49	0.58	0.65	538	4.37	10.3
Penn West Energy Trust	PWE	-	41	0.61	0.72	848	3.54	11.7
Pengrowth Energy Trust	PGH	-	46	0.85	1.14	627	2.60	15.5
Total or Median	1		44	0.59	0.68	2,800		11.0
Kinder Morgan Energy Partners	KMP			0.80	1.73			6.0

NTM = Next Twelve Months Ended March 31, 2008

Ebitda = Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization

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