
UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark one)

[X] QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

0R

[] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 1-8590

MURPHY OIL CORPORATION (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 71-0361522 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

200 PEACH STREET P. O. BOX 7000, EL DORADO, ARKANSAS (Address of principal executive offices)

71731-7000 (Zip Code)

(870) 862-6411 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

[X] Yes No

Number of shares of Common Stock, \$1.00 par value, outstanding at September 30, 1998 was 44,965,866.

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Thousands of dollars)

	· ·	naudited) ember 30, 1998	December 31, 1997
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	28,879	24,288
Accounts receivable, less allowance for			
doubtful accounts of \$12,069 in 1998			
and \$13,530 in 1997		242,947	272,447
Inventories			
Crude oil and blend stocks		71,800	55,075
Finished products		36,866	64,394
Materials and supplies		38,889	38,947
Prepaid expenses		37,136	47,323
Deferred income taxes		13,167	15,278

Total current assets	469,684	517,752
Property, plant and equipment, at cost less accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization of \$2,882,789 in 1998 and \$2,762,805 in 1997 Deferred charges and other assets	1,726,900 64,046	
Total assets	\$ 2,260,630 =======	2,238,319
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY Current liabilities Current maturities of long-term obligations Notes payable Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 7,381 - 406,624	2,175
Income taxes	400,024 21,430	435,390 25,627
Total current liabilities	435, 435	
Notes payable Nonrecourse debt of a subsidiary Deferred income taxes Reserve for dismantlement costs Reserve for major repairs Deferred credits and other liabilities	95,864 172,205 144,971 155,673 41,743 151,616	28,367 177,486 136,390 153,021 43,038 151,247
Stockholders' equity Capital stock Cumulative Preferred Stock, par \$100, authorize 400,000 shares, none issued Common Stock, par \$1.00, authorized 80,000,000 shares, issued 48,775,314 shares Capital in excess of par value Retained earnings	- 48,775	- 48,775 509,615 622,532
Accumulated other comprehensive income - foreign currency translation Unamortized restricted stock awards Treasury stock, 3,809,448 shares of Common Stock in 1998, 3,883,883 shares in 1997, at cost	(16,227) (2,653)	891
Total stockholders' equity	1,063,123	
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 2,260,630	2,238,319

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, page 4.

The Exhibit Index is on page 16.

Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (UNAUDITED) (Thousands of dollars, except per share amounts)

		Sep	onths Ended tember 30,	Septe	ember 30,
		1998	1997		1997
REVENUES Sales Other operating revenues Interest, income from equity companies and other nonoperatin			540,307		1,527,914 40,835
revenues	5	1,315	1,110		3,605
Total revenues		433,319		1,322,615	1,572,354
COSTS AND EXPENSES Crude oil, products and related operating expenses Exploration expenses, including undeveloped lease amortization Selling and general expenses		338,650 9,567 15,387	19.734	992,046 49,527 49,031	71,508
Depreciation, depletion and amortization Impairment of long-lived assets Interest expense Interest capitalized		15,387 50,914 - 4,891 (1,476)	56,565 5,100 3,263	148,757 - 12,861	156,073
Total costs and expenses		417,933			1,411,874
Income before income taxes Federal and state income taxes Foreign income taxes		15,386 3,456 2,915	15,832	77,055 23,869 6,431	37,172 22,811
NET INCOME	\$	9,015 ======	42,325 ======	46,755 ======	
Net income per Common share - basic	\$. 20		1.04	
Net income per Common share - diluted	\$. 20	.94	1.04	2.23
Cash dividends per Common share	\$. 35 ======	. 35 ======	1.05 ======	1.00 ======
Average Common shares outstanding - basic	44	,964,657	44,882,749	44,954,021	44,877,950
Average Common shares outstanding - diluted	44	,987,581	44,970,283	45,012,976	44,948,964

Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (UNAUDITED) (Thousands of dollars)

		ths Ended mber 30,		ths Ended mber 30,
	1998 	1997	1998 	1997
ncome	\$ 9,015	42,325	46,755	100,497

Net income
Other comprehensive
•

income - net loss from foreign currency translation	(9,169)	(6,874)	(17,118)	(14,768)
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)	\$ (154) =====	35,451 =====	29,637 =====	85,729 =====

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, page 4.

	Sept	onths Ended cember 30,
	1998	1997
OPERATING ACTIVITIES Net income Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 46,755	100,497
Depreciation, depletion and amortization Impairment of long-lived assets	148,757 -	156,073 5,100
Provisions for major repairs	15,946	17,402
Expenditures for major repairs and dismantlement costs	(20,947)	(12,749) 63,733
Exploratory expenditures charged against income Amortization of undeveloped leases	41,504 8,023	
Deferred and noncurrent income taxes	10 022	7 269
Pretax gains from disposition of assets	(761)	7,268 (6,247)
Other - net	6,534	5,701
Not (increase) decrease in operating working capital	263,843	344,553
Net (increase) decrease in operating working capital other than cash and cash equivalents	19,696	(21,362)
Other adjustments related to operating activities	(1,779)	
5		
Net cash provided by operating activities	281,760	314,963
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Capital expenditures requiring cash	(296,160)	(335,596) 14,277
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	4,718	14,277
Other investing activities - net	(201)	196
Net cash required by investing activities		(321,123)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Increase in notes payable	65,322	8,686
Increase (decrease) in nonrecourse debt of a subsidiary		4,938
Cash dividends paid	(47,204)	(44,864)
Sale of treasury shares under employee stock purchase pla	an 520	-
Net cash provided (required) by financing activities		(31,240)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and		
cash equivalents	(37)	(2,736)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	4,591	(40,136)
Cash and cash equivalents at January 1	24,288	109,707
Cash and cash equivalents at September 30	\$ 28,879	69,571
	======	
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW ACTIVITIES	• • • • • •	
Cash income taxes paid, net of refunds	\$ 29,248	56,146
Interest paid, net of amounts capitalized	4,204	(2,728)
	.,	(=, == = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, page 4.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These notes are an integral part of the financial statements of Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries (Murphy/the Company) on pages 1 through 3 of this report on Form 10-Q.

NOTE A - INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The consolidated financial statements of the Company presented herein have not been audited by independent auditors, except for the Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 1997. In the opinion of Murphy's management, the unaudited financial statements presented herein include all adjustments (consisting only of normal, recurring accruals) necessary to present fairly the Company's financial position at September 30, 1998, and the results of operations and cash flows for the three-month and nine-month periods ended September 30, 1998 and 1997, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Financial statements and notes to consolidated financial statements included in this report on Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with the Company's 1997 Annual Report on Form 10-K, as certain notes and other pertinent information have been abbreviated or omitted in this report. Financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 1998, are not necessarily indicative of future results.

NOTE B - ENVIRONMENTAL CONTINGENCIES

The Company's worldwide operations are subject to numerous laws and regulations intended to protect the environment and/or impose remedial obligations. In addition, the Company is involved in personal injury and property damage claims, allegedly caused by exposure to or by the release or disposal of materials manufactured or used in the Company's operations. The Company operates or has previously operated certain sites or facilities, including refineries, oil and gas fields, service stations, and terminals, for which known or potential obligations for environmental remediation exist.

Under the Company's accounting policies, a liability for environmental obligations is recorded when an obligation is probable and the cost can be reasonably estimated. If there is a range of reasonably estimated costs, the most likely amount will be recorded, or if no amount is most likely, the minimum of the range is used. Recorded liabilities are reviewed quarterly and adjusted as needed. Actual cash expenditures often occur one or more years after recognition of a liability.

The Company's reserve for remedial obligations, which is included in "Deferred Credits and Other Liabilities" in the Consolidated Balance Sheets, contains certain amounts that are based on anticipated regulatory approval for proposed remediation of former refinery waste sites. If regulatory authorities require more costly alternatives than the proposed processes, future expenditures could exceed the amount reserved by up to an estimated \$3 million.

The Company has received notices from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that it is currently considered a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) at two Superfund sites and has also been assigned responsibility by defendants at another Superfund site. The potential total cost to all parties to perform necessary remedial work at these sites may be substantial. Based on currently available information, the Company has reason to believe that it is a "de minimus" party as to ultimate responsibility at the three sites. The Company does not expect that its related remedial costs will be material to its financial condition or its results of operations, and it has not provided any reserve for remedial costs on Superfund sites. Additional information may become known in the future that would alter this assessment, including any requirement to bear a pro rata share of costs attributable to nonparticipating PRPs or indications of additional responsibility by the Company.

Although the Company is not aware of any environmental matters that might have a material effect on its financial condition, there is the possibility that expenditures could be required at currently unidentified sites, and new or revised regulatory requirements could necessitate additional expenditures at known sites. Such expenditures could materially affect the results of operations in a future period.

Certain liabilities for environmentally related obligations and prior environmental expenditures are expected to be recovered by the Company from other sources, primarily environmental funds maintained by the various states. Since no assurance can be given that recoveries from other sources will occur, the Company has not recognized a benefit for these potential recoveries at September 30, 1998.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTD.)

NOTE C - OTHER CONTINGENCIES

The Company's operations and earnings have been and may be affected by various other forms of governmental action both in the United States and throughout the world. Examples of such governmental action include, but are by no means limited to: tax increases and retroactive tax claims; restrictions on production; import and export controls; price controls; currency controls; allocation of supplies of crude oil and petroleum products and other goods; expropriation of property; restrictions and preferences affecting issuance of oil and gas or mineral leases; promotion of safety; governmental support for other forms of energy; and laws and regulations affecting the Company's relationships with employees, suppliers, customers, stockholders and others. Because governmental actions are often motivated by political considerations, may be taken without full consideration of their consequences, and may be taken in response to actions of other governments, it is not practical to attempt to predict the likelihood of such actions, the form the actions may take or the effect such actions may have on the Company.

In the normal course of its business activities, the Company is required under certain contracts with various governmental authorities and others to provide letters of credit that may be drawn upon if the Company fails to perform under those contracts. At September 30, 1998, the Company had contingent liabilities of \$8 million on outstanding letters of credit and \$13 million under certain financial guarantees.

NOTE D - DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

Derivative instruments are used by the Company on a limited basis to manage well-defined risks related to interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and commodity prices. The use of derivative instruments is closely monitored by the Company's senior management, and all such transactions are designed to address risk-management objectives. The Company does not hold any derivatives for trading purposes, and it does not use derivatives with leveraged features. Derivative instruments are traded either with creditworthy major financial institutions or over national exchanges. Instruments that reduce the exposure of assets, liabilities or anticipated transactions to price, currency or interest rate risks are accounted for as hedges. Gains or losses on derivatives that cease to qualify as hedges are recognized in income or expense.

At September 30, 1998 and 1997, Murphy had interest rate swap agreements with notional amounts totaling \$100 million and \$85 million, respectively; these serve to convert an equal amount of variable rate long-term debt to fixed rates. The swaps outstanding at September 30, 1998, will mature in 2002 and 2004 and have a weighted-average fixed interest rate of 6.46 percent. Using the accrual/settlement method of accounting, the net amount to be received or paid on a quarterly basis under the swap agreements is accrued as part of "Interest Expense" in the Consolidated Statement of Income. Although the Company has not terminated an interest rate swap prior to maturity, if it did, any cash paid or received as settlement would be deferred and recognized as an adjustment to "Interest Expense" over the shorter of the remaining life of the debt or the remaining contractual life of the swap.

At September 30, 1998, the Company had a forward foreign currency exchange contract that serves to fix the U.S. dollar cost for Canadian dollar nonrecourse debt associated with the Company's investment in the Syncrude project. When the debt becomes due and the currency exchange contract matures in December 1998, Murphy will pay US \$28.5 million to acquire the Cdn \$38 million needed to retire the debt. The Company records the unrealized difference between the contract exchange rate and the actual period-ending exchange rate in the Consolidated Balance Sheet as an adjustment to "Nonrecourse Debt of a Subsidiary" with the offset to "Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income." When the contract is settled, any adjustment to the difference previously recorded will be included in the same accounts.

The Company previously used crude oil swap agreements to reduce a portion of the financial exposure of its U.S. refineries to crude oil price movements. Unrealized gains or losses on such swap contracts were generally deferred and recognized in connection with the associated crude oil purchase. If conditions indicated that the market price of finished products would not allow for recovery of the costs of the finished products, including any unrealized loss on the crude oil swap, a liability was provided for the nonrecoverable portion of the unrealized swap loss. The final swap matured in the third quarter of 1997. The Company recorded pretax operating results associated with crude oil swaps in "Crude Oil, Products and Related Operating Expenses" in the Consolidated Statement of Income. An after-tax gain of \$5 million in the nine months ended September 30, 1997, was due to crude oil

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTD.)

NOTE E - EARNINGS PER SHARE

Net income was used as the numerator in computing both basic and diluted income per Common share for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 1998 and 1997. Reconciliations of the weighted-average shares outstanding for these computations are shown in the following table.

Reconciliation of Shares Outstanding		onths Ended ember 30,	-	onths Ended ember 30,
(Weighted average shares)	1998	1997	1998	1997
Basic method Dilutive stock options .	44,964,657 22,924	44,882,749 87,534	44,954,021 58,955	44,877,950 71,014
Diluted method	44,987,581	44,970,283	45,012,976	44,948,964

The computation of diluted earnings per share in the preceding table did not consider period-ending outstanding stock options for 705,000 shares in 1998 and 412,000 shares in 1997 because the effects of these options would have been antidilutive. Such options outstanding at September 30, 1998, had exercise prices of \$49.75 to \$65.49 a share, averaging \$53.25 a share, and remaining lives of 8.3 to 9.3 years, averaging 8.8 years.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTD.)

NOTE F - BUSINESS SEGMENTS (UNAUDITED)

	Three Mont September	ths Ended 30, 1998	Three Mont September	hs Ended 30, 1997
	Revenues			Income
Exploration and production* United States	\$ 35.7 34.8 23.6 4.1 .7	1.7 (.3) .1		6.4 1.8 3.1
	98.9	(.3)	150.8	21.1
Refining, marketing and transportatio United States United Kingdom	283.8 60.8 5.3	5.4	357.9 76.1 6.6 440.6	3.9 1.5
Intersegment transfers elimination	448.8	 11.9	591.4 (36.1)	45.7
Corporate	432.0 1.3	(2.9)		(3.3)
Revenues/income before special items Refund of U.K. income taxes Impairment of long-lived assets	-	9.0 - -	556.4 - -	42.4 3.2 (3.3)
Total revenues/net income	\$ 433.3		556.4	42.3
(Millions of dollars)	September Revenues	ths Ended 30, 1998 Income	September Revenues	30, 1997
Exploration and production* United States	\$ 139.0 97.8 65.8 14.5 1.9	15.8 2.0 (1.5) 2.7 (12.5)	196.7 123.2 90.7 26.1 1.3	8.4 (10.9)
Refining, marketing and transportation United States	on 830.7 202.7 17.8 1,051.2	27.1 14.0 3.8 44.9	1,004.7 195.2 19.1 1,219.0	37.9 6.0 4.5 48.4
Intersegment transfers elimination	1,370.2 (56.5)	51.4 -	1,657.0 (88.2)	105.9 -
Corporate	1,313.7 3.5	51.4 (8.9)	1,568.8 3.6	105.9 (5.3)
Revenues/income before special items Modification of U.K. natural gas	1,317.2 4.0	42.5	1,572.4	100.6
Net recovery pertaining to 1996 modifications of foreign crude oil				
Net recovery pertaining to 1996	-	-	- -	3.2 (3.3)

*Additional details are presented in the tables on page 14.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998, COMPARED TO THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1997

Net income in the third quarter of 1998 totaled \$9 million, \$.20 a diluted share, compared to \$42.3 million, \$.94 a diluted share, in the third quarter a year ago. Special items included in earnings for the 1997 quarter were a charge of \$3.3 million, \$.07 a diluted share, for an impairment of long-lived assets that was nearly offset by a gain of \$3.2 million, \$.07 a share, from a refund of U.K. income taxes. Cash flow from operating activities, excluding changes in noncash working capital items, totaled \$79.9 million in the third quarter of 1998 compared to \$124.7 million in the 1997 quarter.

Murphy's worldwide downstream operations earned \$12.2 million in the 1998 quarter compared to \$24.6 million a year ago. Exploration and production operations, reflecting a decline of \$5.00 a barrel in the Company's average worldwide crude oil price, reported a loss of \$.3 million in the current quarter compared to earnings of \$21.1 million in the third quarter of 1997.

Exploration and production operations in the United States earned \$.9 million compared to \$13.5 million in the third quarter of 1997. Operations in Canada earned \$1.7 million, down from \$6.4 million a year ago, and U.K. operations reported a loss of \$.3 million in the current quarter compared to earnings of \$1.8 million a year ago. Operations in Ecuador earned \$.1 million in the third guarter of 1998 compared to \$3.1 million. Other international operations reported a loss of \$2.7 million compared to a \$3.7 million loss a year earlier. The Company's crude oil and condensate sales prices averaged \$12.19 a barrel in the United States and \$12.43 in the United Kingdom, decreases of 34 percent and 33 percent, respectively. In Canada, sales prices averaged \$11.55 a barrel for light oil, down 31 percent; \$7.85 for heavy oil, down 28 percent; and \$13.61 for synthetic oil, down 29 percent. Sales prices for the Hibernia field, off the east coast of Canada, which came on stream during the fourth quarter of 1997, averaged \$11.16 a barrel during the current quarter. In Ecuador, sales prices averaged \$6.73 a barrel, down 46 percent. Murphy's average natural gas sales price in the United States was \$2.03 a thousand cubic feet (MCF) in the current quarter compared to \$2.35 a year ago. The average natural gas sales price in Canada increased from \$1.08 an MCF to Total crude oil and gas liquids production averaged 60,864 barrels a \$1.20. day compared to 61,194 in the third quarter of 1997. Production from new fields being brought on stream in the United Kingdom and offshore Canada were offset by lower U.S. production and a decline in Canadian heavy oil production, with the latter due to a selective shut-in of production in response to the drop in heavy oil prices. Total natural gas sales averaged 214 million cubic feet a day compared to 284 million a year ago. Sales of natural gas in the United States averaged 154 million cubic feet a day, down 34 percent from the third quarter of 1997. Storm-related down time in the Gulf of Mexico accounted for approximately 25 percent of the decline in U.S. oil production and natural gas sales. Natural gas sales increased five million cubic feet a day in Canada and three million in the United Kingdom. Exploration expenses totaled \$9.5 million in the current quarter compared to \$19.7 million in 1997. The tables on page 14 provide additional details of the results of exploration and production operations for the third quarter of each year.

Refining, marketing and transportation operations in the United States earned \$5.9 million compared to \$19.2 million a year ago; margins in the 1998 quarter were down because of much lower selling prices partially offset by lower crude costs. Operations in the United Kingdom earned \$5.4 million compared to \$3.9 million in the third quarter of 1997. Earnings from purchasing, transporting and reselling crude oil in Canada were \$.9 million in the current quarter compared to \$1.5 million a year ago. Refinery crude runs worldwide were 162,842 barrels a day compared to 164,274 in the third quarter of 1997. Worldwide refined product sales were 175,506 barrels a day, up from 172,530 a year ago.

Corporate functions, which include interest income and expense and corporate overhead not allocated to operating functions, reflected a loss of \$2.9 million in the current quarter compared to a loss of \$3.3 million in the third quarter of 1997.

NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998, COMPARED TO NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1997

For the first nine months of 1998, net income totaled \$46.7 million, \$1.04 a diluted share, and included a benefit of \$4.2 million, \$.09 a diluted share,

from special items. For the same period in 1997, net income totaled \$100.5 million, \$2.23 a diluted share, and included the net \$.1 million charge from the previously

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTD.)

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTD.)

mentioned special items in the third quarter. The 1998 special items were a \$2.8 million benefit from modification of a natural gas sales contract in the United Kingdom and a \$1.4 million benefit from partial recovery of a 1996 loss resulting from modification to a crude oil production contract in Ecuador.

The primary reason for the lower year-to-date earnings before special items was a decrease in the earnings of exploration and production operations from \$57.5 million for the first nine months of 1997 to \$6.5 million for the 1998 period. The decrease in exploration and production results was mainly caused by a decline of \$5.60 a barrel in the Company's average worldwide crude oil price, lower natural gas sales prices, and lower U.S. natural gas sales volumes, partially offset by the effects of lower exploration expenses. Earnings of the Company's worldwide downstream operations for the first nine months of 1998 were \$44.9 million, down slightly from \$48.4 million in the 1997 period, as the effect of lower selling prices was nearly offset by lower crude costs and higher sales volumes. Corporate functions reflected a loss of \$8.9 million for the 1998 period compared to a loss of \$5.3 million a year earlier; the increased loss was primarily due to higher interest expense net of amounts capitalized.

Exploration and production operations in the United States earned \$15.8 million for the 1998 period compared to \$34.4 million a year ago, and Canadian operations earned \$2 million compared to \$15.5 million in 1997. Decreases from the prior year also occurred in the United Kingdom, which had a loss of \$1.5 million compared to earnings of \$10.1 million, and in Ecuador, which had earnings of \$2.7 million compared to \$8.4 million. Other international operations recorded losses of \$12.5 million in the first nine months of 1998 and \$10.9 million in the 1997 period. The Company's crude oil and condensate sales prices averaged \$13.20 a barrel in the United States, down 33 percent, and \$13.06 in the United Kingdom, down 32 percent. In Canada, sales prices averaged \$12.26 a barrel for light oil, down 32 percent from last year; \$6.24 for heavy oil, down 45 percent; and \$14.24 for synthetic oil, down 29 percent. The average crude oil sales price for production from the Hibernia field, which came on stream in the fourth quarter of 1997, was \$11.71 a barrel, while the average sales price in Ecuador was \$7.18 a barrel, down 43 percent. O oil and gas liquids production for the first nine months of 1998 averaged Crude 56,491 barrels a day compared to 56,870 during the same period of 1997. 0i1 production at Hibernia averaged 3,401 barrels a day, and production of Canadian synthetic oil increased 14 percent to 10,227. Production of crude oil and gas liquids in the United Kingdom was up 2 percent to 14,205 barrels a day as new fields came on stream in July. Canadian heavy oil production was down 15 percent to 9,572 barrels a day due to a selective shut-in of wells in response to the drop in heavy oil prices. In other areas, crude oil and gas liquids production averaged 7,764 barrels a day in the United States, down 30 percent; 3,886 for Canadian light oil, down 2 percent; and 7,436 in Ecuador, down 3 percent. Approximately 9 percent of the decline in U.S. oil production was due to storm-related downtime in the Gulf of Mexico. Natural gas sales prices for the first nine months of 1998 averaged \$2.22 an MCF in the United States, down 6 percent; \$1.21 in Canada, down 8 percent; and \$2.39 in the United Kingdom, down 6 percent. Total natural gas sales averaged 231 million cubic feet a day in the 1998 period compared to 268 million in 1997. Sales of natural gas in the United States averaged 173 million cubic feet a day, down 18 percent from 1997. Storm-related downtime in the Gulf of Mexico accounted for approximately 17 percent of the decline in U.S. natural gas sales. In other areas, average natural gas sales volumes increased 8 percent in Canada but were down 15 percent in the United Kingdom, where production from the Amethyst field was shut in during early 1998 to repair pipeline damages. Exploration expenses totaled \$49.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 1998, compared to \$71.5 million a year ago. Exploration expenses were down in the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada, but were up in other international areas. The tables on page 14 provide additional details of the results of exploration and production operations for the first nine months of each year.

Refining, marketing and transportation operations in the United States earned \$27.1 million for the first nine months of 1998 compared to \$37.9 million for the same period last year. The U.S. results in 1997 included after-tax benefits of \$5 million related to crude oil swap agreements. Operations in the United Kingdom earned \$14 million in the nine months ended September 30, 1998, compared to \$6 million in the prior year. Earnings from purchasing, transporting and reselling crude oil in Canada were \$3.8 million in the current nine-month period compared to \$4.5 million a year ago. The Company's refinery crude runs worldwide for the 1998 period were 164,722 barrels a day compared to 159,583 a year ago. Petroleum product sales worldwide were 174,075 barrels a day, up from 161,236 in 1997.



MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTD.)

FINANCIAL CONDITION

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$281.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 1998, compared to \$315 million for the same period in 1997. Changes in operating working capital other than cash and cash equivalents provided cash of \$19.7 million for the first nine months of 1998 but required cash of \$21.4 million for the 1997 period. Cash provided by operating activities was reduced by expenditures for refinery turnarounds and abandonment of oil and gas properties totaling \$20.9 million in the current year and \$12.7 million in 1997. Predominant uses of cash in both years were for capital expenditures (which, including amounts expensed, are summarized in the following table) and payment of dividends.

Capital Expenditures	Nine Months Ended S	eptember 30,
(Millions of dollars)	1998	1997
Exploration and production	37.6 1.8	312.1 22.3 1.2
	\$296.2	335.6

Working capital at September 30, 1998, was \$34.2 million, down \$14.1 million from December 31, 1997. This level of working capital does not fully reflect the Company's liquidity position, because the lower historical costs assigned to inventories under LIFO accounting were \$56.4 million below current costs at September 30, 1998.

At September 30, 1998, long-term nonrecourse debt of a subsidiary was \$172.2 million, down slightly from December 31, 1997, due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates. Notes payable of \$95.9 million increased \$67.5 million in 1998 due to additional borrowings for certain oil and gas development projects. A summary of capital employed at September 30, 1998, and December 31, 1997, follows.

Capital Employed	September 30,	1998	December	31, 1997
(Millions of dollars)	Amount	%	Amount	%
Notes payable	\$ 95.9 172.2 1,063.1	7 13 80	28.4 177.5 1,079.4	2 14 84
	\$1,331.2	100	1,285.3	100

OTHER MATTERS

NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 131, "Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information," in June 1997. This statement will alter the Company's disclosures about its operating segments beginning with the results for the year ending December 31, 1998, and for each period thereafter, with restated comparative disclosures for earlier periods. This statement does not amend any existing accounting procedures, but it requires disclosures about an enterprise's components for which separate financial information is available and regularly used by the chief operating decision maker in allocating resources and assessing performance. The Company will comply with this statement by providing certain additional segment and geographic information for revenues, expenses and assets in its consolidated financial statements for the year ending December 31, 1998.

In February 1998, the FASB issued SFAS No. 132, "Employers' Disclosures about

Pensions and Other Postretirement Benefits." This statement standardizes the disclosure requirements for pensions and other postretirement benefits and requires additional information on changes in the benefit obligations and fair value of plan assets. SFAS No. 132 does not change the measurement or recognition rules related to these benefit plans. To comply with this statement, Murphy will change the benefit plan disclosures in its consolidated financial statements for the year ending December 31, 1998.

OTHER MATTERS (CONTD.)

NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (CONTD.)

In June 1998, the FASB issued SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." This statement establishes accounting and reporting standards for derivative instruments and hedging activities. Effective January 1, 2000, it will require Murphy to recognize all derivatives as either assets or liabilities and to measure those instruments at fair value in its Consolidated Balance Sheet. A derivative meeting certain conditions may be designated as a hedge of a specific exposure; accounting for changes in a derivative's fair value will depend on the intended use of the derivative and the resulting designation. Any transition adjustments resulting from adopting this statement will be reported in net income or other comprehensive income, as appropriate, as the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle. As described in Note D to the consolidated financial statements, the Company makes limited use of derivative instruments to hedge specific market risks. The Company has not yet determined the effects that SFAS No. 133 will have on its future consolidated financial statements or the amount of the cumulative adjustment that will be made upon adopting this new standard.

During 1997, the Securities and Exchange Commission amended Regulation S-K to require expanded disclosures concerning a broad range of market-sensitive instruments, including debt and equity securities and derivative instruments, beginning with the Company's 1998 Annual Report. Specifically, the new rules require the Company to disclose both quantitative and qualitative information concerning the market risks posed by risk-sensitive instruments; such disclosures are to be outside of the consolidated financial statements. The Company has not yet determined which of several acceptable methods it will use for the required disclosures.

YEAR 2000 ISSUES

GENERAL

The Year 2000 issue affects all companies and relates to the possibility that computer programs and embedded computer chips may be unable to accurately process data with year dates of 2000 and beyond. Murphy is devoting significant internal and external resources to address Year 2000 compliance, and the Company's Year 2000 project (Project) is proceeding well. In 1993, Murphy began a worldwide business systems replacement project using systems primarily from J.D. Edwards & Company (Edwards), PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PW*Sequel), and for certain E&P operations, Applied Terravision Systems Inc. (Artesia) and EFA Software Services Ltd. (PRISM). Certain Company-developed business software systems that will not be replaced with compliant vendor systems by the Year 2000 are being remedied to be Year 2000 compliant. Remaining hardware, software and facilities are expected to be made Year 2000 compliant through the Project. None of the Company's other information technology projects are expected to be significantly delayed due to the implementation of the Project.

PROJECT

The Company has established an Enterprise Project Office (EPO) and has engaged KPMG Peat Marwick LLP to assist with Project management. The Project is primarily being managed by major operating location. At each location, the Project is divided into three major components: Computer Hardware, Applications Software, and Process Control and Instrumentation (Embedded Technology). The Computer Hardware component consists of computing equipment and systems software other than Applications Software. Applications Software includes both Company-developed and vendor software systems. Embedded Technology includes the hardware, software and associated embedded computer chips (other than computing equipment) that are used in facilities operated by the Company. The general phases common to all components are: (1) inventorying Year 2000 items; (2) assigning priorities to identified items; (3) assessing the Year 2000 compliance of identified items; (4) repairing or replacing material items that are determined not to be Year 2000 compliant; (5) evaluating and testing required material items; and (6) as necessary, designing and implementing contingency and business continuation plans. Material items are those the Company believes to have safety, environmental or property damage risks, or that may adversely affect the Company's ability to process and record revenues if not properly addressed. At September 30, 1998, the inventorying and priority assessment phases of the Project had been completed. The remaining four phases of the Project are in progress and are being performed primarily by employees of the Company, with assistance from vendors and independent contractors.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTD.)

OTHER MATTERS (CONTD.)

YEAR 2000 ISSUES (CONTD.)

A fourth major component of the Project, which involves the review of third party suppliers, customers and business partners (Third Parties), is being managed for all locations by the EPO. This includes the process of identifying and prioritizing critical Third Parties and communicating with them about their plans and progress in addressing the Year 2000 problem. Detailed evaluations of the most critical Third Parties began in the second quarter of 1998 and are scheduled for completion by mid-1999, with follow-up reviews scheduled for the remainder of 1999. The Company estimates that this component was on schedule at September 30, 1998. Based on the results of evaluations and other available information, contingency plans will be developed as necessary during 1999 to address any anticipated Year 2000 problems related to critical Third Parties.

A Year 2000 compliant version of Edwards is fully implemented in the United States and is approximately 50 percent complete in the United Kingdom, with most remaining phases of the U.K. implementation scheduled for the first quarter of 1999. Year 2000 testing of Artesia, including any required corrections, is scheduled for the fourth quarter of 1998. In Canada, the Company expects to have upgraded and tested Year 2000 compliant versions of PW*Sequel and PRISM by the first quarter of 1999. Testing of U.S. offshore production platform systems has been delayed somewhat due to storm-related downtime during the third quarter of 1998; testing is now scheduled to be completed in early 1999. Certain Company-developed downstream accounting, customer invoicing and human resources systems in the United States are being remedied to be Year 2000 compliant; this effort was estimated to be 80 percent complete at September 30, 1998, and is projected to be completed by year-end 1998. U.S. refining and marketing systems testing is somewhat behind schedule due to a recent implementation of a new refinery maintenance system at the Meraux refinery; certain testing will be completed at the refinery during a scheduled turnaround in the first guarter of 1999. Other refining and marketing business systems that require release of compliant vendor upgrades are scheduled to be completed near the end of the first quarter of 1999.

PROJECT SUMMARY

At September 30, 1998, the Company-wide Project is estimated to be 40 percent complete. Thus far, no material noncompliant Year 2000 issues have been discovered that were not identified in the completed Year 2000 inventory. The material components of the Project are expected to be substantially complete by early 1999.

At September 30, 1998, formal contingency plans for the Project had not been developed. The Company does not expect to develop formal contingency plans for Project issues that are resolved in accordance with the current schedule. Any unresolved issues that fall significantly behind schedule or that lead to a material risk of system failure will be addressed by contingency plans during 1999.

COSTS

The total cost of required modifications to become Year 2000 compliant is not expected to be material to Murphy's financial position. The most likely estimate of the total cost of the Project is approximately \$5 million, including \$2 million for the EPO (including assessment of Third Parties), \$1 million for miscellaneous hardware replacement, \$1 million for noncompliant system renovation/upgrades and \$.6 million for Embedded Technology issues. It is reasonably possible that total costs could exceed the most likely estimate by up to \$1 million. Funds for the Project are obtained from internally generated cash flows. This estimate does not include the Company's potential share of Year 2000 costs that may be incurred by partnerships and joint ventures that the Company does not operate. The operator of the Company's jointly owned U.K. refinery has estimated Murphy's costs to be \$.5 million to achieve Year 2000 compliance. The cost of implementing Edwards in the United Kingdom, now estimated to be \$.9 million, is also not included in the Project cost estimate.

The total amount expended on the Project through September 30, 1998, and recorded in selling and general expense in 1998 was \$1.3 million, essentially all of which related to the EPO. The cost of completing the Year 2000 Project is estimated to be approximately \$3.7 million.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTD.)

OTHER MATTERS (CONTD.)

YEAR 2000 ISSUES (CONTD.)

RISKS

Not correcting material Year 2000 problems could result in interruptions in, or failures of, certain normal business activities or operations. Such failures could materially and adversely affect the Company's results of operations, liquidity or financial condition by impeding the Company's ability to produce and deliver crude oil, natural gas and finished petroleum products, and to invoice and collect related revenues from customers. Due to the general uncertainty inherent in the Year 2000 problem, resulting in part from uncertainty about the Year 2000 readiness of critical Third Parties, the Company is unable to determine at this time whether or not the consequences of possible Year 2000 failures will materially affect its results of operations, liquidity or financial condition. The Project is expected to significantly reduce the Company's level of uncertainty about the Year 2000 issue, and in particular, about the Year 2000 compliance and readiness of the Company's critical Third Parties. The Company believes that it is taking reasonable steps to address potentially material Year 2000 failures, and with completion of the Project as scheduled the possibility of significant interruptions of normal operations should be greatly reduced.

Readers are cautioned that forward-looking statements contained in this Year 2000 section should be read in conjunction with Murphy's disclosures under the heading "Forward-Looking Statements" below.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This quarterly report on Form 10-Q includes statements of the Company's expectations, intentions, plans and beliefs that are forward-looking and are dependent on certain events, risks and uncertainties that may be outside of the Company's control. These forward-looking statements are made in reliance upon the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results and developments could differ materially from those expressed or implied by such statements due to a number of factors including those described in the context of such forward-looking statements as well as those contained in the Company's January 15, 1997, Form 8-K on file with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

1	Jnited		United King-	Ecua-	S	ynthetic	
(Millions of dollars) S		Canada	dom	dor	Other	Canada	Tota
THREE MONTHS ENDED							
SEPTEMBER 30, 1998							
il and gas sales and operating revenues	\$ 35 7	22 1	23.6	1 1	7	12 7	98.
roduction costs			9.5				
epreciation, depletion							
and amortization	15.5	10.3	11.2	2.4	-	1.5	40.
xploration expenses Dry hole costs	.4	1.0	-	-	-	-	1.
Geological and geophysical							
costs	.1		.2		2.7	-	3.
Other costs	.8	.3	.4	-	.3	-	1.
	1.3	2.0	. 6		3.0		6.
Undeveloped lease	1.0	2.0			0.0		0.
amortization	1.7	.8	.1	-	-	-	2.
Total exploration							
Total exploration expenses	3.0	2.8	.7	-	3.0	-	9.
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·							
elling and general expenses	3.8	1.3	1.1	-	.3	.1	6.
ncome tax provisions	2	(=)	1 /		1	7	1
(benefits)		(.5)	1.4	-	.1	.7	1.
esults of operations		_	_	_	-	_	_
(excluding corporate							
overhead and interest)	\$.9	.1	(.3)	.1	(2.7)	1.6	(.
operating revenues \$ roduction costs epreciation, depletion and	-	9.8	30.5 6.9			18.4 10.1	
amortization xploration expenses	22.2	8.2	11.9	2.9	-	1.8	47.
Dry hole costs	1.9	.6	4.4	-	.8	-	7.
Geological and geophysical costs	L 3.1	1.0	1.2	_	1.6	_	6.
Other costs	.6				1.0 1.1		2.
Undeveloped losse	5.6	1.9	6.0	-	3.5	-	17.
	1 0	1 0				-	
Undeveloped lease amortization	n		-	-	. 1		2
amortization	1.0	±.0	- 	-	.1		2.
amortization Total exploration							
amortization Total exploration expenses	7.2	2.9	6.0		3.6		 19.
amortization Total exploration expenses	7.2	2.9	6.0		3.6		19.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions	7.2 6 4.0	2.9 1.3	6.0 .7	 - .1	3.6 	- - .1	19.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits)	7.2 6 4.0 7 4	2.9 1.3 1.7	6.0 .7 3.2	 . 1 4	3.6 .6	- - .1	19. 6.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits)	7.2 6 4.0 7 4	2.9 1.3 1.7	6.0 .7 3.2	 . 1 4	3.6 .6	- - .1	19. 6.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations	7.2 6 4.0 7 4	2.9 1.3 1.7	6.0 .7 3.2	 . 1 4	3.6 .6	- - .1	19.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest)	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8	.1 .4 3.1	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7)	.1 2.4 4.0	19. 6. 14. 21.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest)	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8	.1 .4 3.1	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7)	.1 2.4 4.0	19. 6. 14. 21.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) INE MONTHS ENDED	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8	.1 .4 3.1	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7)	.1 2.4 4.0	19. 6. 14. 21.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) INE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8	.1 .4 3.1	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7)	.1 2.4 4.0	19. 6. 14. 21.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) INE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 il and gas sales and	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 \$ 13.5	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8	1 4 3.1 	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7)	.1 2.4 4.0	19. 6. 14. 21.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) INE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 il and gas sales and operating revenues	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 \$ 13.5	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8 65.8	.1 .1 .4 3.1 =======	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7) =====	1 2.4 4.0	19. 6. 14. 21. 319.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) INE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 il and gas sales and operating revenues roduction costs	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5 5 139.0 32.0	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4 57.6	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8 65.8	1 4 3.1 	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7) =====	1 2.4 4.0	19. 6. 14. 21. 319.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) INE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 il and gas sales and operating revenues roduction costs epreciation, depletion and amortization	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5 5 139.0 32.0	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4 57.6 25.8	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8 65.8 25.1	.1 .4 .3.1 .4 .4 .1 .1 .1 .5 .1	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7) =====	1 2.4 4.0	19. 6. 14. 21. 319. 113.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) ENE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 il and gas sales and operating revenues roduction costs epreciation, depletion and amortization xploration expenses	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5 5 139.0 32.0 50.9	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4 57.6 25.8 26.7	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8 65.8 25.1 30.1		3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7) ======	1 2.4 4.0 40.2 25.7 4.7	19. 6. 14. 21. 319. 113. 119.
amortization Total exploration expenses elling and general expenses ncome tax provisions (benefits) esults of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) INE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 il and gas sales and operating revenues roduction costs epreciation, depletion and amortization xploration expenses Dry hole costs	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5 5 139.0 32.0 50.9 11.4	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4 57.6 25.8 26.7	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8 65.8 25.1	.1 .4 .3.1 .4 .4 	3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7) ======	1 2.4 4.0 40.2 25.7 4.7	19. 6. 14. 21. 319. 113. 119.
amortization Total exploration expenses Total exploration expenses recling and general expenses for the explorations (benefits) results of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest) TINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1998 Til and gas sales and operating revenues roduction costs repreciation, depletion and amortization Exploration expenses	7.2 5 4.0 7.4 5 13.5 5 139.0 32.0 50.9 11.4	2.9 1.3 1.7 2.4 57.6 25.8 26.7	6.0 .7 3.2 1.8 65.8 25.1 30.1		3.6 .6 (.3) (3.7) ======	1 2.4 4.0 40.2 25.7 4.7	6.1 14.1 21.1 319.1 113.1 119.1 23.1

Undeveloped lease amortization	15.5	8.4	4.2		13.4		41.5
	4.9	3.0	.1	-	-	-	8.0
Total exploration expenses	20.4	11.4	4.3	-	13.4	-	49.5
Selling and general expen Income tax provisions	ses 11.9	4.5	2.8	.1	1.1	.1	20.5
(benefits)	8.0	(6.2)	5.0	(.8)	(.1)	3.1	9.0
Results of operations (excluding corporate							
overhead and interest)	\$ 15.8	(4.6)	(1.5)	2.7	(12.5)	6.6	6.5
NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1997 Oil and gas sales and operating revenues	\$196.7	74.0	90.7	26.1	1.3	49.2	438.0
Production costs	33.5	28.0	25.0	20.1	1.5	28.2	438.0
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	59.4	22.7	33.5	-	-	4.8	-
Exploration expenses Dry hole costs Geological and geophysi	25.5 cal	3.1	5.0	-	3.3	-	36.9
costs	8.6	5.6	1.4	-	4.4	-	20.0
Other costs	1.7	. 6	1.5	-	3.0	-	6.8
Undeveloped lease	35.8	9.3	7.9		10.7		63.7
amortization	5.0	2.7	-	-	.1	-	7.8
Total exploration expenses	40.8	12.0	7.9		10.8	-	71.5
Selling and general expen Income tax provisions	ses 10.6	3.9	1.8	.3	1.5	.1	18.2
(benefits)	18.0	2.0	12.4	.7	(.1)	6.0	39.0
Results of operations (excluding corporate overhead and interest)	\$ 34.4	5.4	10.1	8.4	(10.9)	10.1	57.5

*Excludes special items.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company and its subsidiaries are engaged in a number of legal proceedings, all of which the Company considers routine and incidental to its business and none of which is material as defined by the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

- (a) The Exhibit Index on page 16 of this Form 10-Q report lists the exhibits that are hereby filed or incorporated by reference.
- (b) No reports on Form 8-K have been filed for the quarter covered by this report.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

> MURPHY OIL CORPORATION (Registrant)

By /s/ Ronald W. Herman

Ronald W. Herman, Controller (Chief Accounting Officer and Duly Authorized Officer)

November 12, 1998 (Date)

Exhibit No.

- -----
- 3.1 Certificate of Incorporation of Murphy Oil Corporation as of September 25, 1986
- 3.2 Bylaws of Murphy Oil Corporation at January 24, 1996
- 4 Instruments Defining the Rights of Security Holders. Murphy is party to several long-term debt instruments in addition to the one in Exhibit 4.1, none of which authorizes securities exceeding 10 percent of the total consolidated assets of Murphy and its subsidiaries. Pursuant to Regulation S-K, item 601(b), paragraph 4(iii)(A), Murphy agrees to furnish a copy of each such instrument to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request.
- 4.1 Credit Agreement among Murphy Oil Corporation and certain subsidiaries and the Chase Manhattan Bank et al as of November 13, 1997
- 4.2 Rights Agreement dated as of December 6, 1989, between Murphy Oil Corporation and Harris Trust Company of New York, as Rights Agent
- 4.3 Amendment No. 1 dated as of April 6, 1998, to Rights Agreement dated as of December 6, 1989, between Murphy Oil Corporation and Harris Trust Company of New York, as Rights Agent
- 10.1 1987 Management Incentive Plan as amended February 7, 1990, retroactive to February 3, 1988
- 10.2 1992 Stock Incentive Plan as amended May 14, 1997
- 10.3 Employee Stock Purchase Plan
- 27 Financial Data Schedule for the nine months ended September 30, 1998

Page Number or Incorporation by Reference to

- Exhibit 3.1, Page Ex 3.1-1, of Murphy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1996
- Exhibit 3.2, Page Ex. 3.2-1, of Murphy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997

Exhibit 4.1, Page Ex. 4.1-0, of Murphy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997

Exhibit 4.1, Page Ex. 4.1-0, of Murphy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1994

Exhibit 3 of Murphy's Form 8-A/A, Amendment No. 1, filed April 14, 1998, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Exhibit 10.2, Page Ex. 10.2-0, of Murphy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1994

Exhibit 10.2, Page Ex. 10.2-1, of Murphy's Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 1997

Exhibit 99.01 of Murphy's Form S-8 Registration Statement filed May 19, 1997, under the Securities Act of 1933

Only in electronic filing

Exhibits other than those listed above have been omitted since they are either not required or not applicable.

THIS FINANCIAL DATA SCHEDULE CONTAINS SUMMARY UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT SEPTEMBER 30, 1998, AND THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE NINE MONTHS THEN ENDED OF MURPHY OIL CORPORATION AND CONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO SUCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

1,000

9-M0S DEC-31-1998 SEP-30-1998 28,879 0 255,016 12,069 . 147,555 469,684 4,609,689 2,882,789 2,260,630 435,435 268,069 0 0 48,775 1,014,348 2,260,630 1,265,626 1,322,615 1,140,803 1,140,803 49,527 0 6,199 77,055 30,300 46,755 0 0 0 46,755 1.04 1.04