

Historical SPR Oil Sales and Exchanges

Date	Purpose	Category Type	Release Volume (MMbbl)
1985 – November	Test Sale: After extending the EPCA in June 1985, Congress authorized DOE to conduct test sales of up to 5 MMbbl to involve the private sector in the competitive sales process.	Test Sale	0.967
1990 – September	Desert Shield: President George H. W. Bush ordered a 5 MMbbl test sale to “demonstrate the readiness of the [Reserve] system under real life conditions.” Only 3.9 MMbbl were sold because of the lack of bids for one of the six types of crude oil advertised.	Test Sale	3.900
1991 – January	Desert Storm: President George H. W. Bush authorized a 33.75 MMbbl drawdown over a 45-day period under a coordinated emergency response plan drawn up by the IEA. DOE accepted bids from 13 companies that bid on only 17.3 MMbbl of Reserve oil because industry offers for the higher-sulfur “sour” crude oil were substantially lower than bids for the lower-sulfur “sweet” crude.	Operational Sale	17.300
1996 – January	Weeks Island Sale: After becoming geologically unstable, DOE decided to decommission the Weeks Island SPR site, and offered 5.1 MMbbl for sale to offset the decommissioning costs.	Decommissioning Sale	5.100
1996 – April	Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996, Public Law 104-134.	Budget Deficit Reduction Sale	12.800
1996 – May	Pipeline Blockage, Seaway Pipeline System: During a pipeline blockage to Cushing, OK, ARCO paid a fee plus a future price differential for leasing the oil. ARCO replaced the oil with an equivalent grade of crude within six months under an emergency crude oil lease exchange agreement.	Exchange	0.901
1996 – October	Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1997, Public Law 104-208.	Budget Deficit Reduction Sale	10.200
1999 – September	Maya Exchange: DOE exchanged 11 MMbbl of Maya crude for 8.5 MMbbl of other higher value crude oil to improve the SPR's operational efficiency.	Exchange	11.000
2000 – June	Calcasieu Ship Channel Closure: DOE exchanged 500 Mbbbl each with CITGO and Conoco, due to blockage of the ship channel that provided access of incoming crude oil shipments to those refineries. Action taken in order to avert temporary shutdown of both refineries.	Exchange	1.000
2000 – September	Establish NEHHOR: DOE exchanged 2.8 MMbbl of crude oil to pay for the first year of tank-storage and stocks for establishing a 2 MMbbl NEHHOR.	Exchange	2.840
2000 – October	Exchange 2000: DOE exchanged 30 MMbbl in response to concern over low distillate levels in the Northeast.	Exchange	30.000
2002 – October	Hurricane Lili: DOE exchanged 98 Mbbbl with Shell Pipeline Company to secure Capline storage tanks in advance of Hurricane Lili.	Exchange	0.980
2004 – September	Hurricane Ivan: DOE exchanged 5.4 MMbbl of sweet crude due to disruptions in the Gulf of Mexico caused by Hurricane Ivan.	Exchange	5.400

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2005 – September	Hurricane Katrina: DOE approved six requests for emergency loans of crude oil to address supply shortages caused by oil production and distribution facilities being shut ahead of Hurricane Katrina's landfall.	Exchange	9.800
2005 – September	Hurricane Katrina: President George W. Bush issued a Finding of a Severe Energy Supply Interruption and authorized the sale of 30 MMbbl as part of an IEA collective action. 10.8 MMbbl of sweet crude and 200 Mbbl of sour crude were sold.	Operational Sale	11.000
2006 – January	Barge Accident, Sabine Neches Ship Channel: DOE exchanged 767 Mbbl of sour crude with Total Petrochemicals USA due to closure of the Sabine Neches ship channel to deep-draft vessels after a barge accident in the channel. Action was taken to avert temporary shutdown of the refinery.	Exchange	0.767
2006 – June	Calcasieu Ship Channel Closure: DOE exchanged 750 Mbbl of sour crude with ConocoPhillips and Citgo due to the closure for several days of the Calcasieu Ship Channel to maritime traffic. The closure resulted from the release of a mixture of storm water and oil. Action was taken to avert a temporary shutdown of both refineries.	Exchange	0.750
2008 – September	Hurricanes Gustav and Ike: Following Hurricanes Gustav and Ike, DOE loaned nearly 5.4 MMbbl to Marathon, Placid, ConocoPhillips, Citgo and Alon USA after their supplies had been cut off due to shutdown of the petroleum industry in the Gulf region. The companies repaid the loans with a premium of 93.35 Mbbl.	Exchange	5.389
2011 – June	Libya Collective Action: President Barack Obama issued a Finding of a Severe Energy Supply Interruption and directed DOE to offer 30 MMbbl of sweet crude to offset Libya's production curtailment as part of an IEA collective action.	Operational Sale	30.640
2012 – September	Hurricane Isaac: In late August 2012, Tropical Storm Isaac entered the Gulf of Mexico. Marathon Petroleum Company requested an emergency loan of 1 MMbbl to supplement Marathon's supplies to ensure that their refining operations had sufficient supplies to continue operations.	Exchange	1.000
2014 – March	On March 12, 2014, the Secretary authorized a test sale under Section 161(g) of EPCA in order to evaluate the SPR drawdown and distribution mechanisms. Revenues from this sale were used to fund the NGSF.	Test Sale	5.000