

Rating: Sell
S&P 500: 1106

Kinder Morgan Management, LLC **Momentum Challenge**

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <i>Symbol</i> | KMR | <i>Ebitda Next Twelve Months ending 6/30/05 (US\$m)</i> | 200 |
| <i>Rating</i> | Sell | <i>North American Natural Gas/Ebitda (%)</i> | 0 |
| <i>Price (US\$/sh)</i> | 39.25 | <i>Natural Gas and Oil Production/Ebitda (%)</i> | 21 |
| <i>Pricing Date</i> | 9/1/04 | <i>Adjusted Reserves/Production NTM</i> | 12.0 |
| <i>Shares (mm)</i> | 53 | <i>EV/Ebitda</i> | 14.4 |
| <i>Market Capitalization (US\$m)</i> | 2,090 | <i>PV/Ebitda</i> | 7.9 |
| <i>Debt (US\$m)</i> | 780 | <i>Undeveloped Reserves (%)</i> | 50 |
| <i>Enterprise Value (EV) (US\$m)</i> | 2,870 | <i>Natural Gas and Oil Ebitda (US\$/boe)</i> | 24.07 |
| <i>Present Value (PV) (US\$m)</i> | 1,580 | <i>Present Value Proven Reserves(US\$/boe)</i> | 12.10 |
| <i>Net Present Value (US\$/share)</i> | 15 | <i>Present Value Proven Reserves(US\$/mcf)</i> | 2.02 |
| <i>Debt/Present Value</i> | 0.49 | <i>Earnings Next Twelve Months (US\$/sh)</i> | 2.04 |
| <i>McDep Ratio - EV/PV</i> | 1.82 | <i>Price/Earnings Next Twelve Months</i> | 19 |
| <i>Dividend Yield (%/year)</i> | 7.2 | <i>Indicated Annual Dividend (US\$/sh)</i> | 2.84 |

Note: Estimated cash flow and earnings at recent quarter rate annualized.

Reported results may vary widely from estimates. Estimated present value per share revised only infrequently.

Summary and Recommendation

We continue to recommend sale of the shares of **Kinder Morgan Management (KMR)** on the basis of high valuation, high financial risk and high business risk. The company owns units in a partnership that continues to report incremental progress in natural gas pipelines, oil products and enhanced oil recovery and has increased its quarterly distribution. In particular, we believe the partnership has a valuable asset in its 50% ownership of the Yates oil field in West Texas. Yet as the stock appears to be trading without momentum on its 200 day average, we reaffirm our concerns.

Investors are Paying about Twice the Value of the Businesses

Projected cash flow of about \$1270 million for the Next Twelve Months ended June 30, 2005 remains about the same as when we projected it for the period ended three months earlier. Actual results will reflect industry conditions, investment decisions and operating actions that might be anticipated in more detail, but the illustration is sufficient for valuation perspective (see table [Next Twelve Months Financial Results](#)).

At least 198 million units are likely to be outstanding for the period and would be entitled to 59% of the distribution at the new rate. The units include about 145 million for the limited partners of **Kinder Morgan Energy Partners (KMP)** and 53 million i-shares of **Kinder Morgan Management (KMR)**. The current unit prices imply an equity market value of \$8.6 billion for rights to 59% of the cash distributed, or \$14.7 billion for the rights to all the distribution. Add \$5.0 billion of debt and the Enterprise Value becomes \$19.7 billion. The numbers are larger than those in the masthead above because they combine the amounts attributed to KMP limited partners, KMR shareholders and the residual for the general partner.

Please see disclosures on the final page.

Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.
Next Twelve Months Financial Results

| | <i>Q1</i> | <i>Q2</i> | <i>Q3E</i> | <i>Q4E</i> | <i>Year</i> | <i>Q1E</i> | <i>Q2E</i> | <i>Next Twelve Months</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| | <i>3/31/04</i> | <i>6/30/04</i> | <i>9/30/04</i> | <i>12/31/04</i> | <i>2004E</i> | <i>3/31/05</i> | <i>6/30/05</i> | <i>6/30/05</i> |
| Ebitda | | | | | | | | |
| Products Pipelines | 114 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 471 | 119 | 119 | 476 |
| Natural Gas Pipelines | 103 | 95 | 95 | 103 | 396 | 103 | 95 | 396 |
| CO2 Pipelines | 78 | 76 | 76 | 76 | 306 | 76 | 76 | 304 |
| Terminals | 63 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 261 | 66 | 66 | 264 |
| Overhead | (51) | (43) | (43) | (46) | (183) | (44) | (36) | (169) |
| Total Ebitda | 307 | 313 | 313 | 318 | 1,251 | 320 | 320 | 1,271 |
| Deprec., Deplet., & Amort. | 68 | 70 | 70 | 70 | 278 | 70 | 70 | 280 |
| Ebit | 239 | 243 | 243 | 248 | 973 | 250 | 250 | 991 |
| Interest | 47 | 47 | 47 | 47 | 188 | 47 | 47 | 188 |
| Ebt | 192 | 196 | 196 | 201 | 785 | 203 | 203 | 803 |
| General Partner | 92 | 96 | 99 | 99 | 386 | 100 | 100 | 399 |
| Net Income (\$mm) | 100 | 100 | 97 | 102 | 399 | 103 | 103 | 404 |
| Units (mm) | 193 | 196 | 197 | 198 | 196 | 199 | 200 | 198 |
| Net Income Per Unit (\$/un) | 0.52 | 0.51 | 0.49 | 0.51 | 2.04 | 0.52 | 0.51 | 2.04 |
| Distribution Per L.P. Unit | 0.68 | 0.69 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 2.79 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 2.84 |
| Distribution (\$mm) | 222 | 230 | 239 | 240 | 930 | 241 | 242 | 962 |
| General Partner | 91 | 95 | 99 | 99 | 384 | 100 | 100 | 399 |
| Limited Partner | 131 | 135 | 140 | 140 | 546 | 141 | 142 | 563 |
| General Partner Share | | | | | | | | |
| Earnings | 48% | 49% | 50% | 49% | 49% | 49% | 49% | 50% |
| Distribution | 41% | 41% | 41% | 41% | 41% | 41% | 41% | 41% |

Now we can calculate a ratio of Enterprise Value to unlevered cash flow, EV/Ebitda, of 15.5 times. In contrast, we assess the value of the businesses at 7.9 times. On August 31, the partnership announced a \$100 million pipeline acquisition it asserted would produce \$18 million annually in distributable cash flow. The purchase price translates to 5.6 times cash flow though we may never know all the details. If incremental transactions are priced that low, it tends to confirm that the partnership's mix of existing operations are not likely worth much more on average.

How can investors justify paying almost twice business value? Most likely the investors in the partnership put an unusually high value on the perception of steady income. Investors are encouraged to believe that the KMP distribution now at 6.5% a year can also grow perhaps 8% per year or more to deliver a total return of 15% a year. That indeed would be an attractive return though it would take many years of growth without selling units to achieve it in reality.

The inconsistency in those expectations is that the underlying properties are unlikely to earn more than 15% a year. After distributing 41% of the return to the general partner for no capital outlay, there is not enough left for investors to justify the risks they are taking, in our opinion.

If the KMP properties earn 15% a year, other properties in the energy industry would probably earn the same. Investors can buy the best, lowest risk companies in the industry for cash flow multiples at or below the value of the underlying businesses. Where those companies pay lower current income, an enterprising fund manager could structure a similar income profile as that of KMP, charge a respectable fee and still offer better net value.

Please see disclosures on the final page.

Financial Risk Appears Understated

The general partner of KMP, **Kinder Morgan, Inc. (KMI)**, not only receives 41% of the distributed cash, but also owns units or i-shares that increase its ownership to the point where the combined interest is about 51% of the partnership. Under normal circumstances a 51% owned entity would be consolidated on the balance sheet of the owner. Yet KMI does not count most of the general partner share of distribution as ownership and thus claims that it owns less than 20% of the partnership. Therefore it is not required to show the debt of the partnership on KMI's balance sheet. As a result, KMI can say it has only about 50% debt and KMP has only about 50% debt when the reality is that the combined entities have about 65% debt. Some investors may applaud KMI for being so clever. Others may consider it a red flag when a company hides debt in a partnership. In the end the risks of the general partner and the partnership are linked.

Compensation Creates Misplaced Incentives

The third distinctive feature and risk factor is the 41% general partner compensation. While individuals are free to pay any compensation to managers that they wish, institutions have a fiduciary responsibility. In fact few institutions seem to own KMP. Yet KMR is designed for institutions. We see a problem for most institutions to justify owning that stock because each new dollar invested essentially puts \$.41 into the pocket of the general partner who makes essentially no capital outlay. Private equity and hedge fund compensation at 20% of gains appears institutionally acceptable. 41% compensation to a general partner regardless of gains appears to be pushing the envelope. It may not be a problem as long as it works, but it could be indefensible if it doesn't.

Kurt H. Wulff, CFA

Disclaimer: This analysis was prepared by Kurt Wulff doing business as McDep Associates. The firm used sources and data believed to be reliable, but makes no representation as to their accuracy or completeness. This analysis is intended for informational purposes and is not a solicitation to buy or sell a security. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

McDep does no investment banking business. McDep is not paid by covered companies including revenue from advertising, trading, consulting, subscriptions or research service. McDep shall not own more than 1% of outstanding stock in a covered company. No one at McDep is on the Board of Directors at a covered company nor is anyone at a covered company on the Board of Directors of McDep.

McDep or its employees may take positions in stocks the firm covers for research purposes. No trades in a subject stock shall be made within a week before or after a change in recommendation.

Certification: I, Kurt H. Wulff, certify that the views expressed in this research analysis accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. No part of my compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendations or views contained in this research analysis.

Research Methodology/Ratings Description: McDep Associates is an independent research originator focused on oil and gas stocks exclusively. The firm applies the thirty years of experience of its analyst to estimate a present value of the oil and gas resources and other businesses of covered companies. That value is compared with a company's stock market capitalization and debt. Stocks with low market cap and debt relative to present value tend to outperform stocks with high market cap and debt relative to present value. Buy recommendations are expected to deliver a total return better than 7% per year above inflation. Hold recommendations assume the attributes of the underlying business are reflected in the current price of the stock. Sell recommendations are expected to deliver a negative total return less than 7% per year including the effects of inflation.