Buy/Sell Rating: Neutral

S&P 500: 820 Intraday

## El Paso Corporation Revise from Sell to Neutral

	Price			Net							
	(\$/sh)		Market	Present	Debt/		EV/	EV/		Div'd	PV/
	11-Oct	Shares	Cap	Value	Present	McDep	Sales	Ebitda	P/E	NTM	Ebitda
Symbol	2002	(mm)	(\$mm)	(\$/sh)	Value	Ratio	NTM	NTM	NTM	(%)	NTM
EP	5.86	590	3,500	20.00	0.66	0.76	2.1	5.8	3	14.8	7.7
McDep Ratio = Market cap and Debt to present value of oil and gas and other businesses											
EV = Enterprise Value = Market Cap and Debt:										US\$mm	
Ebitda = Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization:										US\$mm	4,490
NTM = Next Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2003; P/E = Stock Price to Earnings											
PV = Present Value of energy businesses:										US\$mm	34,500
Present Value of Equity:										US\$mm	

## **Summary and Recommendation**

We no longer recommend sale of the shares of El Paso Corporation (EP) because market cap has shriveled to a shell of its former self. El Paso's energy infrastructure assets appear to be priced at a low McDep Ratio and the stock is down some 73% in less than two months. Yet we still do not want the excessive open and hidden debt of El Paso when high debt entities are deflating. Finally, the company's use of a high greed partnership to attempt to reduce excessive debt appears anathema to us. While we now rate El Paso Corporation shares Neutral, we continue to recommend sale of El Paso Energy Partners (EPN).

Kurt H. Wulff, CFA