

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

DATE OF REPORT (DATE OF EARLIEST EVENT REPORTED) JANUARY 23, 1997

OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	1-9210 (Commission File Number)	95-4035997 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
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10889 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024
(Address of principal executive offices) (ZIP code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code:
(310) 208-8800

Item 5. Other Events

Occidental Petroleum Corporation reported on January 23, 1997 net income of \$159 million (\$.41 per share) for the fourth quarter of 1996, compared with net income for the fourth quarter of 1995 of \$7 million (a loss of \$.05 per share). Fourth quarter 1995 income before special items was \$79 million. The fourth quarter of 1995 results included a \$132 million pretax charge relating to reorganizations of the oil and gas and natural gas transmission divisions. Sales were \$2.8 billion for the fourth quarter of 1996, compared with \$2.5 billion for the same period of 1995.

Oil and gas divisional earnings were \$155 million for the fourth quarter of 1996, compared with earnings before special items of \$64 million for the fourth quarter of 1995. Divisional results for the fourth quarter of 1995 were a loss of \$31 million after inclusion of a \$95 million charge related to reorganization costs. The increase in 1996 earnings resulted primarily from higher worldwide crude oil and domestic natural gas prices.

Natural gas transmission divisional earnings were \$75 million for the fourth quarter of 1996, compared with earnings before special items of \$59 million for the fourth quarter of 1995. Divisional earnings after special items were \$22 million for the fourth quarter of 1995. The 1995 earnings included a \$37 million charge related to reorganization costs. The increase in 1996 earnings resulted primarily from higher margins.

Chemical divisional earnings were \$110 million for the fourth quarter of 1996, compared with \$167 million for the fourth quarter of 1995. The decline in 1996 earnings resulted primarily from lower product margins for petrochemical and chlor-alkali products.

Interest expense in the fourth quarter of 1996 was \$102 million, compared with \$130 million for the fourth quarter of 1995. The decline in interest is attributable to lower average interest rates and lower average debt levels resulting primarily from redemptions of high-coupon debt.

Unallocated other expenses were \$20 million for the

fourth quarter of 1996, compared with \$7 million for the fourth quarter of 1995. The net increase results mainly from the initial establishment of the MidCon ESOP, special project expenses and lower equity earnings from unconsolidated subsidiaries.

For the total year 1996, Occidental's net income totaled \$668 million or \$1.77 per share, compared with \$511 million or \$1.31 per share in 1995. Total year 1996 income before special items was \$643 million, compared with 1995 income of \$623 million. Sales were \$10.6 billion for 1996, compared with \$10.4 billion for 1995.

SUMMARY OF DIVISIONAL NET SALES AND EARNINGS
(Millions, except per-share amounts)

Periods Ended December 31 =====	Fourth Quarter		Twelve Months	
	1996	1995	1996	1995
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
DIVISIONAL NET SALES				
Oil and gas	\$ 900	\$ 778	\$ 3,680	\$ 3,018
Natural gas transmission	797	578	2,574	2,038
Chemical	1,097	1,117	4,307	5,370
Other	(2)	-	(4)	(3)
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
	\$ 2,792	\$ 2,473	\$10,557	\$10,423
DIVISIONAL EARNINGS				
Oil and gas	\$ 155	\$ (31)	\$ 480	\$ 45
Natural gas transmission	75	22	296	213
Chemical	110	167	668	1,080
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
	340	158	1,444	1,338
UNALLOCATED CORPORATE ITEMS				
Interest expense, net	(102)	(130)	(451)	(540)
Income taxes (a)	(59)	(14)	(263)	(295)
Other	(20)	(7)	(32)	8
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
INCOME BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY GAIN(LOSS), NET	159	7	698	511
Extraordinary gain(loss), net	-	-	(30)	-
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
NET INCOME	159	7	668	511
Preferred dividends	(24)	(23)	(93)	(93)
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
EARNINGS(LOSS) APPLICABLE TO COMMON STOCK	\$ 135	\$ (16)	\$ 575	\$ 418
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
PRIMARY EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE				
Income before extraordinary gain(loss), net	\$.41	\$ (.05)	\$ 1.86	\$ 1.31
Extraordinary gain(loss), net	-	-	(.09)	-
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
PRIMARY EARNINGS PER SHARE	\$.41	\$ (.05)	\$ 1.77	\$ 1.31
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
FULLY DILUTED EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE				
Income before extraordinary gain(loss), net	\$.40	\$ (.05)	\$ 1.81	\$ 1.30
Extraordinary gain(loss), net	-	-	(.08)	-
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
FULLY DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE	\$.40	\$ (.05)	\$ 1.73	\$ 1.30
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
AVERAGE COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING	329.5	318.8	324.1	318.2
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

(a) The twelve months of 1996 includes a \$100 million credit for reduction in federal income tax liabilities no longer required. Also included is an offset for charges and credits in lieu of U.S. federal income taxes allocated to the divisions. Divisional earnings in the fourth quarter of 1996 have benefited from credits allocated by \$4 million, \$12 million and \$6 million at oil and gas, natural gas transmission and chemical, respectively. Divisional earnings in the fourth quarter of 1995 have benefited from credits allocated by \$4 million, \$12 million and \$7 million at oil and gas, natural gas transmission and chemical, respectively.

SUMMARY OF OPERATING STATISTICS

Periods Ended December 31 =====	Fourth Quarter		Twelve Months	
	1996	1995	1996	1995
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
NET OIL, GAS AND LIQUIDS PRODUCTION PER DAY				
United States				
Crude oil and condensate (thousands of barrels)	60	62	57	64
Natural gas liquids (thousands of barrels)	14	10	13	11
Natural gas (millions of cubic feet)	589	584	601	612
Other Western Hemisphere				
Crude oil and condensate (thousands of barrels)	123	127	128	129
Eastern Hemisphere				
Crude oil and condensate (thousands of barrels)	99	100	101	85
Natural gas (millions of cubic feet)	112	125	115	127
NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION DELIVERIES				
Sales (billions of cubic feet)	204	203	699	648
Transportation (billions of cubic feet)	418	421	1,555	1,533
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES (millions)				
	\$ 405	\$ 373	\$1,185	\$ 979
	=====	=====	=====	=====
DEPRECIATION, DEPLETION AND AMORTIZATION OF ASSETS (millions)				
	\$ 234	\$ 214	\$ 921	\$ 922
	=====	=====	=====	=====

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION
(Registrant)

DATE: January 24, 1997

S. P. Dominick, Jr.

S. P. Dominick, Jr., Vice President
and Controller (Chief Accounting
and Duly Authorized Officer)