

# Surviving THE FLOOD of Light Crude Oil

**Impact on Refineries, Infrastructure and Markets**

**August 19-20, 2014 – The Houstonian Hotel, Houston, TX**

Light, sweet crude oil is flooding into the Gulf Coast region, wreaking havoc with refinery operations, transportation infrastructure and markets.

Unthinkable, little more than three years ago, the Shale Revolution has unleashed a torrent of light crude from the Bakken, Eagle Ford, Permian and other plays.

The result is an imbalance of light versus heavy oil supplies on the Gulf Coast. What are the challenges for refiners? Where are the opportunities for midstreamers? What are the price implications for the market?



To answer these questions and many more, two of the most respected authorities in the energy business – RBN Energy and Turner, Mason & Company – have joined forces to host, *"Surviving the Flood of Light Crude Oil,"* a premiere event to be held in Houston, Texas on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 19-20, 2014.



THE HOUSTONIAN

111 N. Post Oak Lane  
Houston, TX 77024  
800.231.2759

# Surviving the Flood

In less than four years, U.S. crude oil production has grown by almost 50%, up an astronomical 2.5 MMb/d to more than 8 MMb/d. That is good news for domestic refiners, who are enjoying a market of ample supplies and attractive prices. But there is a looming problem in the refining sector. Almost all of the U.S. production growth is light crude oil, 40 degrees API or higher. Some of the increased volume is not crude oil at all – it is condensate – 50 degrees API and higher, which gets classified as crude oil. The result is a lightening of the crude slate for U.S. refineries, when only a few years ago the prevalent view was that the crude slate was becoming heavier, mostly due to the anticipated growth of heavy Canadian bitumen imports.

Many U.S. refiners simply do not have the capacity to run these lighter-than-planned crudes, at least without significantly limiting charge rates. Their refineries are not configured to process the lighter crudes due to crude distillation column limitations, overhead cooling issues, light ends recovery capacity, naphtha handling capabilities and a variety of other problems and constraints.

One way this imbalance could be resolved is by exporting some of the light crude, while continuing to import more suitable, heavier grades. However, exports of crude oil (except for Canadian destinations) are restricted under current U.S. law. Consequently, the market is left with some big questions:

Why are refineries limited in the portion of light crude that can be run? What are the current limits on light crude runs? If U.S. refineries cannot absorb all of this volume, where will all this light crude go? How can you survive and thrive the flood of light crude bearing down on the market?

RBN Energy and Turner, Mason & Company have joined forces to answer these questions and many more in the most comprehensive, in-depth assessment of light crude production, infrastructure, refining and pricing issues available. And all of this content will be packed into two half-days in Houston, August 19-20.

## Register Now...

### Registration Fees:

Early Bird	\$1,895
After July 15	\$2,265

### How to Register:

[rbnenergy.com/flood](http://rbnenergy.com/flood)

### Questions?

Phone: 888.612.9488

Email: [info@rbnenergy.com](mailto:info@rbnenergy.com)

*Presentation slides will be provided via USB drive and internet download during the conference. Bring your laptop or tablet, and make sure that a PDF viewer is enabled*

## Discounted Lodging:

RBN Energy has reserved a limited number of rooms at The Houstonian for a discounted rate of \$189 per night, not including taxes. This rate will be honored through July 29, 2014, depending on availability. Hotel reservations must be made directly through The Houstonian. Please mention this event. Phone reservations: 800.231.2759

## The Faculty



**E. Russell ("Rusty") Brazier, President –**  
RBN Energy



**Sandy Fielden, Managing Director, Energy Analytics –**  
RBN Energy



**Mike Leger, President –**  
Turner, Mason & Company



**John Auers, Executive Vice President –**  
Turner, Mason & Company



**Jim Jones, Senior Vice President –**  
Turner, Mason & Company



**John Mayes, Director of Special Studies –**  
Turner, Mason & Company



**Andy Hill, Senior Consultant –**  
Turner, Mason & Company

# Surviving the Flood of Light Crude Oil Schedule

The Houstonian – August 19-20, 2014 , Houston, Texas

## Tuesday, August 19

### Session 1: Anticipating the Flood

Tuesday PM 1:00

**Crude Markets in the Shale Revolution**

**Rusty Braziel, President**  
RBN Energy

**North American Crude/Condensate Production and impact on Imports**

**John Auers, Executive VP**  
Turner, Mason & Company

**Pipeline Constraints, Mid-Stream Build Out, Crude-by-Rail & by-Water**

**Rusty Braziel, President**  
RBN Energy

**Debate & Questions**

**Auers & Braziel**

3:00

**Break**

### Session 2: Preparing for the Flood

3:15

**Light Crude Oil and Condensate Forecast**

**Rusty Braziel, President**  
RBN Energy

**Where will the Light Crude Go?  
How much can refineries absorb?**

**John Auers, Executive VP**  
Turner, Mason & Company

**The Big Questions - Crude Oil Quality – Impact, Rules, Blending**

**Jim Jones, Senior VP**  
Turner, Mason & Company

4:45

**Debate & Questions**

**Braziel & Auers**

**Cocktail Reception (5:15-6:30)**

## Wednesday, August 20

Wednesday AM 8:00

**Review of Day 1 and Introduction to Day 2**

**Mike Leger, President**  
Turner, Mason & Company

### Session 3: Dealing with the Flood

8:15

**The Flood is Upon Us:**  
Light Crude Location Imbalances

**Sandy Fielden**  
Managing Director, RBN

**Downstream Investment Options:  
Refineries, Condensate Splitters,  
Diesel Hydroskimmers, etc.**

**Jim Jones, Senior VP**  
Turner, Mason & Company

**Refined Product Implications  
The Need for Product Exports**

**Andy Hill, Sr. Consultant**  
Turner, Mason & Company

9:45

**Break**

### Session 4: Surviving the Flood

10:00

**A Market in Flux: Price Differentials,  
Volatility and Elusive Equilibrium**

**Rusty Braziel, President**  
RBN Energy

**The Export Wild Card &  
Pricing Implications**

**John Auers, Executive VP**  
Turner, Mason & Company

**Pending Midstream Projects/Issues**

**John Mayes**  
Director of Special Studies  
Turner, Mason & Company

12:00

**What Does it all Mean?**

**Braziel & Auers**