# PetroChina Company Ltd. Understated Natural Gas Resources 

| Symbol | PTR | Ebitda Next Twelve Months ending 6/30/06 (US\$mm) | 37,000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rating | Buy | North American Natural Gas/Ebitda (\%) | 0 |
| Price (US\$/sh) | 81.80 | Natural Gas and Oil Production/Ebitda (\%) | 87 |
| Pricing Date | 8/19/05 | Adjusted Reserves/Production NTM | 13.9 |
| Shares (mm) | 1758 | EV/Ebitda | 4.2 |
| Market Capitalization (US\$mm) | 144,000 | PV/Ebitda | 6.0 |
| Debt (US\$mm) | 9,000 | Undeveloped Reserves (\%) | 27 |
| Enterprise Value (EV) (US\$mm) | 153,000 | Natural Gas and Oil Ebitda (US\$/boe) | 32.51 |
| Present Value (PV) (US\$mm) | 220,000 | Present Value Proven Reserves(US\$/boe) | 12.15 |
| Net Present Value (US\$/share) | 120 | Present Value Proven Reserves(US\$/mcfe) | 2.03 |
| Debt/Present Value | 0.04 | Earnings Next Twelve Months (US\$/sh) | 10.87 |
| McDep Ratio - EV/PV | 0.69 | Price/Earnings Next Twelve Months | 8 |
| Dividend Yield (\%/year) | 4.0 | Indicated Annual Dividend (US\$/sh) | 3.24 |
| Note: Estimated cash flow and earnings tied to one-year futures prices for oil and natural gas. Reported results may vary widely from estimates. Estimated present value per share revised only infrequently. The Peoples Republic of China holds $90 \%$ of the outstanding shares. |  |  |  |

## Summary and Recommendation

Down $14 \%$ from an intraday high of $\$ 95.65$ on August 2, the stock of buy-recommended PetroChina Company Ltd. (PTR) ranks among the most undervalued of leading global oil producers. Some $98 \%$ of the assets of the company are in its fast-growing home country despite a recently completed deal to acquire reserves outside China for $\$ 2.5$ billion. The company receives world prices for crude oil. Apparently it receives somewhat less than world prices for refined products. Currently reported natural gas price is only about a fifth the long-term oil equivalent as the Chinese government wants to encourage substitution for highly polluting coal. Financial results for the first half of 2005 are likely to be reported this week. The stock has $47 \%$ appreciation potential to net present value. Financial risk appears low though there is obvious political risk.

## A Small Step to Expand Internationally

Politically, the fear of China gaining any significant control of international oil and gas resources and using it to deprive other countries seems unfounded. To acquire or develop international capacity would take a great deal of capital that China shows little sign of being willing to spend. PetroChina's international deal is small. Fellow Chinese producer, buy-recommended CNOOC Ltd. (CEO) bid late and low for buy-recommended Unocal ultimately acquired by buyrecommended Chevron (CVX) at an advantageous price.

Similarly, investor fears that PetroChina would be driven to waste capital as an instrument of government policy also appear exaggerated. When a deal was finally announced on June 10, 2005 and approved by in a special meeting of shareholders on August 16, 2005 it involved a modest investment to purchase oil reserves primarily in Kazakhstan. Additional interests give the company exposure to activity in Africa and South America.

Please see disclosures on the final page.

August 21, 2005

## Hidden Value in Natural Gas

Profits from crude oil production have been the primary driver of the company's success as a publicly held stock. Natural gas seems likely to gain in importance as it becomes more widely used and appreciated for its cleanliness and convenience. Our arbitrarily limited adjusted reserve life of 20 years suggests unrecognized potential. Current cash flow generation of an estimated $\$ 1.4$ billion for the next twelve months is held back by a low price of less than $\$ 2$ a million btu. The current quote for natural gas delivered over the next six years in the U.S. is about four times that at $\$ 8$. We think that quote is moving to $\$ 12$ if oil stays at $\$ 60$ a barrel.
$\left.\begin{array}{lrrrrr} & \begin{array}{c}\text { PetroChina } \\ \\ \text { Functional Cash Flow and Present Value }\end{array} & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \text { Present }\end{array}\right]$

|  | PetroChina Company Limited Next Twelve Months Operations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{array}{r} Q 4 \\ 12 / 31 / 04 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Year } \\ & 2004 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} Q 1 \\ 3 / 31 / 05 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} Q 2 \\ 6 / 30 / 05 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Q3E } \\ 9 / 30 / 05 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} Q 4 E \\ 12 / 31 / 05 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Year } \\ 2005 E \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} Q 1 E \\ 3 / 31 / 06 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} Q 2 E \\ 6 / 30 / 06 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Next <br> Twelve <br> Months <br> 6/30/06 |
| Volume |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural gas (bcf) | 234 | 839 | 261 | 245 | 267 | 285 | 1,058 | 288 | 300 | 1,140 |
| Natural Gas (mmcfd) | 2,545 | 2,293 | 2,899 | 2,697 | 2,900 | 3,100 | 2,899 | 3,200 | 3,300 | 3,124 |
| Days | 92 | 366 | 90 | 91 | 92 | 92 | 365 | 90 | 91 | 365 |
| Oil (mmb) | 193 | 778 | 200 | 197 | 199 | 199 | 794 | 195 | 197 | 789 |
| Oil (mbd) | 2,093 | 2,126 | 2,221 | 2,162 | 2,162 | 2,162 | 2,176 | 2,162 | 2,162 | 2,162 |
| Total gas \& oil (mmb) | 232 | 918 | 243 | 238 | 243 | 246 | 971 | 243 | 247 | 979 |
| Total gas \& oil (mbd)) | 2,518 | 2,508 | 2,704 | 2,611 | 2,645 | 2,678 | 2,659 | 2,695 | 2,712 | 2,682 |
| Price |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural gas (\$/mcf) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Henry Hub (\$/mmbtu) | 7.10 | 6.15 | 6.27 | 6.76 | 7.85 | 9.77 | 7.66 | 10.30 | 8.51 | 9.11 |
| Company | 1.96 | 2.00 | 1.98 | 1.92 | 1.92 | 1.92 | 1.93 | 1.92 | 1.92 | 1.92 |
| Oil (\$/bbl) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WTI Cushing | 48.31 | 41.44 | 49.65 | 53.05 | 61.76 | 64.40 | 57.22 | 65.29 | 65.08 | 64.13 |
| Company | 40.97 | 33.88 | 37.63 | 49.30 | 57.39 | 59.85 | 51.03 | 60.68 | 60.48 | 59.59 |
| Total gas \& oil (\$/bbl) | 36.05 | 30.54 | 33.03 | 42.80 | 49.01 | 50.53 | 43.87 | 50.95 | 50.55 | 50.26 |
| Revenue (\$mm) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural Gas | 459 | 1,675 | 517 | 471 | 512 | 547 | 2,046 | 552 | 576 | 2,187 |
| Oil | 7,891 | 26,362 | 7,522 | 9,698 | 11,413 | 11,902 | 40,536 | 11,804 | 11,897 | 47,016 |
| Total | 8,350 | 28,037 | 8,039 | 10,169 | 11,925 | 12,449 | 42,582 | 12,356 | 12,473 | 49,204 |
| Total(RMB) | 69,011 | 231,710 | 66,437 | 84,040 | 98,553 | 102,887 | 351,916 | 102,118 | 103,084 | 406,642 |

Please see disclosures on the final page.

Independent Stock Idea
August 21, 2005
PetroChina Company Limited
Next Twelve Months Financial Results

|  | $\begin{array}{r} H 1 \\ 6 / 30 / 04 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} H 2 \\ 12 / 31 / 04 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Year } \\ & 2004 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} H 1 E \\ 6 / 30 / 05 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} H 2 E \\ 12 / 31 / 05 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Year } \\ 2005 E \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} H 1 E \\ 6 / 30 / 06 \end{array}$ | Next <br> Twelve <br> Months <br> 6/30/06 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NY Harbor 3-2-1 (\$/bbl) | 8.74 | 6.75 | 7.74 | 8.38 | 11.84 | 10.11 | 11.03 | 11.43 |
| Revenue (RMB) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural Gas |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oil |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Upstream (from quarterly table) | 102,266 | 129,444 | 231,710 | 150,477 | 201,440 | 351,916 | 205,202 | 406,642 |
| Downstream Value Added | 77,286 | 79,637 | 156,923 | 79,637 | 79,637 | 159,274 | 79,637 | 159,274 |
| Total | 179,552 | 209,081 | 388,633 | 230,113 | 281,077 | 511,190 | 284,839 | 565,916 |
| Expense |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Production |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 85,013 | 97,693 | 182,706 | 108,209 | 133,691 | 241,900 | 135,572 | 269,263 |
| Ebitda (RMB) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exploration and Production | 73,124 | 92,060 | 165,183 | 102,576 | 128,057 | 230,633 | 129,939 | 257,996 |
| Other | 21,415 | 19,328 | 40,744 | 24,007 | 33,898 | 57,904 | 31,592 | 65,490 |
| Total | 94,539 | 111,388 | 205,927 | 121,904 | 147,386 | 269,290 | 149,267 | 296,653 |
| Exploration | 5,630 | 6,093 | 11,723 | 6,093 | 6,093 | 12,186 | 6,093 | 12,186 |
| Deprec., Deplet., \& Amort. Other non cash | 24,673 | 21,738 | 46,411 | 21,738 | 21,738 | 43,476 | 21,738 | 43,476 |
| Ebit | 64,236 | 83,557 | 147,793 | 94,073 | 119,555 | 213,628 | 121,436 | 240,991 |
| Interest | 925 | 1,378 | 2,303 | 1,378 | 1,378 | 2,756 | 1,378 | 2,756 |
| Ebt | 63,311 | 82,179 | 145,490 | 92,695 | 118,177 | 210,872 | 120,058 | 238,235 |
| Income Tax | 18,019 | 24,544 | 42,563 | 32,443 | 41,362 | 73,805 | 42,020 | 83,382 |
| Net Income (RMB) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exploration and Production | 52,701 | 72,870 | 125,571 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other | 11,549 | 10,622 | 22,171 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unallocated | $(18,958)$ | $(25,857)$ | $(44,815)$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 45,292 | 57,635 | 102,927 | 60,252 | 76,815 | 137,067 | 78,038 | 154,853 |
| Shares (millions) | 1,758 | 1,758 | 1,758 | 1,758 | 1,758 | 1,758 | 1,758 | 1,758 |
| Earnings per share (RMB) | 25.76 | 32.78 | 58.55 | 34.27 | 43.69 | 77.97 | 44.39 | 88.08 |
| Ebitda Margin (E\&P) | 72\% | 71\% | 71\% | 68\% | 64\% | 66\% | 63\% | 63\% |
| Tax Rate | 28\% | 30\% | 29\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% | 35\% |

Please see disclosures on the final page.

## Oil and Gas Producers

Rank by McDep Ratio: Market Cap and Debt to Present Value

|  | Price <br> (\$/sh) |  |  |  | Net |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Market | Present | Debt/ |  |
|  | Symbol/ <br> Rating |  | 19-Aug | Shares |  | Value | Present | McDep |
| Mega Cap |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BP plc | BP | B | 68.06 | 3,545 | 241,000 | 82.00 | 0.10 | 0.85 |
| Total S.A. | TOT | B | 128.10 | 1,182 | 151,000 | 160.00 | 0.12 | 0.83 |
| Exxon Mobil Corporation | XOM | B | 58.82 | 6,370 | 375,000 | 74.00 | 0.04 | 0.80 |
| Royal Dutch Shell plc | RDS-A | B | 64.47 | 3,372 | 217,000 | 84.00 | 0.11 | 0.79 |
| Chevron Corporation | CVX | B | 59.92 | 2,256 | 135,000 | 90.00 | 0.12 | 0.71 |
| Total or Median |  |  |  |  | 1,119,000 |  | 0.11 | 0.80 |
| Producer/Refiners - Large Cap and Mid Cap |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kinder Morgan, Inc. | KMI | S2 | 92.34 | 123 | 11,370 | 20.00 | 0.76 | 1.88 |
| Imperial Oil Limited (30\%) | IMO | B | 90.82 | 104 | 9,410 | 84.00 | 0.09 | 1.07 |
| Marathon Oil Corporation | MRO | B | 60.20 | 367 | 22,090 | 65.00 | 0.27 | 0.95 |
| Petro-Canada | PCZ | B | 76.39 | 263 | 20,090 | 84.00 | 0.18 | 0.93 |
| Suncor Energy | SU | B | 55.50 | 461 | 25,590 | 68.00 | 0.10 | 0.83 |
| Norsk Hydro ASA | NHY | B | 101.70 | 251 | 25,530 | 130.00 | 0.13 | 0.81 |
| Lukoil Oil Company | LUKOY | B | 45.70 | 830 | 38,000 | 65.00 | 0.02 | 0.71 |
| PetroChina Company Ltd (10\%) | PTR | B | 81.80 | 176 | 14,380 | 120.00 | 0.04 | 0.69 |
| ConocoPhillips | COP | B | 63.07 | 1,419 | 89,500 | 100.00 | 0.15 | 0.69 |
| Total or Median |  |  |  |  | 256,000 |  | 0.13 | 0.83 |

## Oil Price Continues in Long-Term Uptrend

How high can it go? The historical parallel with the late 1970s suggests oil price could be higher. The trend seems well-defined and there is no obvious limit. The summer peak consumption period may be well along, but the northern hemisphere winter peak is not far away.

In any event there is a cushion in our analysis. The futures market is above $\$ 60$. Our present value calculations use $\$ 50$. PetroChina's McDep Ratio of 0.69 implies that PTR stock may be priced for just $\$ 34$ a barrel.

Oil Six-Year Futures Strip and 40-Week Average (Constant Delivery Volume for 72 Months)


Kurt H. Wulff, CFA

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