KBSV RESEARCH



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Vietnam Oil & Gas

MOIT may revamp basic pricing calculation

15-day prices for RON95 flat and E5 RON 92 down slightly by 0.4%

Retail gasoline pump prices remain flat in the 15-day repricing calculation from the Ministry of Industry & Trade on September 26. RON95 (premium) prices were unchanged at VND14,980 per litre and E5 RON92 (biofuel) fell modestly by 0.4% to VND14,210 per litre. Other products also fell in line alongside international pricing, with diesel down 3.4% to VND11,120, kerosene down 1.6% to VND9,440 and fuel oil prices falling by 1.1% to VND10,820. Average ex-factory prices were also largely flat and only fell by 0.2% during the same 15-day period. Stable pricing for both retail and ex-factory prices largely reflects slower recovery from reopening economies and stalled oil prices. The government also tapped the *Petroleum Price Stabilization Fund* to mitigate the impact on inflation and set the subsidy at VND500 per litre for RON95 (premium), VND1,100 per litre for E5RON92 (biofuel) and VND350 per kilogram for fuel oil.

MOIT may reprice retail prices three times a month from two times now

The Ministry of Industry & Trade (MOIT) is currently surveying gas station companies as it considers changing the basic price calculation to the 10-day mean of Platts pricing for Singapore ex-factory product prices instead of the current 15-day mean. The MOIT hopes to better regulate and manage inflation by allowing retail pump prices to more closely reflect global market movements in product prices. Should this change happen, most of the negative impact for gas station companies like Petrolimex (PLX) and PV OIL (OIL) will still likely occur during periods of sharp oil price drops as seen earlier this year due to the pandemic. Nonetheless, we believe a pricing mechanism that more closely tracks international product prices should be a net benefit to gas station companies during normal periods of pricing activity.

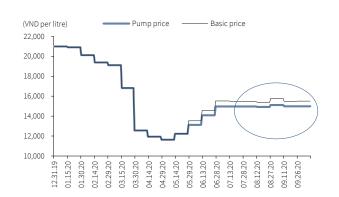
Reiterate our BUY on PLX with 12-month target price of VND59,800

We reiterate our BUY rating on Petrolimex (PLX, BUY, TP VND59,800) with 12–month target price of VND59,800 on expectations that PLX will continue its strategy to open/acquire at least 80 COCO stations per year to focus on the high-margin retail segment. Near-term share price performance should also benefit from the steady recovery in retail pump prices and ex-factory prices that should stabilize margins and allow 2H earnings to benefit from higher sales volume on demand recovery.

Neutral maintain

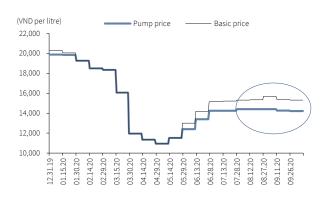
Recommendations			
PV Gas (GAS)	Buy		
Current Price	VND73,100		
Target Price	VND89,200		
Petrolimex (PLX)	Buy		
Current Price	VND51,600		
Target Price	VND59,800		
PV Transportation (PVT)	Buy		
Current Price	VND13,150		
Target Price	VND16,800		
Binh Son Refinery (BSR)	Buy		
Current Price	VND6,800		
Target Price	VND8,100		
PV Technical Services (PVS)	Hold		
Current Price	VND13,600		
Target Price	VND11,000		
PV Drilling & Well Services (PVD)	Hold		
Current Price	VND11,600		
Target Price	VND9,600		

Fig 1. Vietnam oil & gas - RON95 pump prices (premium), Jan 20-Sep 20 (VND per litre)



Note: Fuel subsidy provided when the basic price is higher than the pump price. Source: Ministry of Industry & Trade, KB Securities Vietnam

Fig 2. Vietnam oil & gas -E5 RON92 pump prices (biofuel), Jan 20-Sep 20 (VND per litre)



Note: Fuel subsidy provided when the basic price is higher than the pump price. Source: Ministry of Industry & Trade, KB Securities Vietnam

Table 1. Vietnam oil & gas - Proposed & current basic price calculation

Proposed basic price calculation

Basic price = import price x % import weight + domestic price x % domestic weight;

with:

Import price = 10-day average CIF MOPS Singapore +/- premium (if any) + pre-norm transportation fee (from overseas) + pre-norm expense + stabilization fund provision expense + markup + environment tax + other expenses

Export price = 10-day average CIF MOPS Singapore +/- premium (if any) + pre-norm transportation fee (from local refinery) + pre-norm expense + stabilization fund provision expense + markup + environment tax + other expenses

Current basic price calculation

Basic price = [(15-day average of CIF MOPS Singapore + import tax + excise tax) x (exchange rate) x (10% VAT)] + [(pre-norm expense + VND300/litre stabilization fund provision expense + VND300/litre markup + environment tax + other expenses)]

Source: Ministry of Industry & Trade, KB Securities Vietnam

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Investment ratings & definitions

Investment Ratings for Stocks

 $\underline{\text{(based on expectations for absolute price gains over the next 6 months)}}$

Buy:	Hold:	Sell:
+15% or more	+15% to -15%	-15% or more

Investment Ratings for Sectors

(based on expectations for absolute price gains over the next 6 months)

Positive:	Neutral:	Negative:
Outperform the market	Perform in line with the market	Underperform the market

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