# Desautels Capital Management

**Enerplus Stock Pitch** 

October 24, 2018



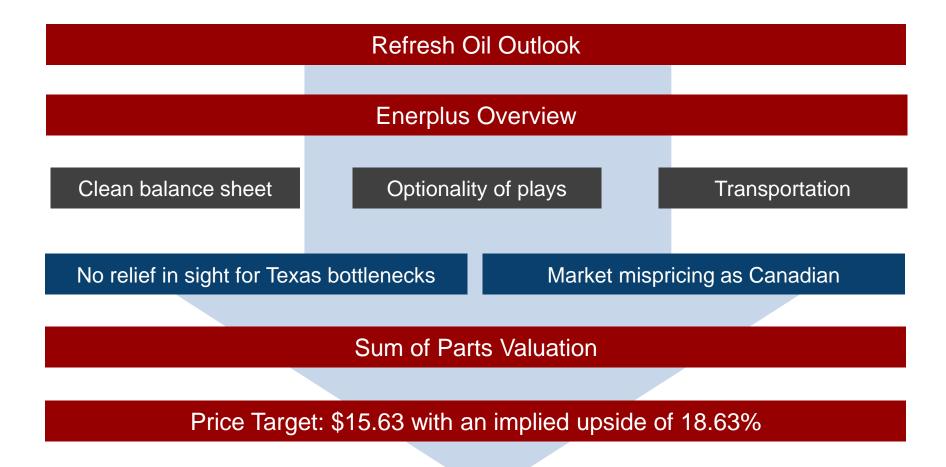
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# **Executive Summary**





No reason for a decline – upside more likely



#### Oil

- Global crude demand continues to grow
- Fear of supply shocks still reflected in oil pricing
- Saudi Aramco IPO still in the cards keeping prices high
- Add to Venezuelan and Iranian tensions the threat of SA to restrict exports in response to Western sanctions
- "If the price of oil reaching \$80 angered President Trump, no one should rule out the price jumping to \$100, or \$200, or even double that figure." – Turki Aldarkhill, Al Arabiya News, GM



#### **Natural Gas**

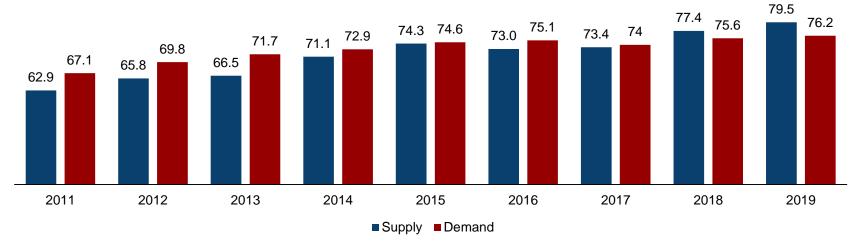
- Natural Gas pricing has been rallying from its historic lows since early 2016 – mirroring oil
- Our forecast and other analysts' see this as a continuing trend
- Increased use of NG features in nearly every global low-emissions blueprint
- Shorter approval timelines for NG and LNG projects in environmentally sensitive jurisdictions are one result

Various NGLS track with the price of crude and depending on demand in different regions for associated products

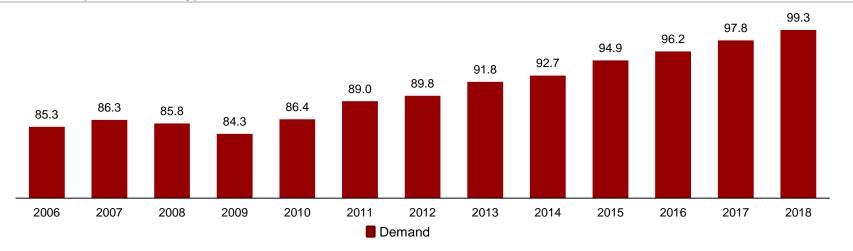


No reason for a decline – upside more likely

#### Natural Gas Supply and Demand (BCF/day) 2011 - 2019E



#### Oil Demand (Mbarrels / day)



Source: EIA

# **Enerplus Overview**

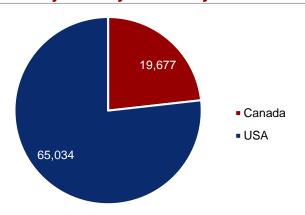


#### **Natural Gas Player**

#### Where Are The Rigs?

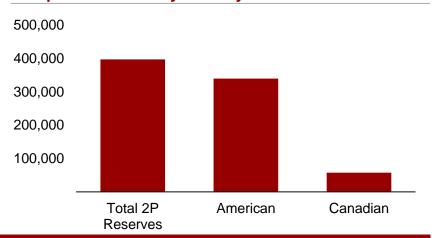
- Williston Basin Bakken 445 producing wells
- Marcellus Play 796 producing wells NG
- Waterfloods Canada 1356 producing wells\*
- DJ Basin negligible

#### Production by Country - BOE/day



# AB SK HEAD OFFICE CALOARY MARCELLUS MAIN U.S. OFFICE DENVER

#### **Enerplus Reserves By Country**

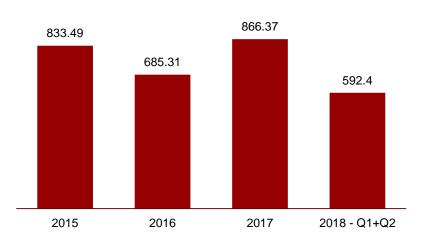


Enerplus is a Canadian Upstream player positioned in many of the most prolific plays in the USA

\*Canadian numbers not affected by divestiture of 7700 BOE/day worth of production Source: Company Filings



#### **Historical Revenue Performance (C\$mm)**

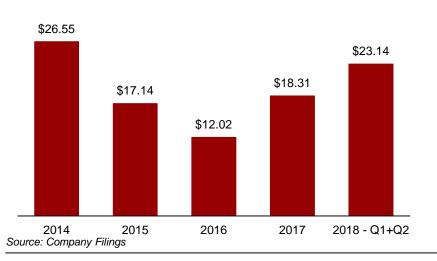


#### **Financial Summary**

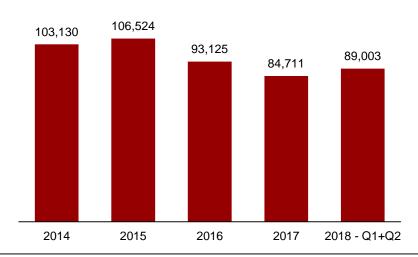
<b>Enerplus Corporation</b>	_In CAD\$ millions
Share Price	\$13.19
FD S/O	244.66

Market Capitalization	\$3.227Bn
- Cash & equivalents	\$360.42
+ Total Debt	\$1249.97
+ Minority Interest	-
Enterprise Value	\$4.116Bn

#### **Historical Consolidated Netback – After Hedging/BOE**



#### **Historical Production - BOE/day**

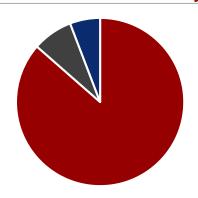




# A Canadian Player Moves South

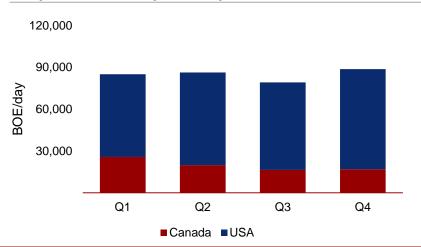


#### **Undeveloped Reserves a Small Minority**



- Proven Developed Producing = Proved Undeveloped
- Probable Undeveloped

#### **Daily Production By Country 2017A**



#### Enerplus is increasingly active in price-favourable American plays

Source: Company Filings



#### Bakken Bound

#### Move into the Bakken

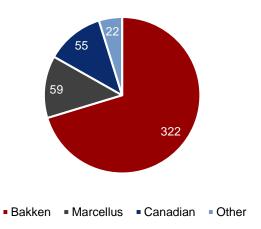
- Production from Canadian assets saw a 39.13% decrease from divestitures over 2017
- Heavy push into the Bakken with Q2 2018 alone seeing 33% production growth in the play
- 11 wells brought on-stream, 13 drilled in Q2 this year
- Capital expenditures of \$458 million in 2017 -\$322m in the Bakken

"For the last while, it's been pretty easy to put money into the U.S. and it's been harder to put money into Canada"

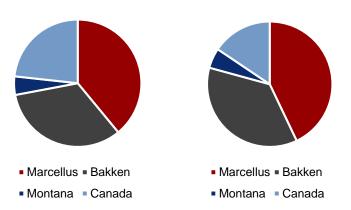


Ian Dundas, Enerplus CEO

#### Capex Spending 2017 - \$458m Total



# **Production by Play - Canadian Divestment**



\$535-\$585m projected 2018 capex – 90% in Bakken

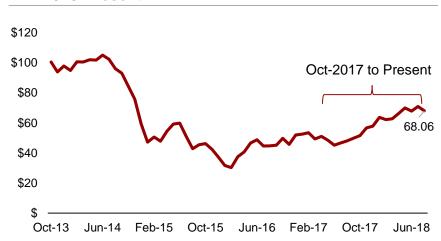
# **Enerplus Overview**



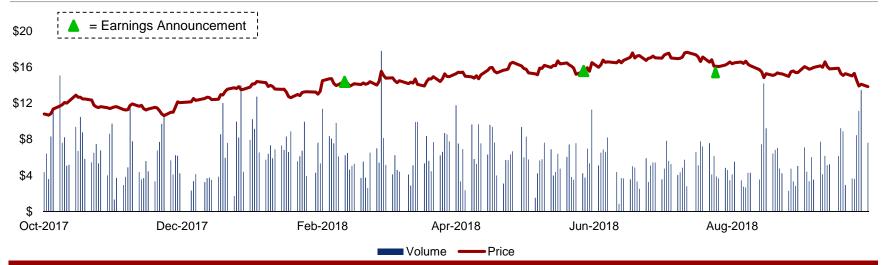
#### **Company News**

- Enerplus has seen a focus on liquid-weighted American production that led it to beat earnings at the end of 2017
- Cash dividends maintained throughout 2018
- Realized increase in the price of Bakken produced oil of 11% tracked over Q1 2018 with a 13% WTI rise

#### WTI 2013-Present



#### **Price History**



Enerplus is a Canadian Upstream player positioned in many of the most prolific plays in the USA

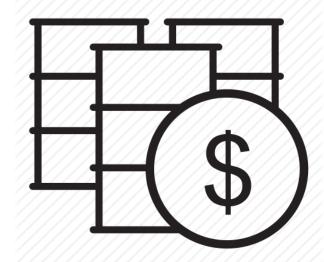
Source: Company Filings, Calgary Herald



#### Natural Gas Player

#### **Realized Price Advantage**

- Enerplus realized a weighted average price of \$58.69/barrel for crude oil, \$30.01/barrel for natural gas liquids and \$3.21/Mcf for natural gas
- This compared to the WTI 2017 average of \$50.88/barrel and the WCS 2017 average of \$41.42/barrel for crude and \$2.96/Mcf for NG at the Henry Hub price in 2017



#### **Netback (CAD)**

Product:	Product: L&M Crude		Tight Oil	NGL	NG	Shale Gas	
Enerplus US	-	-	30.16	17.02	-	1.57	
Enerplus CA	23.69	24.11	-	28.9	1.32	1.04	

Peer Company (American)	Production Netback \$/BOE			
Oasis Petroleum	29.57			
Whiting Petroleum	22.99			

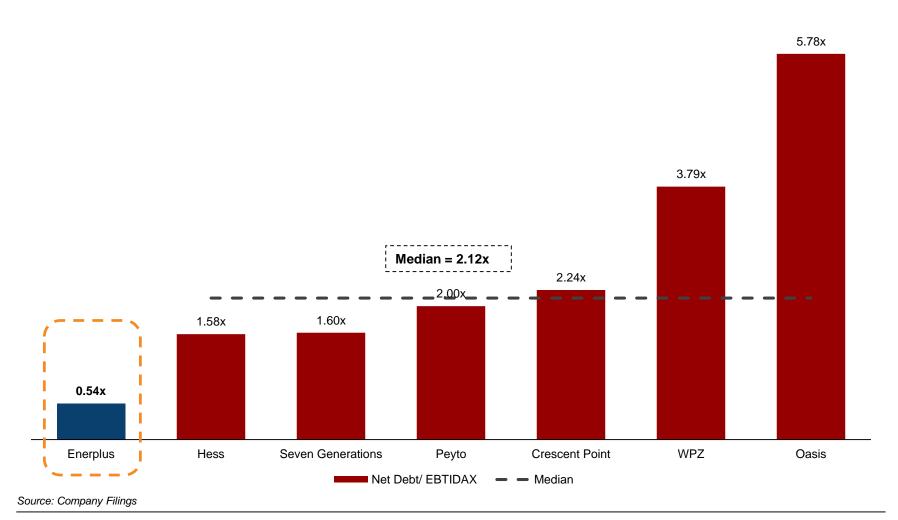
Enerplus is realizing greater netbacks in the USA in its prominent shale operations as a pure play NG producer

Source: Company Filings

# Clean Balance Sheet Compared to Peers in Both Bakken and Canada



Enerplus is significantly less levered than peers on a Net Debt/EBITDAX basis



# Bakken Pipeline Access



Bakken Reserves have ample access to DAPL, transporting oil to refineries on the coast

# Dakota Access Pipeline



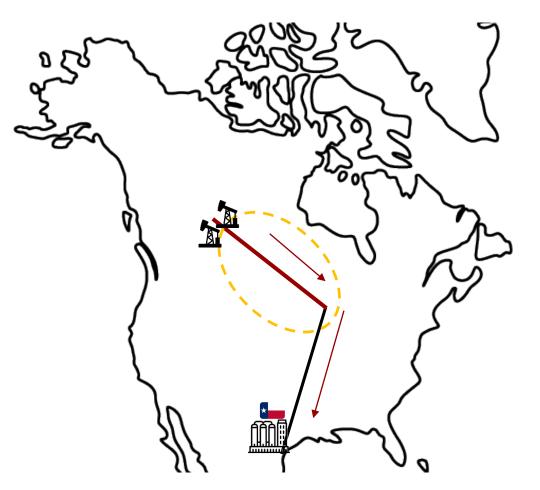
# **Excess Capacity**

360,000 bbl/d of excess capacity



# **No Regulatory Hurdles**

- Connects with the Energy transfer crude oil pipeline in Illinois, before going to texas for refining
- Pipeline was approved on June 1, 2017 and is fully operational



Enerplus is not exposed to the same pipeline constraints that many other upstream producers are facing

# Marcellus Pipeline Access

Marcellus Reserves have ample access to various pipelines up the east coast, transporting NG to various refineries

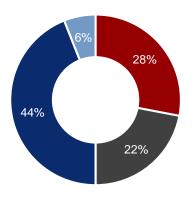
# **Natural Gas Pipeline Options**



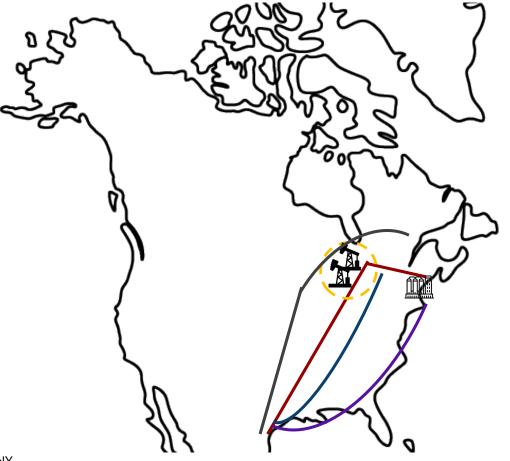
# **Excess Capacity**

 10 bcf/d of excess capacity from the various pipelines that the Marcellus accesses

# **Optionality**



■ Dominion South ■ Transco Leidy Spot ■ TGP ■ Transco NNY



Enerplus is not exposed to the same pipeline constraints that many other upstream producers are facing

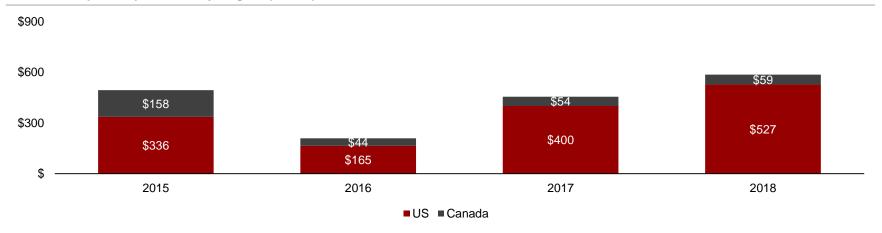
Source: Company Filings, EIA

# Enerplus Strategic Plan



#### Enerplus Has Recently Shifted Investment Away From Canada

#### **Historical Capital Expenditure By Region (C\$MM)**



#### **Management Recent Commentary**

"As we divest Canadian assets, we might consider a **shift of our main headquarters to Denver**......" – Ian Dundas, CEO

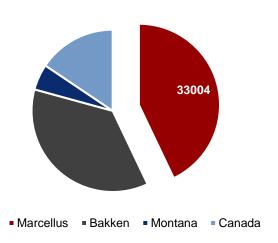


"For the last while, it's been pretty easy to put money into the U.S. and it's been harder to put money into Canada" – lan Dundas, CEO

Enerplus CEO clearly preferring to deploy capital in the US, as they continue Canadian Divestment potential change of headquarters to Denver, CO

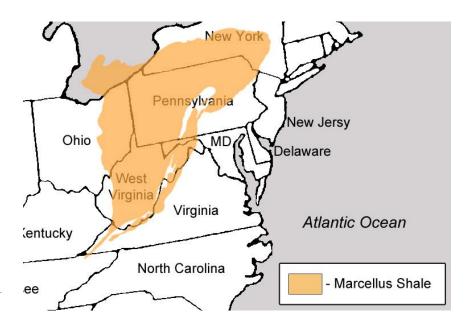


#### **Enerplus Production – Marcellus Concentration**



#### **Natural Gas Play**

- 2017 production in Pennsylvania's Marcellus play totaled 198,026 Mcf/day from Enerplus
- Assets are entirely concentrated in shale gas extraction
- Contributes an equivalent of 33,004 bbl/day to Enerplus total
- 796 producing natural gas wells
- Long term agreements for processing and transportation ensure long-term price certainty in sale to nearby American markets



"Marcellus Shale - Appalachian Basin Natural Gas Play A resource that moved from "marginal" to "spectacular" as a result of new drilling technology"

-Title of a paper by Hobart M. King, PhD, GIA, RPG



**Key Takeaways** 



# **Strong Fundamentals**

- Strong financial position, low leverage
- Very low Net Debt/EBITDA compared to peers
- \$260m net debt for a \$2.64B company stands out for a capital intensive E&P firm



# **Play Optionality**

 Plays in American and Canadian jurisdictions and across multiple state and provincial lines provides geographic hedging and strategic optionality with realized prices



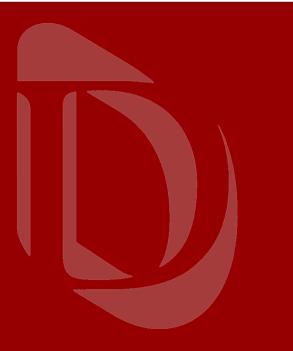
# **Transportation Optionality**

Despite transport headwinds affecting Canadian plays, Enerplus has easy access to US
oil and gas transportation links by rail, truck, and pipeline

Enerplus is better positioned financially and physically than the Canadian peers to which it is compared

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# **Investment Theses**





Permian bottlenecks to persist, potential driver of A&D and a change in investor sentiment to secondary basins



2. Market valuing Enerplus as a Canadian Upstream producer, despite ~90% of production & reserves based in high netback US basins



Attractive valuation - Enerplus undervalued compared to peers with similar geographic and commodity exposure



# Thesis I: Why The Permian?



#### The Permian is a basin primarily in Texas that produces both natural gas and crude



#### Reserves

- Largest number of proved reserves in the lower 48, with potential to be one of the largest in the world
- With Hydraulic Fracturing, the deep shale plays in this old basin are now accessible



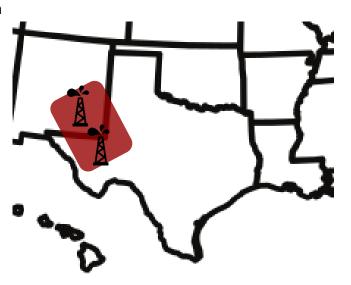
#### **Netback**

- Favourable geological conditions
- Low break even creates high netbacks



# Transportation<sup>1</sup>

- Historically, the Permian has benefited from the multitude of pipeline within the region
- Proximity to the gulf is a catalyst



The Permian boasts strong fundamentals that have attracted international attention

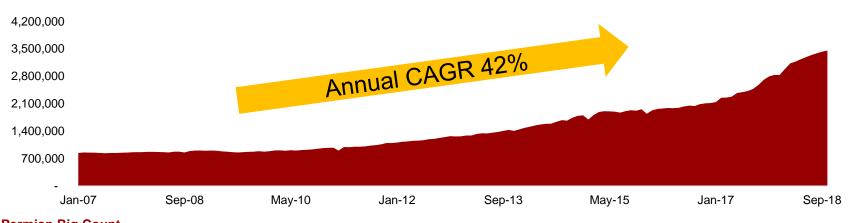
Source: CNBC, Street Research

1) Currently, the Permian is facing bottleneck issues

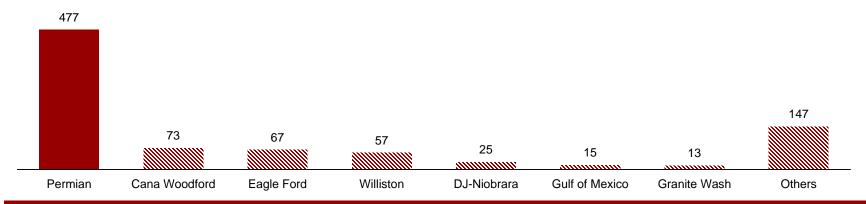
#### Permian Basin Historical Production



#### Production in BOE/d



#### **Permian Rig Count**



The Permian accounts for over 30% of US crude production (3 mbbl/d) and produces 11 bcf of Natural gas per day

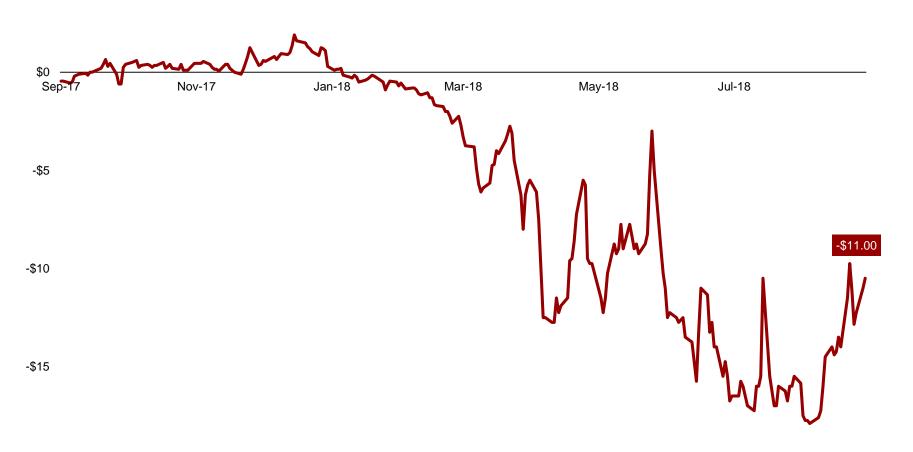
Source: US Energy Information Administration

# Price Differential Between WTI Cushing and Midland



WTI Midland vs Cushing measures the average differential being realized from the Permian Basin (Midland area)

\$5

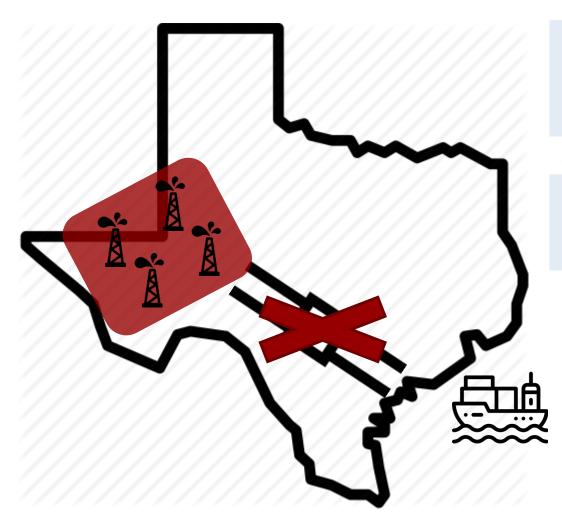


-\$20

Pipeline bottlenecks have created over a \$10 price differential to WTI Cushing

Source: Bloomberg





"The Permian Basin has been so prolific that it's **overwhelmed pipelines**.... US **producers have become victims of their own success**" – Michael Tran



**RBC Capital Markets** 

"Some companies will have to shut off production, some companies will move rigs away,....." – Scott Sheffield, CEO PIONEER

NATURAL RESOURCES

# Overproduction

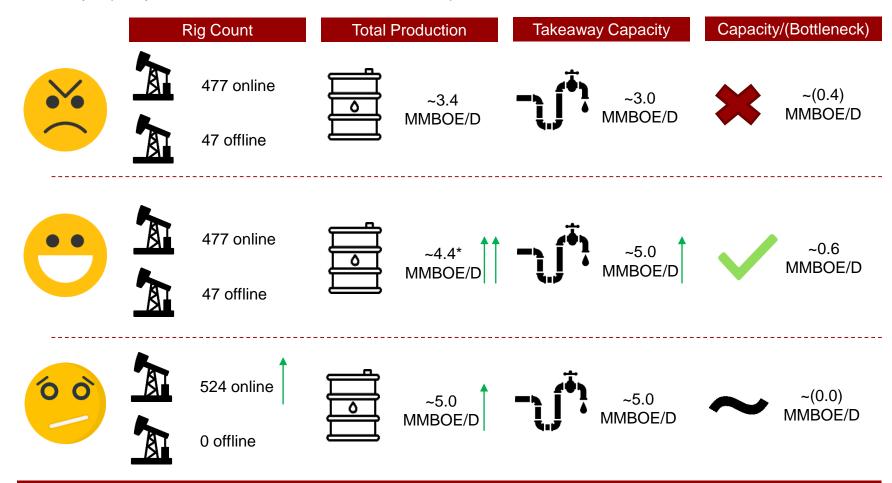


Limited Pipeline Infrastructure

Pipeline bottlenecks have created over a \$10 price differential to WTI

#### Will the Bottleneck last?

#### Takeaway capacity will continue to be a concern for Permian producers



Addition of EPIC, Gray Oak, Cactus II, Bridgetex, and Permian Express 3 in 2020 will not add enough capacity to satisfy maximum production potential

Source: EIA, DrillingInfo

Note: Pipeline takeaway capacity assumes 100% completion by 2020

\*Analysts expect Permian production to increase by 600,000 bbl/d per year, driven by efficiency

# Potential Movements By Permian Players





#### **Acquisitions & Divestitures**

- Companies are buying assets across the globe
- Focus on acquisitions in "secondary" basins
- High equity value allows firms to pursue more acquisitions



# **Alternative Transportation**

- Like the certain Canadian Basins, Permian players have begun to experiment with transporting oil/LNG through rail or road
- Remains clear that pipeline infrastructure is required



# Fighting for Arrangements with Midstream Companies

- Upstream companies in the West Texas region are fighting for supplier relationships, creating a gap between "Have and havenots"
- Larger super majors have guaranteed volume to the pipeline companies in exchange for continued usage of their pipelines

"The vast majority of the oilfield rail infrastructure is designed for sand,.....would cost over \$15 / bbl" -Triepeke

# ExonMobil

"Pipeline agreements have created a **Have** and **Have-nots** among Permian producers....." – Al Walker, CEO



Source: DCM

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# DCM View on Future Actions on Permian Players





#### **Acquisitions & Divestitures**

- Companies are buying assets across the globe
- Focus on acquisitions in "secondary" basins
- Market has yet to place emphasis on this potential trend



#### **Alternative Transportation**

- Like the certain Canadian Basins, Permian players have begun to experiment with transporting oil/LNG through rail or road
- Remains clear that pipeline infrastructure is required



#### **Fighting for Arrangements with Midstream Companies**

- Upstream companies in the West Texas region are fighting for supplier relationships, creating a gap between "Have and have-nots"
- Larger super majors have guaranteed volume to the pipelines in exchange for continued usage of their pipelines

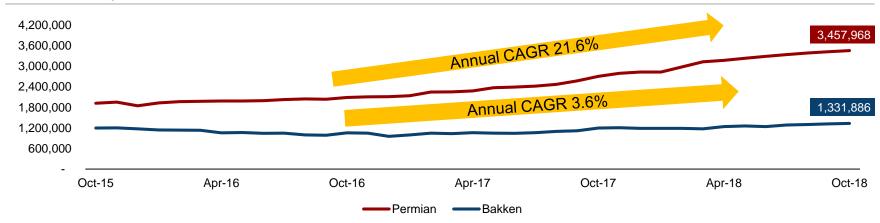
We think that the most effective way for firms to maintain production + earnings is acquire assets in high quality basins

#### Permian Production Increase vs. Bakken Production

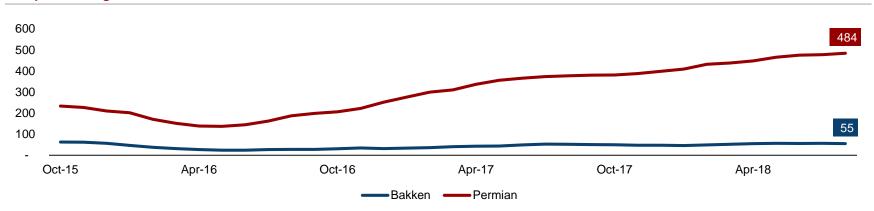




#### Production in bbpd Permian vs. Bakken



#### **Comparative Rig Count**



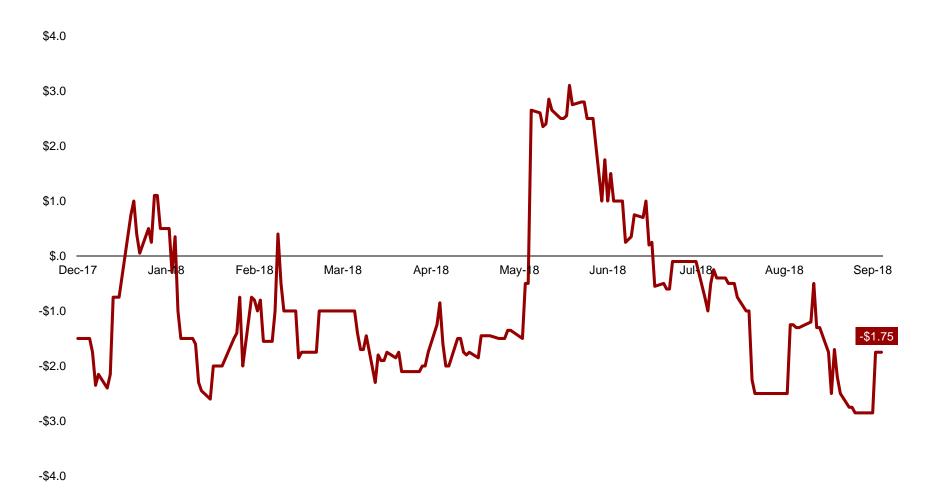
Secondary basins have lacked the investment that the Permian has seen – leaves large opportunity for future growth

Source: CapIQ

1) Appreciation also likely linked to WTI price appreciation

#### Bakken Differentials to WTI

WTI-Clearbrook demonstrates the price realized for Bakken producers



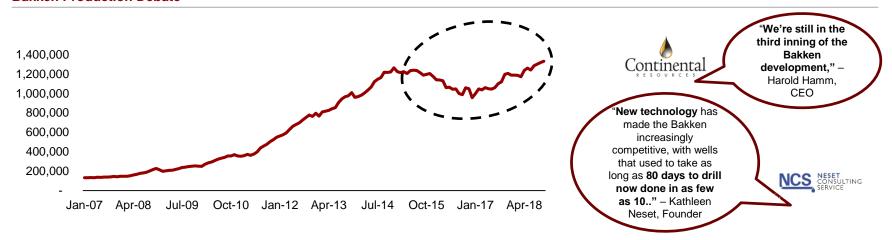
WT-Clearbrook trades a ~\$2 differential to WTI, which is a significant difference compared to the WTI-Midland pricing

Source: Bloomberg

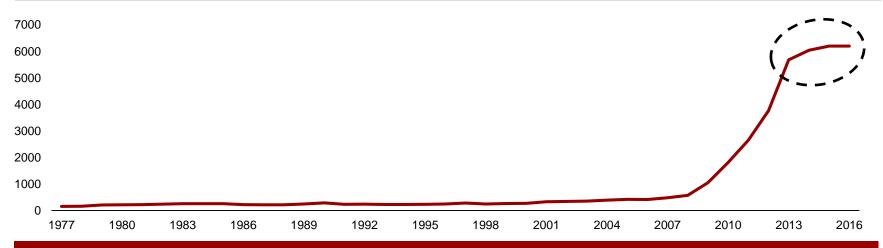
# We Like The Bakken As It Adds Another Layer Of Complexity

People have continuously underestimate the amount of oil in the Bakken Formation

#### **Bakken Production Debate**



#### **Historical Proved Reserves in Bakken (MMBOE)**



A future refreshed reserve estimate can be a catalyst for all Bakken producers

Source: Eia

# A&D Case Study



#### ConocoPhilips recognized benefit of diversifying holdings & potential value in the Bakken basin

#### **Transaction Overview**

- In April, 2018 Conoco Philips announced plans to sell acreage in the Permian and expand to alternate basins
- They acquired acreage in the Montney, and Austin Chalk areas
- With acreage in the Permian selling for over \$60,000 per acre it was accretive to sell expensive land then acquire assets in low cost liquid rich basins
- Conoco viewed these "secondary" basins as a unique opportunity to buy cheap land given the inflated asset prices in the Permian

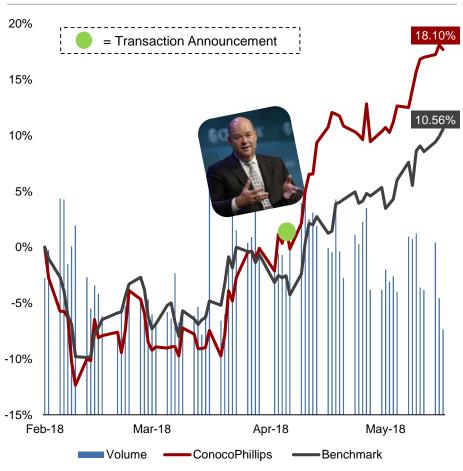
#### **Investor Sentiment**

Following the announcement of acreage in the Permian basin and focusing on optionality of plays, Conoco stock price appreciated over 10% in the following month

> .We think these are both early-cycle opportunities years."

to watch over the coming



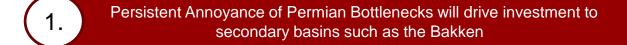


Despite flat reserve estimates, majors have found a rationale to diversify holdings and move away from the Permian

Source: DCM, Street Research, Company Filings

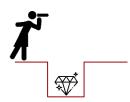
**RBC Capital Markets** 

# Summary of Why We Like the Bakken For a Potential Investment





Market may have overlooked basin due to recent flat reserve estimates, future refreshed estimates are a potential catalyst for Bakken producers



ND and Montana are consistently in support of fracing – this is in contrast to Colorado





4. Improving technology is increasing netbacks and allowing access to new reserves



# Thesis II: Market Mispricing Enerplus as a Canadian Upstream Company

#### Market Mispricing Enerplus as a Canadian Peer

"Enerplus is trading at a debt-adjusted cash flow multiple of 5.8x in 2018E vs. our Canadian peer group average of 6.2x"

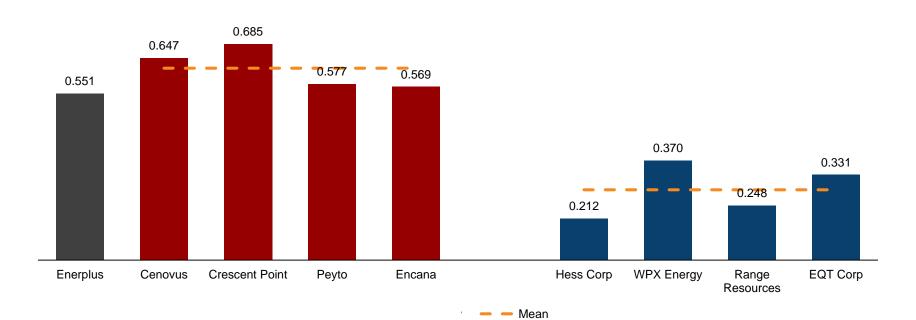
- Greg Pardy



"Our equity research analysts need to change their comps....." – Anon. Calgary MD



#### 1 Year Correlation (R2) to Canadian Energy ETF (ZEO CN Equity)



Source: Bloomberg

# Thesis II: Market Mis-Grouping Enerplus

#### **TD Securities Inc.**

# TD

# **Action Note**

Equity Research September 24, 2018

#### Valuation

#### **Exhibit 5. Peer Group Comparison**



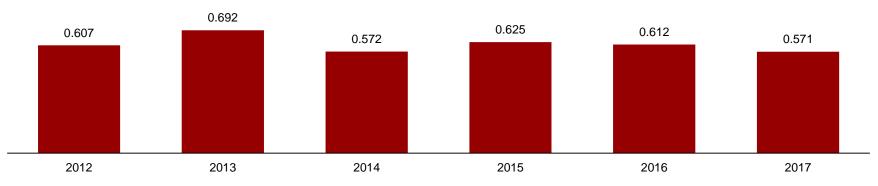
	2018E	D/CF	% Drawn	Corporate P/O 2018E		BOE/d			EV/DACF	
		2018E	2018E	Ex. DRIP	Inc. DRIP	2019E	Gas	Gwth*	2018E	2019E
Canadia	n Peers									
FRU	6%	0.3x	26%	54%	54%	12,128	42%	0%	9.3x	9.1x
TOG	4%	1.2x	67%	76%	71%	28,744	12%	9%	5.4x	4.8x
WCP	4%	1.6x	51%	78%	78%	79,646	15%	7%	5.7x	5.0x
ERF	1%	0.4x	0%	83%	83%	99,797	42%	8%	5.2x	4.4x
CPG	4%	2.2x	53%	111%	111%	178,506	10%	1%	4.2x	3.9x
ARX	4%	0.9x	0%	107%	107%	146,940	72%	10%	6.3x	6.6x
PSK	3%	-0.1x	0%	76%	76%	23,030	45%	1%	22.3x	20.8x
VET	7%	1.7x	71%	97%	92%	100,941	43%	7%	8.3x	6.4x
Median	4%	1.0x	39%	80%	80%	89,721	42%	7%	6.0x	5.7x



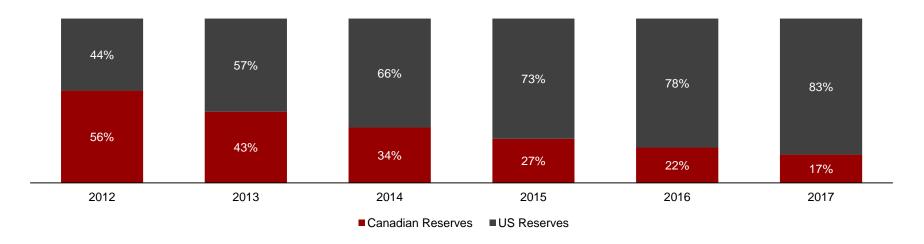
# Market Potentially Slow To React To Enerplus American Expansion

Enerplus is NOT a Canadian Upstream Company

#### Historical Correlation of Enerplus and Canadian Energy ETF (ZEO CN Equity)



**Historical 2P (Proved + Probable) Reserves (MMBOE)** 



Market is potentially slow to react to Enerplus's Asset Diversification – Waiting Game, Same as Aritizia

Source: Company AIF, Bloomberg



# **US Exposure**

- Enerplus has shifted production to focus primarily on the US (~90%)
- Price exposure to WTI & Henry Hub vs. WCS & AECO



# **Tax Cuts & Jobs Act**

- Given Enerplus's subsidiary, Enerplus USA, they have benefited from the US tax reform
- Canadian "comps" cannot realize benefits such as lower statutory rate and capital spending immediate expensing



# Strategic Plan

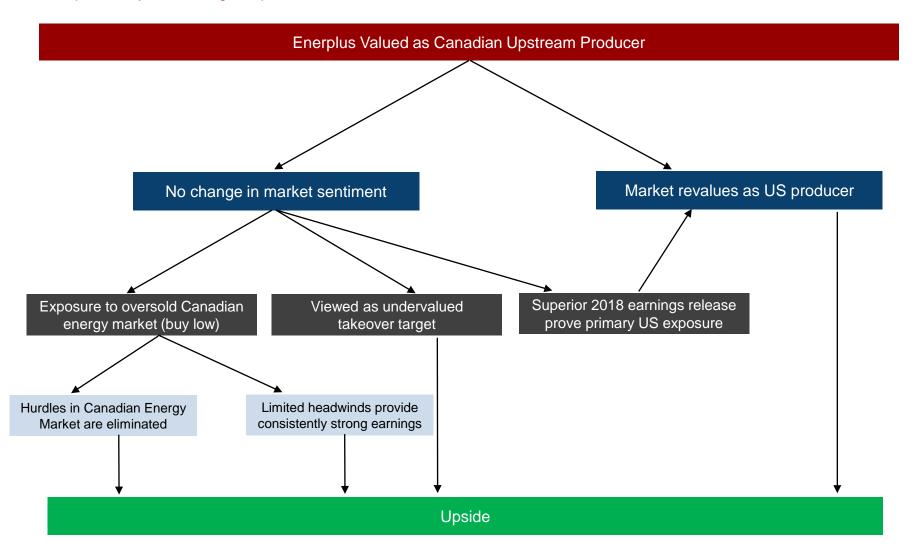
- CEO, Ian Dundas, has repeatedly said that they plan to invest 90% of money saved from US tax cut to invest into the US
- "The US is a much more attractive market for a variety of reasons.... Canada is currently not very attractive for our line of work"

Given Enerplus's US exposure, policy tailwinds with the US tax reform and heavy investment in US, it is perplexing that they would be compared to Canadian companies

Source: Company filings

# Bonus: Catalyst Path

#### Multiple Catalysts Leading to Upside





#### **Production Split**

- All competitors have a different focus on either Natural Gas or Crude Oil
- Currently Oil trades a premium to NG, so liquids focused players have received a valuation bump



#### **Canadian Discount**

- Potential market mispricing due to Canadian headquarters and historical production mix
- Canadian company, but has only ~10% production in Canada



#### **Competitor Alternative Basins**

- Competitor secondary assets may be viewed to be in more premium basins
- Market placing more value on pure-play Bakken players

Before a full pitch, Energy aims to dive deeper into the company and understand if discount is warranted

Source: capIQ, Thomsonone, DCM

#### Valuation: Sum of Parts

#### Found comps for separate plays to isolate pure-play multiple

#### Marcellus *Pure-Play* Natural Gas Comps

EQT Corp 24.59 2.53	0.67% 3.89%	87.22%	9.73x
24.00 Z4.00	3.89%	05 000/	
Cabot Oil & Gas 11 1.03	0.0070	95.66%	10.68x
Range Resources 8.37 1.25	3.92%	66.86%	6.72x
Antero 11.53 1.45	1.79%	71.90%	7.9 <u>5</u> x
Mean 13.87 1.56	2.57%	80.41%	8.77x
25th Percentile 10.34 1.19	1.51%	70.64%	7.64x
Median 11.27 1.35	2.84%	79.56%	8.84x

#### **Bakken Pure-Play Comps**

Company	EV (C\$Bn)	EBITDAX (C\$Bn)	Oil Mix %	Prod Mix NatGas %	EV/EBITDAX
Oasis Petroleum	8.54	1.06	78.00%	22.00%	8.09X
Continental	35.14	3.61	57.00%	43.00%	9.74X
Whiting Petroleum	8.14	1.24	68.00%	32.00%	6.55X
Hess Corp	31.06	2.95	58.00%	42.00%	10.53X
25th Percentile	8.44	1.20	57.75%	29.50%	7.71X
Mean	20.72	2.21	65.25%	34.75%	8.73X
Median	19.8	2.10	63.00%	37.00%	8.92X

We isolated individual basins with pure play companies to isolate the market multiple for that basin

Source: Bloomberg, Company Filings

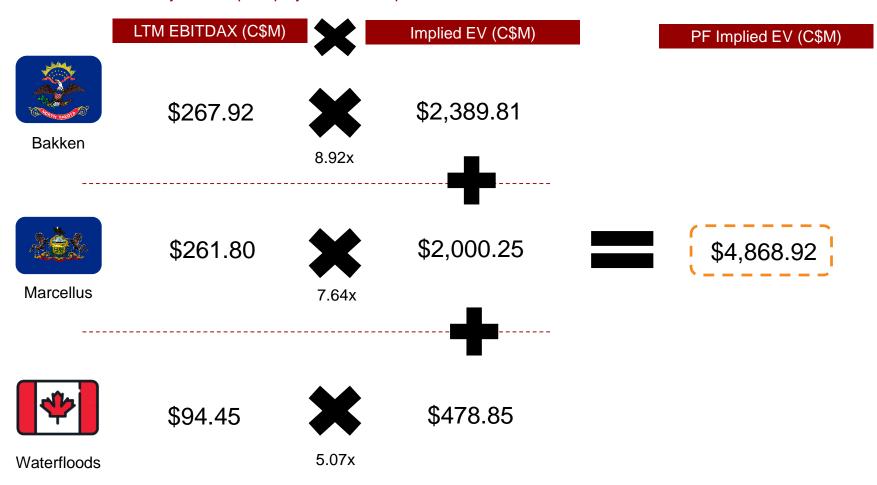
## Cont'd Valuation: Sum of Parts

#### **Canadian Waterfloods Comps**

Company	EV(C\$Bn)	EBITDA (C\$Bn)	Prod Mix Oil %	Prod Mix Nat Gas %	EV/EBITDA
Crescent Point	7.68	1.72	79.54%	10.08%	4.47x
WhiteCap Resources	4.07	0.80	75.87%	18.18%	5.07x
Baytex Energy	3.25	0.54	66.40%	20.49%	6.02x
Mean	5.00	1.02	73.94%	16.25%	5.19x
Median	4.07	0.80	75.87%	18.18%	5.07x

#### Sum of the Parts Valuation

Isolated Individual Plays to find pure play market multiple

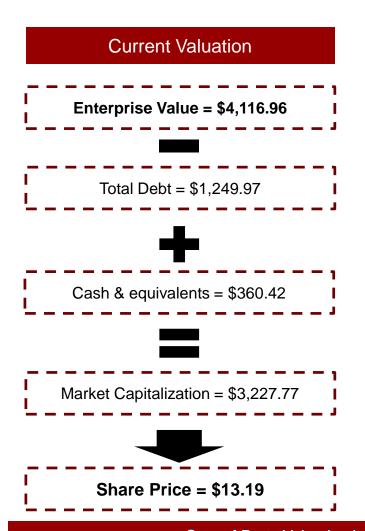


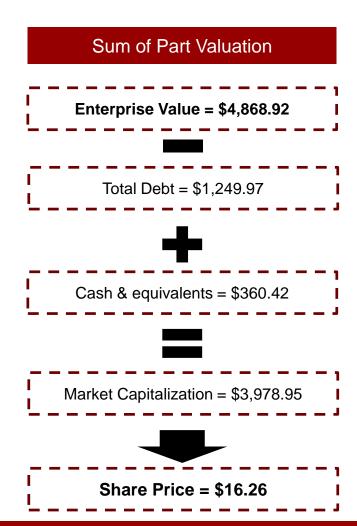
Sum of Parts Valuation gives a Pro-Forma Implied Enterprise Value of ~C\$4.9bn, currently valued at ~\$4.2bn

Source: Bloomberg

# Sum of Parts Output

#### Bridge to Equity Value





Sum of Parts Valuation implies a ~23% upside to the current share price

Source: Bloomberg, Company Filings

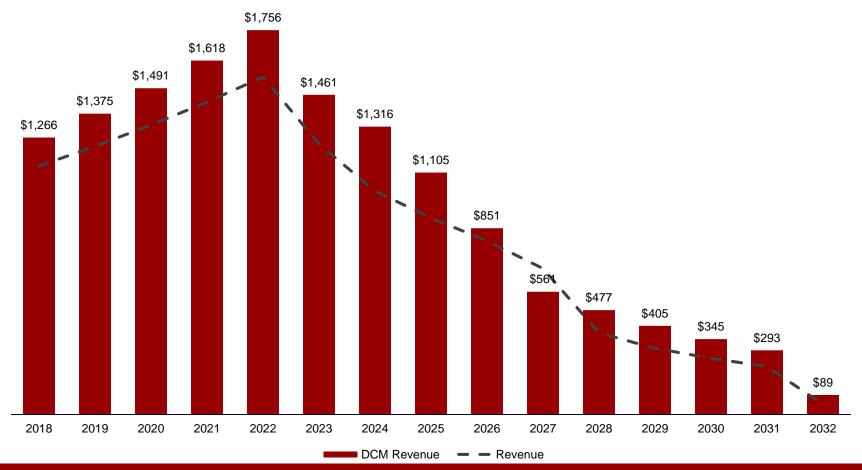
		Bakken EV / LTM EBITDAX Multiples			
		8.00x	8.50x	9.00x	
K Multiples	7.00×	\$14.57	\$15.11	\$15.66	
Marcellus EV / LTM EBITDAX Multiples	7.50×	\$15.10	<b>\$15.63</b> (~18.7%)	\$16.20	
Marcellus EV	8.00×	\$15.64	\$16.18	\$16.73	

Sensitivity of Bakken and Marcellus Multiples still yield upside

Source: DCM

## **NAV Model Output**

#### **DCM Revenue Outlook**



DCM took view on Enerplus's strategic plan to expand into the Bakken which created small bump in revenue

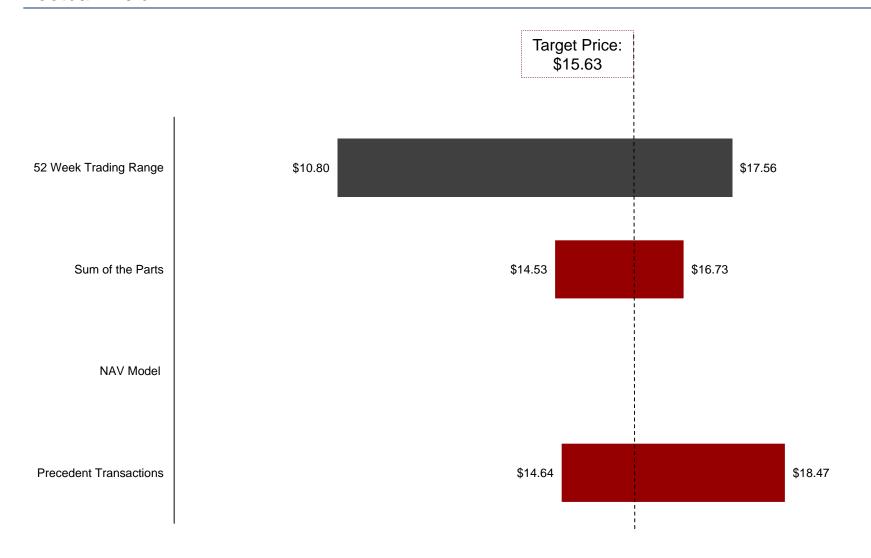
## Production % Per Basin

DCM Key Assumptions in NAV Model

2019 Reserve Estimates vs. Historical

**Key Assumptions** 

### Football Field



Sum of Parts Valuation gives us a target price of \$15.63, with an implied premium of 18.67%

Source: DCM

# Risks and Catalysts

# Risks

Downturn in WTI

No analyst re-rating

Dakota pipeline explosion

# Catalysts

Acquisition

Bakken Refreshed reserves estimate

Change of headquarters to Denver

Divestment of Canadian companies

2018 earnings release

# Appendix





# Appendix: Rough Precedents

Target Name	Acquirer Name	Date	Deal Value (US\$MM)	TV/EBITDA
Rowan Cos Plc	Ensco PLC	Oct-18	3561.93	8.88x
CVR Refining LP	CVR Energy Inc	May-18	561.9	10.40x
Energen Corp	Diamondback Energy Inc	Aug-18	9162.6	11.27x
RSP Permian Inc	Concho Resources Inc	Mar-18	9204.45	17.46x
Rex Energy Corp	PennEnergy Resources LLC	Aug-18	1535.66	24.11x
Mean			4805.308	14.42x
Median			3561.93	11.27x