MURPHY OIL CORP /DE
Form 10-Q
August 08, 2008
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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 June 30, 2008

OR

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

200 Peach Street	
P.O. Box 7000, El Dorado, Arkansas	**71731-7000**
(Address of principal executive offices)	**(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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange act.

Large accelerated filer	x	Accelerated filer	¨
Non-accelerated filer	¨	Smaller reporting company	¨

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). ¨ Yes x No

Number of shares of Common Stock, $1.00 par value, outstanding at June 30, 2008 was **190,434,726**.

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MURPHY OIL CORPORATION

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PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Thousands of dollars)

	(Unaudited) June 30, 2008	December 31, 2007
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 1,116,505	673,707
Short-term investments in marketable securities	345,072	
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of $7,373 in 2008 and $7,484 in 2007	1,867,986	1,420,601
Inventories, at lower of cost or market		
Crude oil and blend stocks	151,640	159,379
Finished products	432,317	315,977
Materials and supplies	172,794	151,291
Prepaid expenses	81,147	79,585
Deferred income taxes	89,484	86,252
Total current assets	4,256,945	2,886,792
Property, plant and equipment, at cost less accumulated depreciation, depletion and amortization of $3,672,435 in 2008 and $3,516,338 in 2007	7,430,872	7,109,822
Goodwill	44,605	51,450
Deferred charges and other assets	498,774	487,785
Total assets	$ 12,231,196	10,535,849
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY		
Current liabilities		
Current maturities of long-term debt	$ 3,070	5,208
Notes payable		7,561
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,366,712	1,987,710
Income taxes payable	325,711	108,783
Total current liabilities	2,695,493	2,109,262
Notes payable	1,540,118	1,513,015
Nonrecourse debt of a subsidiary		3,141
Deferred income taxes	1,036,177	916,910
Asset retirement obligations	360,425	336,107
Deferred credits and other liabilities	532,540	564,374
Minority interest		26,866
Stockholders equity		
Cumulative Preferred Stock, par $100, authorized 400,000 shares, none issued		
Common Stock, par $1.00, authorized 450,000,000 shares, issued 190,973,101 shares in 2008 and 189,972,970 shares in 2007	190,973	189,973

Capital in excess of par value	609,411	547,185
Retained earnings	4,940,967	3,983,998
Accumulated other comprehensive income	339,126	351,765
Treasury stock, 538,375 shares of Common Stock in 2008 and 258,821 shares in 2007, at cost	(14,034)	(6,747)
Total stockholders equity	6,066,443	5,066,174
Total liabilities and stockholders equity	$ 12,231,196	10,535,849

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, page 7.

The Exhibit Index is on page 30.

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Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (unaudited)

(Thousands of dollars, except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended June 30, 2008	Three Months Ended June 30, 2007	Six Months Ended June 30, 2008	Six Months Ended June 30, 2007
REVENUES				
Sales and other operating revenues	$ 8,268,139	4,614,598	14,758,013	8,042,184
Gain on sale of assets	91,860	455	134,246	808
Interest and other income	3,151	(1,426)	3,622	5,519
Total revenues	8,363,150	4,613,627	14,895,881	8,048,511
COSTS AND EXPENSES				
Crude oil and product purchases	6,660,439	3,654,703	11,816,490	6,379,087
Operating expenses	431,205	309,952	832,085	606,435
Exploration expenses, including undeveloped lease amortization	60,400	30,168	126,896	78,504
Selling and general expenses	55,569	54,729	114,457	107,718
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	165,272	114,740	338,094	222,727
Impairment of long-lived assets		40,708		40,708
Accretion of asset retirement obligations	5,128	3,802	10,284	7,264
Interest expense	21,551	17,121	42,704	32,610
Interest capitalized	(5,995)	(16,588)	(12,944)	(31,245)
Minority interest		(2)	298	24
Total costs and expenses	7,393,569	4,209,333	13,268,364	7,443,832
Income before income taxes	969,581	404,294	1,627,517	604,679
Income tax expense	350,377	154,052	599,321	243,803
NET INCOME	$ 619,204	250,242	1,028,196	360,876
INCOME PER COMMON SHARE				
NET INCOME BASIC	$ 3.27	1.33	5.43	1.93
NET INCOME DILUTED	$ 3.22	1.32	5.36	1.90
Average common shares outstanding basic	189,564,247	187,615,633	189,372,416	187,361,136
Average common shares outstanding diluted	192,263,483	190,160,989	191,832,034	189,954,414

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, page 7.

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Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (unaudited)

(Thousands of dollars)

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
	2008	**2007**	**2008**	**2007**
Net income	$ 619,204	250,242	1,028,196	360,876
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax				
Foreign currency translation	11,525	100,277	(12,034)	109,757
Retirement and postretirement benefit plan adjustments	884	5,628	(605)	5,628
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	$ 631,613	356,147	1,015,557	476,261

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, page 7.

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Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (unaudited)

(Thousands of dollars)

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2008	2007
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income	$ 1,028,196	360,876
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities		
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	338,094	222,727
Impairment of long-lived assets		40,708
Amortization of deferred major repair costs	13,176	10,062
Expenditures for asset retirements	(2,928)	(3,872)
Dry hole costs	11,005	28,420
Amortization of undeveloped leases	56,515	12,846
Accretion of asset retirement obligations	10,284	7,264
Deferred and noncurrent income tax charges	162,553	18,971
Pretax gain from disposition of assets	(134,246)	(808)
Net (increase) decrease in noncash operating working capital	616	(31,522)
Other operating activities, net	25,321	17,639
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,508,586	683,311
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Property additions and dry hole costs	(1,014,916)	(813,426)
Proceeds from sales of assets	360,677	17,944
Purchase of marketable securities	(345,072)	
Expenditures for major repairs	(33,152)	(8,214)
Other net	(11,615)	(6,924)
Net cash required by investing activities	(1,044,078)	(810,620)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Increase in notes payable	27,000	279,950
Decrease in nonrecourse debt of a subsidiary	(5,235)	(4,884)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plans	20,443	20,791
Excess tax benefits related to exercise of stock options	18,310	10,706
Cash dividends paid	(71,227)	(56,420)
Other		(759)
Net cash provided (required) by financing activities	(10,709)	249,384
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(11,001)	27,991
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	442,798	150,066
Cash and cash equivalents at January 1	673,707	543,390
Cash and cash equivalents at June 30	$ 1,116,505	693,456

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW ACTIVITIES		
Cash income taxes paid	$ 161,745	143,319
Interest paid more than (less than) amounts capitalized	29,774	(66)

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, page 7.

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Murphy Oil Corporation and Consolidated Subsidiaries

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY (unaudited)

(Thousands of dollars)

	Six Months Ended June 30, 2008	Six Months Ended June 30, 2007
Cumulative Preferred Stock par $100, authorized 400,000 shares, none issued		
Common Stock par $1.00, authorized 450,000,000 shares, issued 190,973,101 shares at June 30, 2008 and 188,767,558 shares at June 30, 2007		
Balance at beginning of period	$ 189,973	187,692
Exercise of stock options	1,000	1,043
Issuance of time-lapse restricted stock		33
Balance at end of period	190,973	188,768
Capital in Excess of Par Value		
Balance at beginning of period	547,185	454,860
Exercise of stock options, including income tax benefits	39,958	30,717
Restricted stock transactions and other	6,961	3,794
Stock-based compensation	15,307	11,365
Sale of stock under employee stock purchase plans		584
Balance at end of period	609,411	501,320
Retained Earnings		
Balance at beginning of period	3,983,998	3,349,832
Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles		(5,010)
Net income for the period	1,028,196	360,876
Cash dividends	(71,227)	(56,420)
Balance at end of period	4,940,967	3,649,278
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income		
Balance at beginning of period	351,765	131,999
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle		1,345
Foreign currency translation gains (losses), net of income taxes	(12,034)	109,757
Retirement and postretirement benefit plan adjustments, net of income taxes	(605)	5,628
Balance at end of period	339,126	248,729
Treasury Stock		
Balance at beginning of period	(6,747)	(3,110)
Sale of stock under employee stock purchase plans	363	620
Cancellation of performance-based restricted stock and forfeitures	(7,650)	(4,396)
Balance at end of period	(14,034)	(6,886)

Total Stockholders Equity	$ 6,066,443	4,581,209

See notes to consolidated financial statements, page 7

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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 2 through 6 of this Form 10-Q report.

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, 2007. In the opinion of Murphy s management, the unaudited financial statements presented herein include all accruals necessary to present fairly the Company s financial position at June 30, 2008, and the results of operations, cash flows and changes in stockholders equity for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. In preparing the financial statements of the Company in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, management has made a number of estimates and assumptions related to the reporting of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results may differ from the estimates.

Financial statements and notes to consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q report should be read in conjunction with the Company s 2007 Form 10-K report, as certain notes and other pertinent information have been abbreviated or omitted in this report. Financial results for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2008 are not necessarily indicative of future results.

The financial information for the second quarter and first six months of 2008, as furnished to the SEC on Form 8-K on July 30, 2008, is amended with the filing of this Form 10-Q to include subsequent exploration expense of $12.5 million ($7.8 million after tax).

Note B Property, Plant and Equipment

The FASB Staff Position (FSP) 19-1 applies to companies that use the successful efforts method of accounting and it clarifies that exploratory well costs should continue to be capitalized when the well has found a sufficient quantity of reserves to justify its completion as a producing well and the company is making sufficient progress assessing the reserves and the economic and operating viability of the project.

At June 30, 2008, the Company had total capitalized exploratory well costs pending the determination of proved reserves of $282.0 million. The following table reflects the net changes in capitalized exploratory well costs during the six-month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007.

(Thousands of dollars)	**2008**	**2007**
Beginning balance at January 1	$ 272,155	315,445
Additions pending the determination of proved reserves	16,748	19,063
Reclassifications to proved properties based on the determination of proved reserves	(6,869)	(7,168)
Balance at June 30	$ 282,034	327,340

The following table provides an aging of capitalized exploratory well costs based on the date the drilling was completed for each individual well and the number of projects for which exploratory well costs have been capitalized. The projects are aged based on the last well drilled in the project.

	June 30,					
	2008			**2007**		
(Thousands of dollars)	**Amount**	**No. of Wells**	**No. of Projects**	**Amount**	**No. of Wells**	**No. of Projects**
Aging of capitalized well costs:						
Zero to one year	$ 19,891	2	1	$ 36,561	15	1
One to two years	26,473	11	1	133,806	24	1
Two to three years	122,796	19	2	130,973	13	7
Three years or more	112,874	11	6	26,000	3	2

$ 282,034	43	10	$ 327,340	55	11

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd.)

Note B Property, Plant and Equipment ***(Contd.)***

Of the $262.1 million of exploratory well costs capitalized more than one year at June 30, 2008, $169.5 million is in Malaysia, $60.2 million is in the Republic of Congo, $27.0 million is in the U.S., and $5.4 million is in Canada. In Malaysia either further appraisal or development drilling is planned and/or development studies/plans are in various stages of completion. In the Republic of Congo a development program is underway for the offshore Azurite field. In the U.S. drilling and development operations are planned, and in Canada a continuing drilling and development program is underway.

In May 2008, the Company sold its interest in the Lloydminster area properties in Western Canada for a pretax gain of $91.3 million ($67.9 million after-tax). In January 2008, the Company sold its interest in Berkana Energy Corporation and recorded a pretax gain of $42.3 million ($40.4 million after-tax).

Note C Employee and Retiree Benefit Plans

The Company has defined benefit pension plans that are principally noncontributory and cover most full-time employees. All pension plans are funded except for the U.S. and Canadian nonqualified supplemental plans and the U.S. directors plan. All U.S. tax qualified plans meet the funding requirements of federal laws and regulations. Contributions to foreign plans are based on local laws and tax regulations. The Company also sponsors health care and life insurance benefit plans, which are not funded, that cover most retired U.S. employees. The health care benefits are contributory; the life insurance benefits are noncontributory.

The table that follows provides the components of net periodic benefit expense for the three-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007.

	Three Months Ended June 30,			
	2008	2007	2008	2007
(Thousands of dollars)	**Pension Benefits**		**Postretirement Benefits**	
Service cost	$ 4,562	2,759	628	537
Interest cost	6,673	6,268	1,285	1,024
Expected return on plan assets	(5,829)	(5,605)		
Amortization of prior service cost	340	350	(66)	(62)
Amortization of transitional asset	(131)	(121)		
Recognized actuarial loss	1,025	1,451	421	373
Net periodic benefit expense	$ 6,640	5,102	2,268	1,872

	Six Months Ended June 30,			
	2008	2007	2008	2007
(Thousands of dollars)	**Pension Benefits**		**Postretirement Benefits**	
Service cost	$ 9,100	5,443	1,237	1,074
Interest cost	13,414	12,272	2,535	2,048
Expected return on plan assets	(11,686)	(10,951)		
Amortization of prior service cost	684	696	(131)	(124)
Amortization of transitional asset	(263)	(234)		
Recognized actuarial loss	2,041	2,840	830	746
Net periodic benefit expense	$ 13,290	10,066	4,471	3,744

The increase in net periodic benefit expense in 2008 compared to 2007 is primarily due to the December 1, 2007 purchase of the remaining 70% interest in the Milford Haven, Wales refinery.

Beginning in 2008 the Company has reduced its expected annual return on U.S. retirement plan assets from 7.0% to 6.5%.

Murphy previously disclosed in its financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2007, that it expected to contribute $56.6 million to its defined benefit pension plans and $4.7 million to its postretirement benefits plan during 2008. During the six-month period ended June 30, 2008, the Company made contributions of $31.7 million and remaining funding in 2008 for the Company s domestic and foreign defined benefit pension and postretirement plans is anticipated to be $29.6 million.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd.)

Note D Incentive Plans

SFAS No. 123R, Share Based Payment, requires that the cost resulting from all share-based payment transactions be recognized as an expense in the financial statements using a fair value-based measurement method over the periods that the awards vest. The Company adopted SFAS No. 123R on January 1, 2006. Prior to 2006, the Company used APB No. 25 to account for stock-based compensation.

The 2007 Annual Incentive Plan (2007 Annual Plan) authorizes the Executive Compensation Committee (the Committee) to establish specific performance goals associated with annual cash awards that may be earned by officers, executives and other key employees. Cash awards under the 2007 Annual Plan are determined based on the Company s actual financial and operating results as measured against the performance goals established by the Committee. The 2007 Long-Term Incentive Plan (2007 Long-Term Plan) authorizes the Committee to make grants of the Company s Common Stock to employees. These grants may be in the form of stock options (nonqualified or incentive), stock appreciation rights (SAR), restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance units, performance shares, dividend equivalents and other stock-based incentives. The 2007 Long-Term Plan expires in 2017. A total of 6,700,000 shares are issuable during the life of the 2007 Long-Term Plan, with annual grants limited to 1% of Common shares outstanding. The Employee Stock Purchase Plan was amended to increase the number of shares authorized to be issued under the plan from 600,000 to 980,000, and to extend the term of the plan through June 30, 2017. The Company also has a Stock Plan for Non-Employee Directors that permits the issuance of restricted stock and stock options or a combination thereof to the Company s Directors.

In February 2008, the Committee granted stock options for 932,500 shares at an exercise price of $72.745 per share. The Black-Scholes valuation for these awards was $17.69 per option. The Committee also granted 328,000 performance-based restricted stock units and 60,000 shares of time-lapse restricted stock units in February 2008 under the 2007 Long-Term Plan approved by shareholders on May 9, 2007. The fair value of the performance-based restricted stock units, using a Monte Carlo valuation model, was $59.445 per unit, while the time-lapse restricted stock units were valued at $71.78 per unit. Also in February the Committee granted 24,930 shares of time-lapse restricted stock to the Company s Directors under the 2003 Director Plan. These shares vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant. The fair value of these awards was estimated based on the fair market value of the Company s stock on the date of grant, which was $71.78 per share.

Cash received from options exercised under all share-based payment arrangements for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 was $20.4 million and $20.8 million, respectively. The actual income tax benefit realized for the tax deductions from option exercises of the share-based payment arrangements totaled $20.2 million and $12.5 million for the six-month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Amounts recognized in the financial statements with respect to share-based plans are as follows.

	Six Months Ended June 30,	
(Thousands of dollars)	**2008**	**2007**
Compensation charged against income before tax benefit	$ 16,158	13,495
Related income tax benefit recognized in income	5,321	4,721

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-month and six-month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007. The following table reconciles the weighted-average shares outstanding used for these computations.

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,	
(Weighted-average shares)	**2008**	**2007**	**2008**	**2007**
Basic method	189,564,247	187,615,633	189,372,416	187,361,136
Dilutive stock options	2,699,236	2,545,356	2,459,618	2,593,278

Diluted method	192,263,483	190,160,989	191,832,034	189,954,414

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd.)

Note E Earnings per Share *(Contd.)*

Certain options to purchase shares of common stock were outstanding during the 2008 and 2007 periods but were not included in the computation of diluted EPS because the incremental shares from assumed conversion were antidilutive. These included 928,500 shares at a weighted average share price of $72.745 in each 2008 period and 1,548,929 shares at a weighted average share price of $53.70 in each 2007 period.

Note F Financial Instruments and Risk Management

Murphy periodically utilizes derivative instruments to manage certain risks related to interest rates, commodity prices, and foreign currency exchange rates. The use of derivative instruments for risk management is covered by operating policies and is closely monitored by the Company s senior management. The Company does not hold any derivatives for speculative purposes, and it does not use derivatives with leveraged or complex features. Derivative instruments are traded primarily with creditworthy major financial institutions or over national exchanges. The Company has a risk management control system to monitor commodity price risks and any derivatives obtained to manage a portion of such risks.

Crude Oil Purchase Price Risks The Company purchases crude oil as feedstock at its U.S. and U.K. refineries and is therefore subject to commodity price risk. Short-term derivative instruments were outstanding at June 30, 2008 and 2007 to manage the cost of about 0.7 million barrels and 1.2 million barrels, respectively, of crude oil at the Company s Meraux, Louisiana refinery. The impact on consolidated income before taxes from marking these derivative contracts to market as of the balance sheet date was a benefit of $1.0 million and a charge of $1.9 million in the six-month periods ended June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Foreign Currency Exchange Risks The Company is subject to foreign currency exchange risk associated with operations in countries outside the U.S. Short-term derivative instruments were outstanding at June 30, 2008 to manage the risk of $83 million of U.S. dollar balances associated with the Company s Canadian operation and the risk of $97 million equivalent of Ringgit balances in the Company s Malaysian operations. The impact on consolidated income before taxes from marking these derivative contracts to market as of the balance sheet date was a charge of $1.1 million in the six-month period ended June 30, 2008.

Note G Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income

The components of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (AOCI) on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at June 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007 are presented in the following table.

(Thousands of dollars)	June 30, 2008	Dec. 31, 2007
Foreign currency translation gains, net of tax	$ 416,504	428,538
Retirement and postretirement benefit plan adjustments, net of tax	(77,378)	(76,773)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	$ 339,126	351,765

Note H Environmental and Other Contingencies

The Company s operations and earnings have been and may be affected by various 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; 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 the issuance of oil and gas or mineral leases; restrictions on drilling and/or production; laws and regulations intended for the promotion of safety and the protection and/or remediation of the environment; 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 and 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.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd.)

Note H Environmental and Other Contingencies ***(Contd.)***

In addition to being subject to numerous laws and regulations intended to protect the environment and/or impose remedial obligations, the Company is also 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 and facilities, including three refineries, five terminals, and approximately 125 service stations for which known or potential obligations for environmental remediation exist. In addition the Company operates or has operated numerous oil and gas fields that may require some form of remediation, which is generally provided for by the Company s asset retirement obligation.

The Company s liability for remedial obligations includes certain amounts that are based on anticipated regulatory approval for proposed remediation of former refinery waste sites. Although regulatory authorities may require more costly alternatives than the proposed processes, the cost of such potential alternative processes is not expected to exceed the accrued liability by a material amount.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) currently considers the Company a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) at two Superfund sites. 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 believes that it is a de minimis party as to ultimate responsibility at both Superfund sites. The Company has not recorded a liability for remedial costs on Superfund sites. The Company could be required to bear a pro rata share of costs attributable to nonparticipating PRPs or could be assigned additional responsibility for remediation at the two sites or other Superfund sites. The Company believes that its share of the ultimate costs to clean-up the two Superfund sites will be immaterial and will not have a material adverse effect on its net income, financial condition or liquidity in a future period.

There is the possibility that environmental expenditures could be required at currently unidentified sites, and new or revised regulations could require additional expenditures at known sites. However, based on information currently available to the Company, the amount of future remediation costs incurred at known or currently unidentified sites is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company s future net income, cash flows or liquidity.

On September 9, 2005, a class action lawsuit was filed in federal court in the Eastern District of Louisiana seeking unspecified damages to the class comprised of residents of St. Bernard Parish caused by a release of crude oil at Murphy Oil USA, Inc. s (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Murphy Oil Corporation) Meraux, Louisiana, refinery as a result of flood damage to a crude oil storage tank following Hurricane Katrina. Additional class action lawsuits were consolidated with the first suit into a single action in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. In September 2006, the Company reached a settlement with class counsel and on October 10, 2006, the court granted preliminary approval of a class action Settlement Agreement. A Fairness Hearing was held January 4, 2007 and the court entered its ruling on January 30, 2007 approving the class settlement. The majority of the settlement of $330 million will be paid by insurance. The Company recorded an expense of $18 million in 2006 related to settlement costs not expected to be covered by insurance. As part of the settlement, all properties in the class area received a fair and equitable cash payment and have had residual oil cleaned. As part of the settlement, the Company offered to purchase all properties in an agreed area adjacent to the west side of the Meraux refinery; these property purchases and associated remediation have been paid by the Company at a cost of $55 million. As of June 30, 2008, the Company has fulfilled its obligations under the Class Action Settlement Agreement. Approximately 40 non-class action suits regarding the oil spill have been filed and remain pending. The Company believes that insurance coverage exists and it does not expect to incur significant costs associated with this litigation. On August 14, 2007, four of the Company s high level excess insurers noticed the Company for arbitration in London. The insurers do not deny coverage, but seek arbitration as to whether and to what extent expenditures made by the Company in resolving the oil spill litigation have reached the attachment point for covered loss under their respective policies. The Company is of the position that full coverage should be afforded. Accordingly, the Company believes neither the ultimate resolution of the remaining litigation nor the insurance arbitration will have a material adverse effect on its net income, financial condition or liquidity in a future period.

On June 10, 2003, a fire severely damaged the Residual Oil Supercritical Extraction (ROSE) unit at the Company s Meraux, Louisiana refinery. The ROSE unit recovers feedstock from the heavy fuel oil stream for conversion into gasoline and diesel. Subsequent to the fire, numerous class action lawsuits have been filed seeking damages for area residents. All the lawsuits have been administratively consolidated into a single legal action in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, except for one such action which was filed in federal court. Additionally, individual residents of Orleans Parish, Louisiana, have filed an action in that venue. On May 5, 2004, plaintiffs in the consolidated action in

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd.)

Note H Environmental and Other Contingencies *(Contd.)*

St. Bernard Parish amended their petition to include a direct action against certain of the Company s liability insurers. The St. Bernard Parish action has since been removed to federal court, which issued an order on July 25, 2008 denying plaintiff s request to certify the case as a class action. In responding to this direct action, one of the Company s insurers, AEGIS, has raised lack of coverage as a defense. The Company believes that this contention lacks merit and has been advised by counsel that the applicable policy does provide coverage for the underlying incident. Because the Company believes that insurance coverage exists for this matter, it does not expect to incur any significant costs associated with the lawsuits. Accordingly, the Company continues to believe that the ultimate resolution of the June 2003 ROSE fire litigation will not have a material adverse effect on its net income, financial condition or liquidity in a future period.

Murphy and its subsidiaries are engaged in a number of other legal proceedings, all of which Murphy considers routine and incidental to its business. Based on information currently available to the Company, the ultimate resolution of environmental and legal matters referred to in this note is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company s net income, financial condition or liquidity in a future period.

In the normal course of its business, the Company is required under certain contracts with various governmental authorities and others to provide financial guarantees or letters of credit that may be drawn upon if the Company fails to perform under those contracts. At June 30, 2008, the Company had contingent liabilities of $8.5 million under a financial guarantee and $199.9 million on outstanding letters of credit. The Company has not accrued a liability in its balance sheet related to these letters of credit because it is believed that the likelihood of having these drawn is remote.

Note I Accounting Matters

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS No. 157). This statement defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This statement applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, and where applicable simplifies and codifies related guidance within GAAP and does not require any new fair value measurements. The statement was originally effective for fiscal years beginning January 1, 2008. On February 12, 2008, the FASB issued FSP No. 157-2 that delayed for one year the effective date of SFAS No. 157 for most nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities. Provisions of the statement are to be applied prospectively except in limited situations. The Company adopted this statement as of January 1, 2008 and the adoption had no material impact on its consolidated financial statements. See further disclosures at Note J.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (SFAS No. 159). This pronouncement permits companies with eligible financial assets and financial liabilities to measure these items at fair value in the financial statements. This option to measure at fair value is both instrument specific and irrevocable. If the fair value option is elected, certain additional disclosures are required and financial statements for periods prior to the adoption may not be restated. The Company adopted this standard as of January 1, 2008, but the Company chose not to elect fair value measurement for any financial assets and financial liabilities, and therefore, the adoption of SFAS No. 159, had no impact on the Company s consolidated balance sheet or consolidated statement of income.

In June 2007, the FASB ratified the Emerging Issues Task Force s Issue No. 06-11, Accounting for Income Tax Benefits of Dividends on Share-Based Payment Awards (EITF No. 06-11). This new guidance was effective for the Company beginning in January 2008 and required that income tax benefits received by the Company for dividends paid on share-based incentive awards be recorded in Capital in Excess of Par Value in Stockholders Equity. Under certain circumstances, such tax benefits received on awards that do not vest could be reclassified to reduce income tax expense in the Consolidated Statements of Income. The effect of adopting EITF No. 06-11 was not material to the Company s consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an amendment of ARB No. 51. Upon adoption, this statement will require noncontrolling interests to be reclassified as equity, and consolidated net income and comprehensive income shall include the respective results attributable to noncontrolling interests. This statement is effective for the Company beginning January 1, 2009. It is to be applied prospectively and early adoption is not permitted. The Company does not expect this statement to have a significant effect on its consolidated financial statements.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd.)

Note I Accounting Matters ***(Contd.)***

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), Business Combinations. This statement establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer in a business combination recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed and any noncontrolling interest in the acquired business. It also establishes how to recognize and measure goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase, if applicable. This statement shall be applied prospectively by the Company to any business combination that occurs on or after January 1, 2009. Early application is prohibited. Assets and liabilities that arise from business combinations occurring prior to 2009 shall not be adjusted upon application of this statement. This statement will impact the recognition and measurement of assets and liabilities in business combinations that occur after 2008, and the Company is unable to predict at this time how the application of this statement will affect its financial statements in future periods.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS No. 161, Disclosure about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities. This statement is effective for the Company beginning in January 2009, and it expands required disclosures regarding derivative instruments to include qualitative information about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantities disclosures about fair value amounts and gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit-risk related contingent features in derivative agreements. The Company does not expect this statement to have a significant effect on its consolidated financial statements.

Note J Assets and Liabilities Measured at Fair Value

As described in Note I, the Company adopted SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS No. 157), on January 1, 2008, other than for nonrecurring nonfinancial assets and liabilities, which will be effective for the Company on January 1, 2009. SFAS No. 157 establishes a fair value hierarchy based on the quality of inputs used to measure fair value, with Level 1 being the highest quality and Level 3 being the lowest quality. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Level 2 inputs are observable inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1. Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs which reflect assumptions about pricing by market participants.

The fair value measurements for the Company s financial assets and liabilities accounted for at fair value on a recurring basis at June 30, 2008 are presented in the following table.

		Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using		
(thousands of dollars)	**June 30, 2008**	**Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Liabilities) (Level 1)**	**Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)**	**Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)**
Assets				
Short-term investments in marketable securities	$ 345,072	345,072		
Commodity derivatives	1,016		1,016	
Total assets at fair value	$ 346,088	345,072	1,016	
Liabilities				
Foreign exchange derivatives	$ 1,097		1,097	
Nonqualified employee savings plan	11,472	11,472		
Total liabilities at fair value	$ 12,569	11,472	1,097	

Short-term investments in marketable securities represent investment in Canadian securities with maturity dates greater than 90 days at the date of acquisition. Market value for these securities approximates cost plus earned interest.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd.)

Note K Business Segments

(Millions of dollars)	Total Assets at June 30, 2008	Three Mos. Ended June 30, 2008	Three Mos. Ended June 30, 2007