

WILLIAMS COMPANIES INC  
Form DEFA14A  
June 27, 2016

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**SCHEDULE 14A**  
**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the**  
**Securities Exchange Act of 1934**  
**(Amendment No. )**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

**The Williams Companies, Inc.**

**(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)**

**(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)**

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- x No fee required.
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The following is an email to all employees from Alan Armstrong, the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Williams Companies, Inc. ( Williams ), discussing, among other things, the proposed business combination transaction between Williams and Energy Transfer Equity, L.P.

Bcc: Williams Employees Only  
From: Alan Armstrong  
Subject: Litigation Ruling  
Attach: Litigation Outcome Press release

The Delaware Court of Chancery has issued a ruling in our litigation with Energy Transfer Equity (ETE) in which it found that that ETE is contractually entitled to terminate the Merger Agreement.

While we respect the Court's ruling, we continue to believe that ETE has breached the Merger Agreement, and the Williams Board of Directors remains committed to enforcing the company's rights under that Agreement. Attached is a copy of the press release we have issued. I know there has been a great deal of uncertainty these past several months, and that you may have questions about what this ruling means. While I'm not in the position to answer those questions at this time, I am committed to communicating with you as more information is available.

What I can tell you is that Williams is the best positioned natural gas-focused company in terms of our strategic balance, and we have outstanding prospects thanks to your efforts. I know that we all care deeply about our company, our success, our past and our future, so I am asking you to stay focused on our work and maintaining safe and reliable operations as we move.

As previously communicated, Williams will proceed with the special meeting and stockholder vote scheduled for Monday, June 27, 2016. In the coming days, there will likely continue to be speculation in the media. Please direct any inquiries from the media to Lance Latham at 918-573-9675. Any calls from financial analysts or investors should be directed to John Porter at 918-573-0797.

Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication.

Alan

**WILLIAMS COMMITTED TO CLOSING; WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS TO ENFORCE ITS  
RIGHTS UNDER THE MERGER AGREEMENT**

*Williams Recommends Stockholders Vote FOR the Merger Agreement with ETE*

*at Special Meeting of Williams Stockholders on June 27, 2016*

TULSA, Okla. June 24, 2016 The Williams Companies, Inc. (NYSE: WMB) ( Williams ) today issued the following statement regarding the Delaware Court of Chancery's ruling relating to the Merger Agreement between Williams and Energy Transfer Equity, L.P. (NYSE: ETE) ( ETE ):

While we appreciate the Court's consideration of this matter, Williams does not believe ETE has a right to terminate the Merger Agreement because ETE has breached the Merger Agreement by failing to cooperate and use necessary efforts to satisfy the conditions to closing, including delivery of Latham & Watkins LLP's Section 721(a) tax opinion. Williams remains committed to closing the merger under the Merger Agreement entered into with ETE on September 28, 2015. If ETE attempts to terminate the Merger Agreement, Williams will take appropriate actions to

enforce its rights under the Merger Agreement and deliver its benefits to Williams stockholders.

The Williams Board continues to recommend that stockholders vote FOR the merger agreement with ETE. The cash and stock transaction with ETE will provide Williams stockholders a significant premium, meaningful participation in the upside of combined company and value certainty through the cash component.

The special meeting of stockholders will be held on Monday, June 27, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. (Central Daylight Time) at the Williams Resource Center Theater, One Williams Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Williams stockholders of record as of the close of business on May 19, 2016 are entitled to vote at the meeting.

**Williams (NYSE: WMB)** is a premier provider of large-scale infrastructure connecting North American natural gas and natural gas products to growing demand for cleaner fuel and feedstocks. Headquartered in Tulsa, Okla., Williams owns approximately 60 percent of Williams Partners L.P. (NYSE: WPZ) ( WPZ ), including all of the 2 percent general-partner interest. WPZ is an industry-leading, large-cap master limited partnership with operations across the natural gas value chain from gathering, processing and interstate transportation of natural gas and natural gas liquids to petchem production of ethylene, propylene and other olefins. With major

positions in top U.S. supply basins and also in Canada, WPZ owns and operates more than 33,000 miles of pipelines system wide including the nation's largest volume and fastest growing pipeline providing natural gas for clean-power generation, heating and industrial use. WPZ's operations touch approximately 30 percent of U.S. natural gas.

### **Forward-looking Statements**

This communication may contain forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the merger of ETE and Williams, the expected future performance of the combined company (including expected results of operations and financial guidance), and the combined company's future financial condition, operating results, strategy and plans. Forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of the words anticipates, expects, intends, plans, should, could, would, may, will, believes, estimates, opportunity, designed, create, predict, project, seek, ongoing, increases or continue and variations or other expressions. These statements are based upon the current expectations and beliefs of management and are subject to numerous assumptions, risks and uncertainties that change over time and could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. These assumptions, risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, assumptions, risks and uncertainties discussed in the Registration Statement on Form S-4 which was declared effective by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) on May 25, 2016 (the Form S-4) and in the most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for each of ETE, Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. (NYSE: ETP) (ETP), Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. (NYSE: SXL) (SXL), Sunoco LP (NYSE: SUN) (SUN), Williams and WPZ filed with the SEC and assumptions, risks and uncertainties relating to the proposed transaction, as detailed from time to time in the Form S-4 and in ETE's, ETP's, SXL's, SUN's, Williams' and WPZ's filings with the SEC, which factors are incorporated herein by reference. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements we make in this communication are set forth in the Form S-4 and in other reports or documents that ETE, ETP, SXL, SUN, Williams and WPZ file from time to time with the SEC include, but are not limited to: (1) the ultimate outcome of any business combination transaction between ETE, Energy Transfer Corp LP (ETC) and Williams; (2) the ultimate outcome and results of integrating the operations of ETE and Williams, the ultimate outcome of ETE's operating strategy applied to Williams and the ultimate ability to realize cost savings and synergies; (3) the effects of the business combination transaction of ETE, ETC and Williams, including the combined company's future financial condition, operating results, strategy and plans; (4) the ability to meet the closing conditions to the transaction, including Williams stockholder approval, on a timely basis or at all; (5) the reaction of the companies' stockholders, customers, employees and counterparties to the proposed transaction; (6) diversion of management time on transaction-related issues; (7) unpredictable economic conditions in the United States and other markets, including fluctuations in the market price of ETE common units and ETC common shares; (8) the ability to obtain the intended tax treatment in connection with the issuance of ETC common shares to Williams stockholders; and (9) the ability to maintain Williams', WPZ's, ETP's, SXL's and SUN's current credit ratings. All forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any of these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof. Neither ETE nor Williams undertakes any obligation to update any of these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this communication or to reflect actual outcomes.

### **Additional Information**

This communication does not constitute an offer to buy or solicitation of an offer to sell any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended. This communication relates to a proposed business combination between ETE and Williams. In furtherance of this proposed business combination and subject to future developments, ETE, ETC and Williams have filed a registration statement on Form S-4 with the SEC and a proxy statement/prospectus of Williams and other documents

related to the proposed business combination. This communication is not a substitute for any proxy statement, registration statement, prospectus or other document ETE, ETC or Williams may file with the SEC in connection with the proposed business combination. The registration statement was declared effective by the SEC on May 25, 2016. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS OF ETE AND WILLIAMS ARE URGED TO READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT, PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN OR MAY BE FILED WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY AND IN THEIR ENTIRETY AS THEY CONTAIN OR WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED BUSINESS COMBINATION. Definitive proxy statement(s) were mailed to stockholders of Williams beginning on May 25, 2016 and amended by Amendment No. 1 on June 3, 2016 and by Amendment No. 2 on June 17, 2016. Investors and security holders may obtain free copies of these documents and other documents filed with the SEC by ETE, ETC and Williams through the website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of the documents filed by ETE and ETC with the SEC will be available free of charge on ETE's website at [www.energytransfer.com](http://www.energytransfer.com) or by contacting Investor Relations at 214-981-0700 and copies of the documents filed by Williams with the SEC will be available on Williams' website at [investor.williams.com](http://investor.williams.com).

ETE and its directors, executive officers and other members of management and employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed transaction. Information regarding the directors and officers of ETE's general partner

is contained in ETE's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on February 29, 2016 (as it may be amended from time to time). Additional information regarding the interests of such potential participants is included in the proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant documents filed with the SEC.

Investors should read the proxy statement/prospectus carefully before making any voting or investment decisions. You may obtain free copies of these documents from ETE using the sources indicated above.

Williams and its directors, executive officers and other members of management and employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed transaction. Information regarding the directors and officers of Williams is contained in Williams' Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on February 26, 2016 (as it may be amended from time to time). Additional information regarding the interests of such potential participants is included in the proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant documents filed with the SEC. Investors should read the proxy statement/prospectus carefully before making any voting or investment decisions. You may obtain free copies of these documents from Williams using the sources indicated above.

### **Contacts**

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