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By Verity Ratcliffe

Financial Investor Interest in Oil Futures Plummeted: Goldman

Investment in oil by active money managers fell to about \$500m so far this year from \$60b-\$70b in 2008, Jeffrey Currie, global head of commodities research at Goldman Sachs Group Inc., says in Dubai.

* “Last year was the final nail in the coffin”

* Banks are leaving due to regulatory concerns, hedge funds have seen poor returns and the cost of funding is too high for trade houses; “what you’re left with is systematic traders - CTAs, trend followers” and other passive investors.

* This situation creates risk of high volatility in markets.

OPEC+ to Have More Clarity on Oil Demand in May: Kuwait’s Ghais

Draft of OPEC+ charter to be presented to ministers at June meeting, to be approved at summit later this year, Haitham Al-Ghais, Kuwait’s Governor for OPEC, says in Dubai.

U.A.E.’s Mazrouei: OPEC+ to Do Necessary for Market Balance

OPEC+ delayed an April meeting because its members had not reduced inventories to 5-year average, and Venezuela and Iran output uncertain, said U.A.E. Energy Minister Suhail Al-Mazrouei says in Dubai.

* “Not sure yet what will happen with waivers on Iran”

* Mazrouei sees good compliance with output cuts in April; hopefully overproduction from shale producers will not happen.