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): August 5, 2004

The Williams Companies, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	Delaware 1-4174	
(State or other	(Commission	(I.R.S. Employer
jurisdiction of	jurisdiction of File Number)	
incorporation)		
One Williams Center, Tulsa,	<u>74172</u>	
(Address of principal execut	(Zip Code)	

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 918/573-2000

Not Applicable (Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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Copy of Slide Presentation

Copy of Press Release
Copy of Reconciliation of Income (Loss) from Continuing Operations to Recurring Earnings

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Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (a) None
- (b) None
- (c) Exhibits

Exhibit 99.1 Copy of Williams' slide presentation to be utilized

during the August 5, 2004, public conference call and webcast.

Exhibit 99.2 Copy of Williams' press release dated August 5, 2004,

publicly announcing its second quarter 2004 financial results.

Exhibit 99.3 Copy of Williams' Reconciliation of Income (Loss) from

Continuing Operations to Recurring Earnings.

Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure.

Date: August 5, 2004

The Williams Companies, Inc. ("Williams") wishes to disclose for Regulation FD purposes its slide presentation, filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1, to be utilized during a public conference call and webcast on the morning of August 5, 2004.

Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On August 5, 2004, Williams issued a press release announcing its financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2004. The press release is accompanied by a reconciliation of certain non-GAAP financial measures disclosed in the press release with the GAAP financial measures that Williams' management believes are most directly comparable. A copy of the press release and the reconciliation are furnished as a part of this current report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.2 and Exhibit 99.3, respectively, and are incorporated herein in their entirety by reference.

This Report on Form 8-K is being furnished pursuant to Item 12, Results of Operations and Financial Condition. The information furnished is not deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is not subject to the liabilities of that section and is not deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

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

THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES, INC.

/s/ Brian K. Shore

Name: Brian K. Shore Title: Corporate Secretary

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
99.1	Copy of Williams' slide presentation to be utilized during the August 5, 2004, public conference call and webcast.
99.2	Copy of Williams' press release dated August 5, 2004.
99.3	Copy of Williams' Reconciliation of Income (Loss) from Continuing Operations to Recurring Earnings.





Forward Looking Statements



Our reports, filings, and other public announcements might contain or incorporate by reference statements that do not directly or exclusively relate to historical facts. Such statements are "forward-looking statements" with in the meaning of Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You typically can identify forward-looking statements by the use of forward-looking words, such as "anticipate," believe," "could," "continue," "estimate," "expect," "forecast," "may," "plan," "potential," "project," "schedule," "will," and other similar words. These statements are based on our intentions, beliefs, and assumptions about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors. Actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. In addition to any assumptions and other factors referred to specifically in connection with such statements, other factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements. Those factors include, among others:

- Our ability to divest successfully certain assets and our ability to identify and achieve cost savings measures, which may be dependent on factors outside of our control;
- Our ability to timely divest our wholesale power and energy trading business which may be dependent on factors outside of our control;
- Recent developments affecting the wholesale power and energy trading industry sector that have reduced market activity and liquidity;
 Because we no longer maintain investment grade credit ratings, our counterparties might require us to provide increasing amounts of credit support;
- . Hectricity, natural gas liquids and gas prices are volatile and this volatility could adversely affect our financial results, cash flows, access to capital and ability to maintain existing businesses;
- •We might not be able to successfully manage the risks associated with selling and marketing products in the wholesale energy markets;
- Our risk measurement and hedging activities might not prevent losses;
- Our operating results might fluctuate on a seasonal and quarterly basis;
- Risks related to laws of other countries, taxes, economic conditions, fluctuations in currency rates, political conditions and policies of foreign governments;
- Legal proceedings and governmental investigations related to the energy marketing and trading business;
 Our businesses are subject to complex government regulations that are subject to changes in the regulations themselves or in their interpretation or implementation;
- Our ability to gain adequate, reliable and affordable access to transmission and distribution assets due to the FERC and regional regulation of wholesale market transactions for electricity and gas:
- The different regional power markets in which we compete or will compete in the future have changing regulatory structures
- Our gas sales, transmission and storage operations are subject to government regulations and rate proceedings that could have an adverse impact on our ability to recover the costs of operating our pipeline facilities;
- We could be held liable for the environmental condition of any of our assets, which could include losses or costs of compliance that exceed our current expectations;
- Environmental regulation and liability relating to our business will be subject to environmental legislation in all jurisdictions in which it operates, and such legislation may be subject to change;

 • Potential changes in accounting standards that might cause us to revise our financial disclosure in the future, which might change the way analysts measure our business
- or financial performance;
- The continued availability of natural gas reserves to our U.S. and Canadian natural gas transmission and midstream businesses;
 Our gathering, processing and transporting activities involve numerous risks that might result in accidents and other operating risks and costs;
- The threat of terrorist activities and the potential for continued military and other actions; and
- The historic drilling success rate of our exploration and production business is no guarantee of future performance.

In light of these risks, uncertainties, and assumptions, the events described in the forward-looking statements might not occur or might occur to a different extent or at a different time that we have described. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.





Headlines



Williams delivers on restructuring

- Balance sheet gets stronger
- Adequate liquidity continues
- Debt reduction ramps up; new tender announced today
- Asset sale program ending
- Credit-rating agencies take notice
- Western power issues go away; utilities pay their bill
- IBM deal helps to lock in G&A cost reductions
- Power no exit to date; cash flow positive year-to-date

Headlines



- Williams delivers solid 2Q performance
 - Recurring results see big improvement
 - Gas Pipeline steady
 - Midstream gets boost from new deepwater expansions and strong olefins; increases guidance
 - E&P increases production but lowers 2004 earnings guidance as
 - · Costs increase
 - · Hedges limit upside
 - Power in-line with our expectations; mark-to-market gains offset seasonally soft quarter and legacy position impacts

Headlines



- Williams poised for post-restructuring growth, value-creation
 - Natural gas businesses provide organic growth opportunities
 - Investments today preserve, enhance competitive position
 - · Drilling activity, production levels both increase
 - · Deepwater Gulf infrastructure prime for incremental business
 - Seriously considering MLP for certain Midstream assets and future acquisitions
 - · Gulfstream expansion gets under way
 - Scale and scope of investments ramp up as restructuring finish line nears
 - · Value creation
 - Growth
 - · Financial discipline

The Road Ahead



	2004		2006	2007 & beyond	
Exploration & Production		F		uction doubles wth continues r grows	
Midstream	Complete deepwater projects Complete asset sales	Maintain competitive position – MLP?		ure our share w deepwater production	Disciplined Growth
Gas Pipelin			/ replaceme:	Expansions nt Rate cases	
Power	Exit or optimize	If no exit, continue to re generate cash, meet cor		Spark spreads improve	Risk Reduction
Corporate	Early debt retirement New credit facilities	Cost reductions MLP? Support gr		tment-grade ratios if exit Power Examine dividend level	Solid Financial Footing





Financial Results



Dollars in millions (except per share amounts)

	2 nd Quarter		YTD	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Income (Loss) from Continuing Ops.*	(\$18)	\$114	(\$19)	\$70
Income (Loss) from Discont. Ops.	-	156	11	146
Effect of Accounting Change	-			(761)
Net Income/(Loss)*	(\$18)	\$270	(\$8)	(\$545)
Net Income/(Loss) Share*	(\$0.03)	\$0.46	(\$0.02)	(\$1.10)
Recurring. Inc./(Loss) from Cont. Ops Avail to Common Shareholders**	\$64	(\$12)	\$67	(\$55)
Rcr. Inc./(Loss) from Cont. Ops /Share**	\$0.12	(\$0.02)	\$0.13	(\$0.10)

^{*} Includes gains on asset sales, impairments, prior period corrections, restatements for discontinued operations and the reclassification of results related to the transfer of certain regulated gathering assets from Midstream to Gas Pipelines (see Notes 1 & 2 of the current 10-Q).

^{**} A schedule reconciling income (foss) from continuing operations to recurring income from continuing operations is available on Williams' Web site at www.williams.com and at the end of this presentation.

Recurring Income from Cont. Operations



Dollars in millions

	2 nd Quarter		YT	TD .
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Income/(Loss) from Cont. Ops.	(\$18)	\$114	(\$19)	\$70
Gains on Sale of Assets	-	(274)	-	(274)
Impairments/Losses/Write-offs	24	137	24	149
Income (Expense) Related to Prior Periods	11	(93)	11	(107)
Debt Retirement Expenses	97	-	97	-
Other	1	18	8	31
Less: Income Tax Provision	51_	(109)	54	(105)
Recurring Income from Cont. Ops.	\$64	\$11	\$67	(\$26)
Preferred Dividend	-	(23)	-	(29)
Rec. Inc./(Loss) from Cont. Ops. Avail. to Com.	\$64	(<u>\$12)</u>	\$67	(\$55)
Recurring Income/(Loss) from Cont. Ops/Share	\$0.12	(\$0.02)	\$0.13	(\$0.10)

A more detailed schedule reconciling income (loss) from continuing operations to recurring income from continuing operations is available on Williams' Web site at www.williams.com and at the end of this presentation.

Net Income Components



Dollars in millions (except per share amounts)

	2nd Quarter		Y	TD
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Segment Profit	\$305	\$636	\$571	\$880
Net Interest Expense	(222)	(395)	(461)	(736)
Debt Retirement Expense	(97)	-	(97)	-
Other Income (Expense) - Net	(21)	(1)	(38)	<u>40</u>
Income/(Loss) from Cont. Ops. Before Tax*	(35)	240	(25)	184
Provision (Benefit) for Income Tax	<u>(17)</u>	<u>126</u>	(6)	<u>114</u>
Income/(Loss) from Continuing Ops.*	(\$18)	\$114	(\$19)	\$70
Income from Discontinued Ops.	-	156	11	146
Effect of Accounting Change				(761)
Net Income/(Loss)*	(<u>\$18)</u>	\$270	(\$8)	(\$ <u>545)</u>

^{*} Income/(Loss) from Continuing Operations includes certain gains on asset sales and impairments in 2003 and has been restated primarily for discontinued operations (See Note 2 of the current 10Q).

Second Quarter Segment Profit



Dollars in millions

	Reported		Recu	ırring
	2Q04	2Q03	2Q04	2Q03
Gas Pipeline	\$133	\$116	\$142	\$142
Exploration & Production(1)	43	179	55	87
Midstream Gas & Liquids	<u>99</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>54</u>
	\$275	\$340	\$296	\$283
Power ⁽²⁾	45	348	45	93
Other	<u>(15)</u>	(<u>52)</u>	<u>(5)</u>	<u>(2)</u>
Segment Profit ⁽³⁾	<u>\$305</u>	<u>\$636</u>	<u>\$336</u>	<u>\$374</u>

⁽¹⁾ E&P 2Q04 reported results include \$11 million loss provision related to prior periods.
(2) Power 2Q03 reported results include \$93 million income for prior period item correction
(3) Reported segment profit includes certain gains on asset sales and impairments in 2003 and has been restated primarily for discontinued operations (See Note 2 of the current 10Q).

A more detailed schedule reconciling income (loss) from continuing operations to recurring income from continuing operations is available on

Williams' Web site at www.williams.com and at the end of this presentation.

YTD Segment Profit



Dellers in williams	Rep	orted	Recurring	
Dollars in millions	2004	2003	2004	2003
Gas Pipeline	\$280	\$266	\$289	\$292
Exploration & Production(1)	95	293	106	201
Midstream Gas & Liquids	<u>207</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>207</u>	<u>166</u>
	\$582	\$716	\$602	\$659
Power ⁽²⁾	12	212	12	(45)
Other	<u>(23)</u>	(48)	<u>(5)</u>	<u>3</u>
Segment Profit ⁽³⁾	<u>\$571</u>	<u>\$880</u>	<u>\$609</u>	<u>\$617</u>

⁽¹⁾ E&P 2Q04 reported results include \$11 million loss provision related to prior periods.

⁽⁷⁾ East 2004 reported results include \$ 1107 million income for prior periods:
(2) Power 2003 reported results include \$ 1107 million income for prior period item correction
(3) Reported segment profit includes certain gains on asset sales and impairments in 2003 and has been restated primarily for discontinued operations (See Note 2 of the current 10Q).

A more detailed schedule reconciling income (loss) from continuing operations to recurring income from continuing operations is available on Williams. Web site at www.williams.com and at the end of this presentation.

Major Changes in Recurring Segment Profit



Dollars in millions	Recurring Segment Profit 2Q2003	\$374	
	Power	(49)	
	- Lower gross margin incl. MTM -\$63 million		
	- Reduced SG&A expenses +\$12		
	Midstream	45	
	- New deepwater assets +\$13 million		
	- Higher NGL margins +\$13 million		
	- Improved olefins results +17 million		
	Gas Pipeline	0	
	- New projects added +\$13 million		
	 Increased expenses and property taxes -\$4 million 		
	- Lower short term firm revenues and credits -\$10 million		
	Exploration & Production	(32)	
	- Lower net realized price & 2003 MTM gain -\$18 million		
	- Loss of excess firm transport & asset sales -\$14 million		
	- Higher operating costs -\$7 million		
	- Higher volumes in 2Q04 +\$7 million		
	Other	(3)	
	Recurring Segment Profit 2Q2004	\$336	

YTD Cash Information



Dollars in millions

Beginning Cash @ 12/31/03*	\$2,318
Cash Flow from Continuing Operations	604
Cash Flow from Discontinued Operations	12
Asset Sales	394
Restricted Investments (LC Collateral)	381
Debt Retirements	(2,218)
Capital Expenditures/Investments	(331)
Debt Premiums/Issuance Costs	(100)
Other-Net	(30)
Ending Cash @ 6/30/04*	\$ <u>1,030</u>
Change in Cash	(\$1,288)
Restricted Cash (not included above)	\$176

^{*} Includes cash for discontinued operations of \$2.5 million at 12/31/03 and \$0 at 6/30/04

Debt Balance



Dollars in millions		Avg. Cost
Debt Balance @ 12/31/03 *	\$11,978	7.7%
Scheduled Debt Retirements & Amortization Tendered Debt Retirements Open Market Purchases	(778) (1,171) (269)	
Debt Balance @ 6/30/04	\$9,760	7.3%
Net Decrease in Debt	(\$2,218)	
Fixed Rate Debt	\$9,165	7.6%
Variable Rate Debt	\$595	3.3%

^{*} Debt is long-term debt due within 1 year plus long-term debt plus notes payable; includes FELINE PACS

Consolidated 2004 Segment Profit Guidance



Dollars in millions	2004 Forecast	
Gas Pipeline	\$540 — 570 \$525 - 575	
Exploration & Production	235 – 260 275 - 300	
Midstream*	325 – 375 275 – 360 **	
Other/Rounding	0 – 45 	
	\$1,100 - 1,250 \$1,075-1,225 **	
Power***	0 – 150	
Total	\$1,100 – 1,400	
	\$1 075 - 1 375 **	

Midstream excludes Canadian assets sold and reclassified as discontinued operations

^{***} Restated to remove Canadian assets sold and reclassified as discontinued operations
*** Power guidance assumes zero 2nd half 2004 mark-to-market gains / (losses)

Consolidated 2004 Forecast Guidance



Dollars in millions, except per-share amounts	Current	Previous***
Segment profit	\$1,100 - \$1,400	\$1,075 - \$1,375
Net Interest Expense	(820) - (860)	(840) - (880)
Early Debt Retirement Costs	(250) – (200)	(225) – (175)
Other (Primarily General Corporate Costs)	(80) – (125)	same
Pretax Income (Loss)	(\$50) – \$215	(\$70) - \$195
Provision (Benefit) for Income Tax	5 – (125)	5 – (105)
Income / (Loss) from Continuing Ops	(45) – 90	(\$65) - \$90
Income from Discontinued Ops *	160 – 185	0 – 20
Net Income (Loss) – Reported	\$115 – \$275	(\$65) - \$110
Diluted EPS – Reported	\$0.22 - \$0.52	(\$0.12) - \$0.21
Net Income – Recurring **	\$107 – \$212	\$75 – \$195
Diluted EPS - Recurring **	\$0.20 - \$0.40	\$0.14 - \$0.37

Includes gain on sale of Canadian straddle plants
 Excludes early debt retirement costs, gains and losses on assets sales and impairments
 Previous guidance restated for Canadian asset sale and reclassification to discontinued operations

2004 Forecast EBITDA Reconciliation



Dollars in millions

Net Income	\$115 – \$275
Income from Disc. Operations	(160) – (185)
Net Interest	820 – 860
DD&A	650 – 700
Provision (Benefit) for Income Taxes	(5) – 125
Other/Rounding	(70) – 25
EBITDA – Reported	\$1,350 - \$1,800
Early Debt Retirement Fees	250 – 200
EDITO A December	#4 COO #2 OOO
EBITDA – Recurring	\$1,600 – \$2,000

MLP Direction



Positives

- Acquisition currency
- Retain control of assets
- Additional access to capital markets
- Added visibility for Midstream business unit valuation

Considerations

- Complicated tax / governance / reporting structure
- Hurdles due to current financial agreements
- Ratings agencies neutral to negative view

Current direction

- Seriously considering establishment of MLP
- Initial assets may include some of remaining assets for sale, e.g. Conway
- Flexibility for expansion through acquisition or drop-down transaction
- Expected IPO timing likely 1Q or 2Q 2005

MLP Initial Scale Considerations



- Starting small
 - Maximum flexibility to make acquisitions and drop-down acquisitions
 - Growth more sustainable starting from a smaller base
 - As GP, Williams incentive distributions increase geometrically as distributable cash flow grows
- Asset considerations
 - Not all Midstream assets are appropriate
 - Targeting more mature assets
- Rating agency considerations
 - Small size would mitigate concerns of ratings agencies
- Covenants
 - Certain covenants would initially limit assets which could be an MLP
 - Some midstream assets are pledged as collateral









Exploration & Production Segment Profit



	2 nd Q	uarter	YTD
Dollars in millions	2004	2003	2004 2003
Segment Profit	\$43	\$179	\$95 \$293
Non recurring:			
Ownership issue	11	-	11 -
Gain on sale of assets	-	(92)	- (92)
Recurring Segment Profit	\$55*	\$87	\$106 \$201

2Q04 to 2Q03 decrease includes

- (\$18) million primarily due to market to market gain in 2Q03 and lower net realized price
- (\$8) million due to excess transport
- (\$7) million due to higher operating expenses
- (\$6) million due to assets sold in 2Q03
- \$7 million increase due to higher volumes in 2Q04
- \$55 million negative hedge impact in second quarter 2004, \$101 million year to date

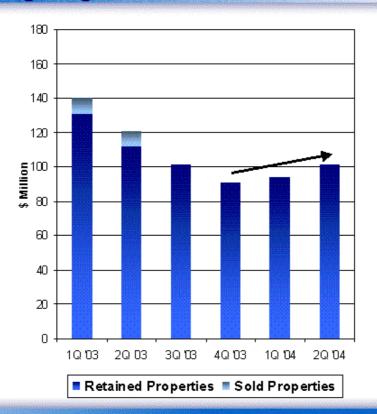
Base business sequential quarter improved

Sequential volumes increased 11%, recurring profit increased 6%

* Does not add due to rounding 24

Exploration & Production Recurring Segment Profit + DD&A

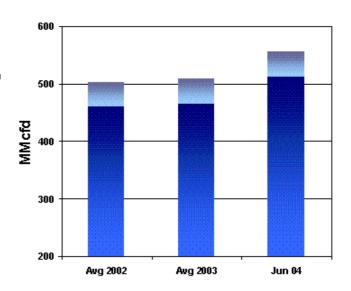




Exploration & Production Second Quarter Accomplishments



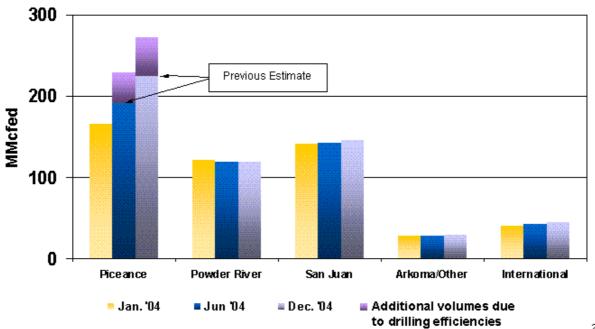
- Significant Production Growth
- Drilling activities increases
 - Shorter Piceance drilling cycle
 - Additional rigs added in San Juan, Arkoma and Powder River
- Powder River permitting progress
- Bolt on acquisitions accomplished:
 - Arkoma
 - San Juan
 - Powder River
- Piceance Trail Ridge area drilling commences
- Significant Big George volume growth
- Expanded Piceance firm takeaway capacity



■ Retained Production ■ International

Exploration & Production Current and Projected Volumes

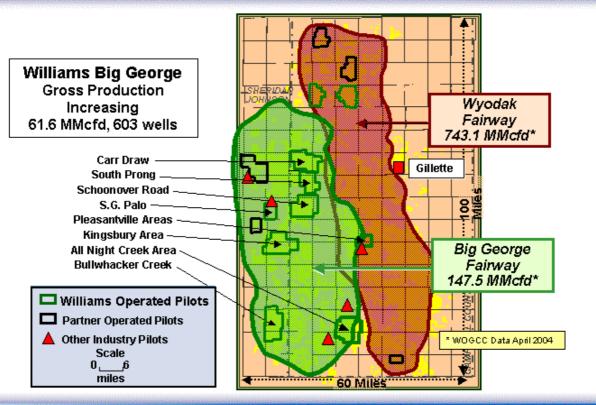




Exploration & Production

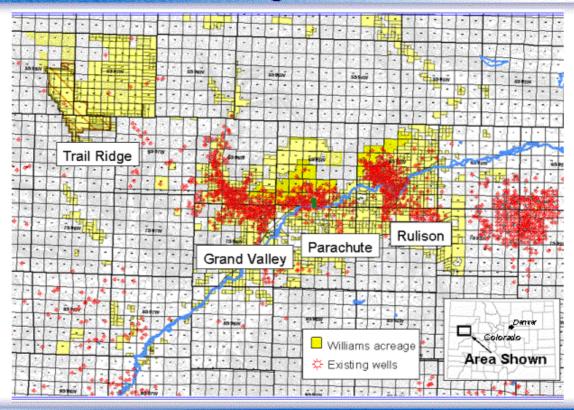






Exploration & Production Piceance Basin Acreage





Exploration & Production 2004 Segment Profit Guidance Revision



Dollars in millions	3	2004	
	Previous Guidance Revisions:	\$275 - 300	

	+
Revisions:	
1) Hedge price impact	(7)
2) Excess transport	(15)
3) Higher operating expenses	(11)
4) Gathering fees/other	(10)
5) Increased volumes	15
	(\$28)
Non-Recurring	(\$11)
Revised Guidance	\$235 - 260

Exploration & Production 2004 Capital Guidance Revision



Dollars in millions	2004
Previous Guidance Revisions:	\$325 - 375
Increase in overall drilling program costs Additional operated wells drilled	13 I 27)
Additional partner operated well Accelerated plant &	A alalisi a sa al
compression upgrades Revised Guidance	21 \$400 - 450

Exploration & Production 2004-2006 Guidance



Dollars in millions	2004	2005	2006
Segment profit	\$235 - 260 \$275 - 300	\$375 - 475	\$425 - 525
Annual DD&A	\$160 - 180	\$195 - 225	\$230 - 260
Capital spending	\$400 - 450 \$325 - 375	\$400 - 450	\$450 - 500
Production (MMcfe/d)	525 - 550	600 - 700	700 - 800
Hedged Volume (MMcfe/d)	418	286	298
Hedged Price (NYMEX)	\$4.04	\$4.44	\$4.39

Note:

⁻ If guidance has changed, previous guidance from 5/6/04 is shown in italics directly below.
- Economic impact of hedges may be different from the volume hedged due primarily to fuel and shrink and direct taxes.

Exploration & Production Key Points



- Delivering on our volume growth
- Stepping up development drilling activity
- Decreasing 2004 segment profit guidance due to "boom" costs and hedged prices
- Plan based on organic growth from existing positions
- Investments are short time cycle, fast cash returns
- High-quality reserve base
- History of high success, low finding costs
- Diverse producing basins, long-term drilling inventory
- Significant probables and possibles inventory
- Experienced and talented work force





Midstream Segment Profit



Dollars in millions	2 nd G	luarter	Υ	YTD		
Donars in minions	2004	2003	2004	2003		
Segment Profit	\$99	\$45	\$207	\$157		
Aux Sable Impairment Recurring Segment Profit	<u>-</u> \$99	9 <u>\$54</u>	<u>-</u> \$ <u>207</u>	9 \$166		

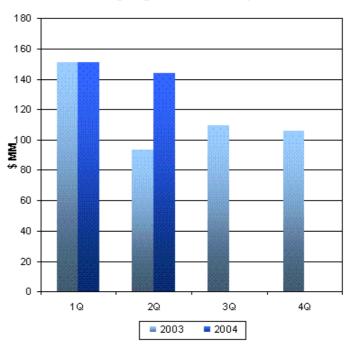
2Q04 vs. 2Q03	<u>Impact</u>
 New Deepwater Assets 	\$ +13
 Higher NGL Margins 	+13
 Improved Olefins results 	+17

Midstream Second Quarter Accomplishments



- First production on Devils Tower
- Canadian straddles sale
- Favorable Gulf Liquids arbitration award
- Secured Front Runner dedication
- Federal court remands FERC ruling

Recurring Segment Profit + Depreciation*



* Excludes gains/losses/impairments

Midstream Asset Sale Update



- Midstream targeted \$500 600 MM
 - Canadian straddles yield \$536 million cash + \$30 million of L.C. capacity
 - South Texas regulated assets \$28 million
 - Yields nearly \$600 million
 - Gulf Liquids pending
 - Ethylene distribution system and storage system pending
 - NGL storage assets held back for MLP

Midstream MLP Discussion Points



- Provides acquisition vehicle for additional scale in Midstream
- Maintains our competitive advantage in core basins
- Allows continuing presence in NGL services sector
- Allows Williams to retain control of assets
- No negative impact to current earnings guidance

Midstream 2004-2006 Guidance

Segment Profit

Annual DD&A



Dollars in millions	2004	2005	2006		
Segment Profit	\$325-375 \$275-360	\$300-400	\$350-450		
Annual DD&A	\$170-180	\$175-185	\$175-185		
Capital Spending	\$90-110	\$60-80	\$50-70		
Discontinued Ops. Adjustment – Canadian Straddle Plants					

Mote

\$25

\$10

⁻ Both current & previous guidance excludes results & gains associated with Canada straddle plants that are now included in Discontinued Operations.

⁻ If guidance has changed, previous guidance from 5/6/04 is shown in italics directly below

Midstream Key Points



- Continued strong demand for services in core areas
- 2Q 2004 performance yields second consecutive increase in guidance
- Asset sales goals accomplished
- Deepwater projects adding significant operating profit
- Reliable operational performance attracting growth around existing assets
- MLP would benefit Midstream's scale focused strategy





Gas Pipeline Segment Profit



	2 nd G	Quarter	YTD		
Dollars in millions	2004	2003	2004	2003	
Segment profit	\$133	\$116	\$280	\$266	
Includes:					
Write-off software project	-	26	-	26	
Write-off of previously capitalized					
cost for idled segment	9	-	9	-	
Recurring Segment Profit	\$142	\$142	\$289	\$292	

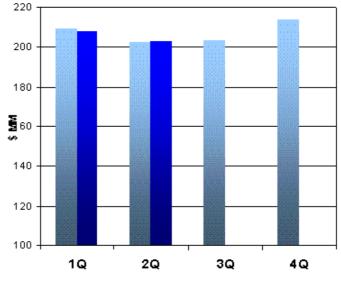
2Q04 vs. 2Q03

- Incremental projects, \$14 million
- Offset by:
 - Lower transportation revenue, \$5 million
 - Higher operating taxes, \$4 million
 - Gas cost credit in 2003, \$2 million
 - Lower environmental credit sales, \$3 million

Gas Pipeline Second Quarter Accomplishments



- Began construction of Gulfstream Phase II
- Assumed operations of Transco production area facilities
- Began construction of Everett Delta Lateral
- Partial (131 MDtd) return to service of 26-inch
- Successful Leidy to Long Island open season



Recurring Segment Profit + Depreciation

2003 2004

Gas Pipeline 2004-2006 Guidance



Dollars in millions	2004	2005	2006
Segment profit	\$540 - 570* \$525-575	\$525 - 575	\$525 - 575
Annual DD&A	\$270 - 280 \$275-285	\$280 - 290	\$290 - 300
Capital spending	\$280 - 320 \$295 - 34 <i>0</i>	\$350 - 400 \$335 - 380	\$450 - 520 \$430 - 490

* Includes \$9 million non-recurring charge in 2Q '04

Gas Pipeline 2004-2006 Capital Spending Detail



Dollars in millions	2004	2005	2006
Normal Maintenance	\$140 - 155 <i>\$150 - 160</i>	\$195 - 215 <i>\$155 - 165</i>	\$140 - 150
Clean Air Act	70 - 75	90 - 100	30 - 40
	75 - 85	105 - 115	25 - 30
NWP 26" Restore/Replace	35 - 45	45 - 55	260 - 300
	40 - 50	60 - 75	240 - 275
Expansion	35 - 45	20 - 30	20 - 30
	30 - 45	15 - 25	25 - 35
Total	\$280 - 320	\$350 - 400	\$450 - 520
	<i>\$295 - 340</i>	\$335 - 380	\$430 - 490

Note:

⁻ Amounts include AFUDC

⁻ If guidance has changed, previous guidance from 5/06/04 is shown in italics directly below

Gas Pipeline Northwest 26-inch Restore-to-Service



- Completed restoration phase
 - Restored 111 miles of 26-inch mainline
 - Represents 131Mdth/d of idled 360 Mdth/d capacity
 - In-service June 22



Gas Pipeline Northwest 26-inch Capacity Replacement



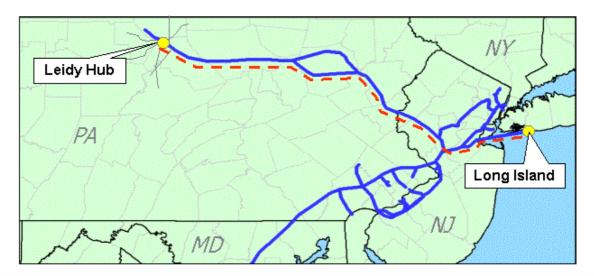
- Replace 360 MDth/d of capacity
 - Approximately 80 miles of 36" loop; 12,000 hp of compression
 - November 2006 in-service
- Incorporates 13 MDth/d of capacity relinquished in Reverse Open Season
- Environmental and permitting work underway
- Projected cost \$310-360 million
- Rate Case planned effective January 2007 to recover costs



Gas Pipeline Transco Leidy to Long Island Expansion Williams.



- 100 MDtd fully subscribed expansion from the Leidy Hub to Long Island, NY
- Capital investment ≈ \$150 million
- Projected in-service date, Nov 2007



Gas Pipeline Gulfstream Update



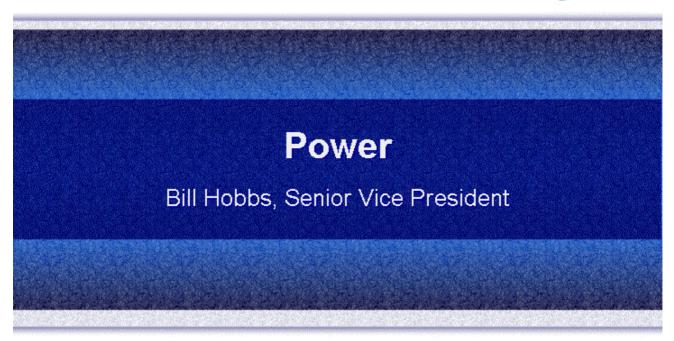
- Phase II construction underway
 - 109-mile, 30" extension to serve Florida Power & Light's Martin plant
 - 350 Mdth/d, long-term commitment by FPL
 - December 2004 in-service
- Capacity under long-term contract
 - Today: 305 Mdth/d (28% of capacity)
 - Mid-2005: 705 Mdth/d (64% of capacity)
- Phase II project economics
 - Total cost \$250 million; project financed
 - Long-term project financing in 2005

Gas Pipeline Key Points



- 26-inch Return-to-Service complete (June 22)
- 26-inch Capacity Replacement, 11/06 targeted ISD
- Expansion projects
 - Central New Jersey
 - Leidy to Long Island
 - Gulfstream Phase II
- Rate cases effective in 2007
 - NWP
 - TGPL





Power Segment Profit



	2 nd Q	uarter	YTD		
Dollars in millions	2004	2003	2004	2003	
Gross Margin	\$72	\$228	\$71	\$138	
SG&A	(20)	(44)	(36)	(81)	
Op. Exp. & Other Inc / (Exp)	(7)	164	(23)	155	
Reported Segment Profit	\$45	\$348	\$12	\$212	
Includes:					
Regulatory Settlement	-	20	-	20	
Prior period correction*	-	(93)	-	(107)	
Gains on sale of assets/contracts	-	(182)	-	(182)	
Reduction in force costs	-	-	-	12	
Recurring Segment Profit	\$45	\$93	\$12	(\$45)	

^{* 2003} amounts reflect corrections as disclosed in 2003 10-K

Power Second Quarter / Recent Accomplishments



- Portfolio cash flows consistent with forecast in Power Tutorial
 - Portfolio volumes up more than 70%
 - Portfolio cash flow up more than \$60 million
- Held Power tutorial on June 17
- Western power issues resolved
 - February 25 settlement with three California utilities
 - FERC approved settlement on July 2
 - Williams has received approximately \$104 million related to the settlement

Power Undiscounted Cash Flows Variance Analysis



Dollars in millions

Combined Risk Management Portfolio				
Actual Q2'04 v. Forecast Q2'04	Q2'04 A	Q2'04 F*	YT D'04 A	YTD'04 F*
Tolling Demand Payment Obligations	(\$99)	(\$98)	(\$187)	(\$182)
Resale of Tolling	35	35	77	77
Full Requirements	11	5	10	1
Long-term Physical Forward Power Sales	21	28	47	50
OTC Hedges	37	37	72	83
Merchant Cash Flows	34	32	41	31
Total Cash Flows	\$39	\$39	\$60	\$60
Legacy Portfolio and Other Working Capital	\$94	(\$41)	\$176	(\$5)
Forecasted Direct SG&A	(14)	(14)	(22)	(27)
Forecasted Indirect SG&A	(6)	(6)	(14)	(12)

\$113

(\$22)

\$200

\$16

Estimated Cash Flows After SG&A

^{*} Forecast included in Power Tutorial held 6/17/04

Power Power Segment CFFO



Dollars in millions

		Actual			Fore	ecast
	1Q2004	2 Q2004	YTD 2004		3Q & 4Q 2004	2004
Power Portfolio	6	19	25		35-65	60-90
Storage & Legacy	75	(33)	42		(82)-(52)	(40)-(10)
	81	(14)	67		(47)-13	20-80
Other Working Capital: Power Stand-Alone	82	(75)	7)		
Power Stand-Alone CFFO	163	(89)	74	>	(3)-137	130-270
Other BU Working Capital*	(76)	202	126			
Power Segment CFFO	87	113	200		(50)-150	150-350

^{* &}quot;Other BU Working Capital" relates to other business units but is managed by the Power Business Unit.

Segment Profit to Cash Flow Total Segment 2004



Dollars in millions

	Power	Legacy	Other	2Q Total	YTD 2004
Gross Margin	(\$1)	\$67	\$5	\$72	\$70
SG&A	(20)			(20)	(36)
Oper Exp & Other Inc / (Exp)			(7)	(7)	(22)
Reported Segment Profit	(\$21)	\$67	(\$2)	\$45	\$12
Reverse: Unrealized MTM	(21)	(48)		(69)	(92)
Add: Realized Prior Period MTM	62	(52)		10	147
Proforma Accrual Basis	\$19	(\$33)	(\$2)	(\$15)	\$66
Total Working Capital and Other			128	128	134
Power Segment CFFO	\$19	(\$33)	\$126	\$113	\$200
Working Capital Received for Other Business Units			(202)	(202)	(126)
Power Segment Standalone CFFO	\$19	(\$33)	(\$76)	(\$89)	\$74

Power 2006 Guidance



Dollars in millions	2004	2005	2006
Segment Profit*	\$0 - 150	\$50 - 150	\$50 - 200
Capital Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cash Flows from Operations	\$150 - 350	\$50 - 150	\$50 - 200

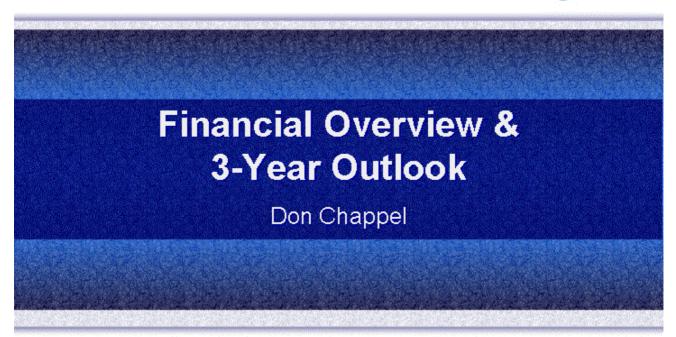
 $^{^{\}star}$ Assumes 2°d half 2004 MTM gains or losses are zero, however actual results will vary due to MTM results

Power Key Points



- Expect to generate positive cash flow from operations
 - Significantly hedged cash flow through 2010
- Significant natural gas business
- Merchant upside in West and Northeast
- Working to reduce risk through forward power sales
- Operational and environmental obligations very limited
- Resolving legacy issues
- Strong commercial and financial capabilities
- Continue efforts to increase transparency





Consolidated 2004 - 2006 Outlook



Dollars in millions

	2004	2005	2006
Segment Profit	\$1,100 - 1,400 \$1,075 - 1,375 *	\$1,300 - 1,600	\$1,400 - 1,700
DD&A	\$650 - 700	\$650 - 750	\$700 - 800
Cash Flow from Ops.	\$1,000 - 1,300	\$1,300 - 1,600	\$1,400 -1,700
Capital Expenditures	\$775 - 875 \$725 - 825	\$800 - 1,000	\$900 - 1,100
Effective Tax Rate**	39%	39%	39%
Cash Tax Rate	3-5%	3-5%	4-8%

^{*} Restated to remove Canadian assets sold and reclassified as discontinued operations

Note: If guidance has changed, previous guidance from 5/6/04 is shown in italics directly below

^{**} An additional \$25 million income tax expense is forecast each year

2004-2006 Capital Exp. By Business



Dollars in millions	2004	2005	2006
Exploration & Production	\$400 - 450 \$325 - 375	\$400 - 450	\$450 - 500
Midstream	90 - 110	60 - 80	50 - 70
Gas Pipeline	280 - 320 295 - 34 <i>0</i>	350 - 400 335 - 38 <i>0</i>	450 - 510 430 - 490
Power	-	-	-
Other/Corporate	10 - 30	10 - 30	10 - 30
Total	\$775 - 875 \$725 - 825	\$800 - 1,000	\$900 - 1,100

Motes:

⁻ Sum of ranges for each business line does not necessarily match total range

⁻ If guidance has changed, previous guidance from 5/6/04 is shown in italics directly below

Debt Reduction Action



- \$1.5 billion cash at August 1, 2004
- Today commencing cash tender offer and consent solicitation for all \$800 million 8 5/8% notes due 2010
- Will use available cash and liquidity to fund purchase of notes accepted under the offer
- Increasing revolving credit facility by \$275 million to a total capacity of \$1.275 billion and combined credit facilities total \$1.8 billion (\$1.1 billion available)
 - Total liquidity is not affected by tender offer
- Achieves year-end goal of reducing debt to ~\$9 billion

Liquidity Available for Tender Offer



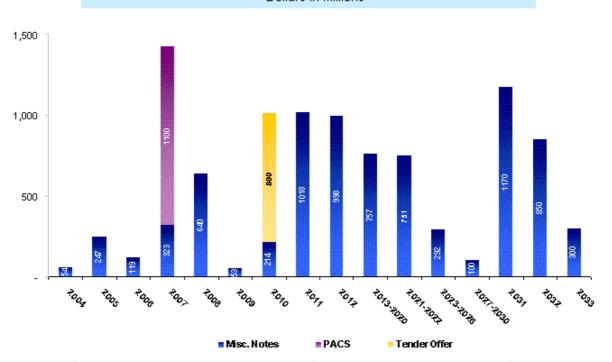
Dollars in billions	
Cash @ 6/30/04	\$1.0
Proceeds from Canada Sale	0.5
Cash Available	\$1.5
Current Unused Revolver	0.8
Increase in Revolver Capacity	0.3_
Total Liquidity	\$2.6
Liquidity Cushion Required	(1.3)*
Liquidity Available for Tender Offer	<u> \$1.3</u>

^{*} Targeted minimum liquidity is \$1.0 billion

Scheduled Debt Maturities







Financial Strategy/Key Points



- Maintain a cash/liquidity cushion of \$1.0 billion plus
- Continue to de-lever; striving for investment-grade ratios
- Uses of excess cash
 - Pay scheduled debt retirements
 - Early debt reduction
 - Disciplined EVA® -based investment
 - Consider dividend and/or share repurchase policy upon achieving investment grade ratios
- Combination of growth in operating cash flows and reduction in interest costs drives value creation
- Drive/enable sustainable growth in EVA®/ shareholder value





The Road Ahead



	2004	2005	2006	2007 & beyond	
Explorat & Produ		r growth vehicle iver permits and dewat	Piceance grow	uction doubles wth continues r grows	
Midstrea	Complete deepw um projects Complete asset s	Maintain ci nosition		ure our share w deepwater production	Disciplined Growth
Gas Pip	e line North	nnounced expansion pr nwest testing North turn to service	rojects west capacity replacemer	Expansions nt Rate cases	
Power	Exit or opti		ontinue to reduce risk, ash, meet commitments	Spark spreads improve	Risk Reduction
Corpora	Early debt reti New credit facilitie		uctions Invest Support growth	tment-grade ratios if exit Power Examine dividend level	Solid Financial Footing

Summary



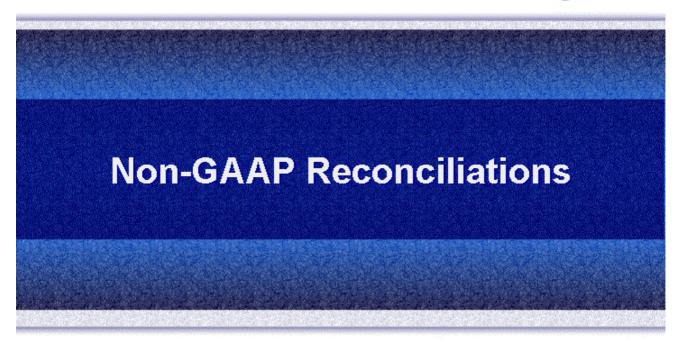
- 2nd quarter results solid
- Debt reductions continue with new tender announced today
- Asset sales program essentially completed
- Adequate liquidity continues
- Growth opportunities identified
- Significant work outsourced to IBM
- Seriously considering MLP
- Continuing efforts to exit Power

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Non-GAAP Reconciliation Schedule



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Non-GAAP Reconciliation Schedule



Reconciliation of Segment Profit (Loss) to Recurring Segment Profit (Loss)

(UNAUDITED)		2003			2004			
(Dollars in millions)	s) Ist Qtr * 2nd Qtr *		ul Qr≠	Ist Ωtr‡		25	ed Qtr	
Power (1)	\$	(136.4)	\$	348.0	\$	(32.7)	\$	44.7
Gas Pipeline		150.3		115.5		147.4		132.8
Exploration & Production		113.8		178.7		51.5		43.3
Midstream Gas & Liquids		112.2		45.1		108.3		98.6
Other		4.8		(51.7)		(8.7)		(14.3)
Total segment profit	\$	244.7	\$	635.6	\$	265.8	\$	3051
Nonrecurring adjustments:								
Power	\$	(1.9)	8	(254.6)	\$	-	\$	-
Gas Pipeline				26.4		-		9.0
Exploration & Production				(91.5)		-		11.3
Midstream Gas & Liquids				8.5		-		-
Other		-		49.6		6.5		10.8
Total segment nonrecurring adjustments	\$	(1.9)	\$	(261.6)	\$	6.5	\$	31.1
Recurring segment profit (loss):								
Power *	8	(138.3)	8	93.4	\$	(32.7)	8	44.7
Gas Pipeline		150.3		141.9		147.4		141.8
Exploration & Production		113.8		87.2		51.5		54.6
Midstream Gas & Liquids		112.2		53.6		108.3		98.6
Other		4.8		(2.1)		(2.2)		(3.5)
Total recurring segment profit	\$	242.8	\$	374.0	\$	272.3	\$	336.2

Note: Segment profit (loss) includes equity earnings (losses) and certain income (loss) from investments reported in investing income (loss) in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. Equity earnings (losses) are from investments accounted for under the equity method.

Income (loss) from investments results from the management of investments in certain equity instruments.

- (1) Power's segment profit includes the effect of intercompany interest rate swaps entered into with the curporate parent.
- * Amounts have been restated from 1st quarter 2004 to reflect (1) the Canadian straddle plants as discontinued operations and (2) transfer of management and decision-making control of certain gas gathering assets from our Midstream segment to our Gas Pipeline segment.

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2Q 2004 EBITDA Reconciliation



Net Income (Loss)*	(\$18)
Income from Disc. Operations	-
Net Interest Expense	222
DD&A	168
Provision for Income Taxes	(17)
EBITDA*	\$355

^{*} Includes gains and impairments on asset sales and prior period adjustments

2004 YTD EBITDA Reconciliation



- Dollars	ın	millions

Net Income (Loss)*	(\$8)
Income from Disc. Operations	(11)
Net Interest Expense	461
DD&A	329
Provision for Income Taxes	(6)
EBITDA*	\$765

^{*} Includes gains and impairments on asset sales and prior period adjustments

2Q 2004 Segment Contributions



	Gas Pipeline	E&P	Midstream	Power	Corp/Other	Total
Segment Profit (Loss)	\$133	\$43	\$99	\$45	(\$15)	\$305
DD&A	68	46	45	5	4	168
Segment Profit before DDA	\$201	\$89	\$144	\$50	(\$11)	\$473
General Corporate Expense						(28)
Investing Income*						13
Other Income						(107)
ΤΟΤΔΙ						\$355

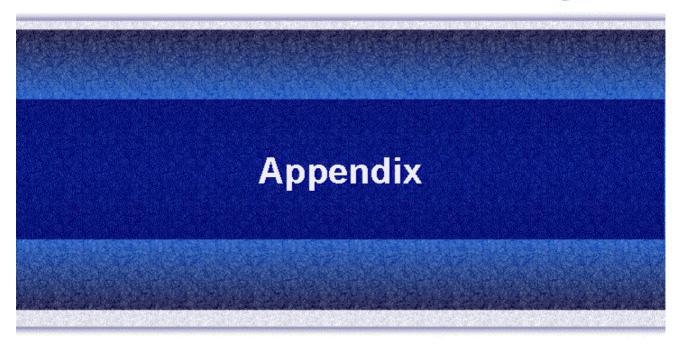
^{*} Excluding equity earnings and income (loss) from investments contained in segment profit

Consolidated 2004 Forecast Segment Contribution



	Gas Pipeline	E&P	Midstream	Power	Corp/Other	Total
Segment Profit (Loss)	540 - 570	235 - 260	325 - 375	0 - 150	0 - 45	1,100 - 1,400
DD&A	270 - 280	160 - 180	180 - 190	20 - 25	20 - 25	650 - 700
Segment Profit before DDA	810 - 850	395 - 440	505 - 565	20 - 175	20 - 70	1,750 - 2,100
General Corporate Expense						(130) - (110)
Investing Income						0 - 50
Other/Rounding						(20) - (40)
TOTAL RECURRING						1,600 - 2,000





Exploration & Production 2004 Net Realized Price Calculation



Example for any given quarter:

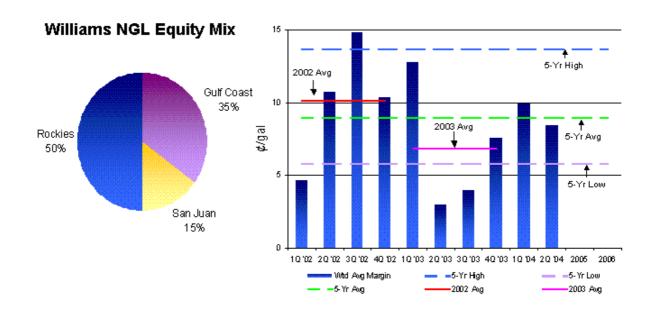
Market Price:	<u>Unhedged</u>	<u>Hedge *</u>
NYMEX Basin Differential Net Basin Market price	\$5.50 - \$6.00 (0.65 - 0.85) \$4.85 - \$5.15	\$3.99 (0.34) (\$3.65)
Net Basin Market Price Fuel & Shrink/Gathering	\$4.85 - \$5.15	(\$3.65)
/Transportation	(0.80 - 1.00)	(0.80 - 1.00)
Net Price	\$3.95 - \$4.15	\$2.65 - \$2.85
Quarter Volume Totals	(qtr vols) x (% unhedged)	(qtr vols) x (% hedged)
Net Gas Revenue	=(unhedged volumes x Net Price	=(hedged volumes x Net Price

^{*} Remaining 2004 hedge position

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miseriebilM Domestic NGL Production & Weighted Avg Margine Williams.





Note: Computed using NGL prices FOB plant tailgate less shrinkage costs. Weighted average is computed using Williams' equity percentages by region.

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Enterprise Risk Management



Dollars in millions	E&P	Midstream	Power	Corp./ Other	Total
Margins & Ad. Assur.	\$187	\$18	\$197	-	\$402
Prepayments	-	7	31	-	38
Subtotal	\$187	\$25	\$ 228	\$ -	\$440
Letters of Credit	302	132	196	43	673
Total as of 6/30/04	\$489	\$157	\$424	\$43	\$1,113
Total as of 3/31/04	\$364	\$74	\$441	\$81	\$960
Change	\$125	\$83	(\$17)	(\$38)	\$153

Enterprise Risk Management



Dollars in millions

- Margin volatility (99% confidence interval) Incremental liquidity requirement

	<u>6/30/04</u>	<u>12/31/03</u>
 30 days 	(\$214)	(\$185)
 180 days 	(\$274)	(\$309)
 360 days 	(\$300)	(\$390)

Assumption: The margin numbers above consist of only the forward marginable position values, starting from May 2004.

Enterprise Risk Management



Estimated dollars in millions

Sensitivities Analysis

	WMB ¹	Power ²	Midstream ³
	Natural Gas	West Spark Spread	Processing Margin
	(Per MMBtu)	Power Price (Per MWh)	NGL Price (Per Gallon)
Price Increase	\$0.10	\$5.00	\$0.01
2004	(\$1)	\$0-5	\$4-10
2005	\$3	\$5-10	\$10-15
2006	\$12	\$5-15	\$10-15

⁴ Assumes a correlated movement in prices across all commodities, including spreads.

Assumes a non-correlated change in West power prices only, no change in power volatility, full extrinsic value not included. Heat rate and position change associated with Spark Spread increase is consistent across all months. Cash flow ranges are not linear.

³ Assumes a non-correlated change in NGL processing spread (i.e. change in NGL price only). Midstream figures for 2004 does not include price sensitivity on Canadian assets based on the assumption the Canadian assets would be sold in 2004.

Power Total Undiscounted Cash Flows



Con	nl	oined	F	'ower	F	,0	rt	fο	ĺΟ	

Combined Correct Citions					
Estimated as of 6/30/04	Q1A	Q2 A	2004 A+F	2005 F	2006 F
Tolling Demand Payment Obligations	(\$88)	(\$99)	(\$396)	(\$397)	(\$401)
Resale of Tolling	\$41	\$35	\$137	\$111	\$95
Full Requirements	(\$1)	\$11	\$14	\$16	\$16
Long-term Physical Forward Power Sales	\$27	\$21	\$70	\$73	\$58
OTC Hedges	\$36	\$37	\$169	\$69	\$125
Tolling Cash Flows Associated With Hedges	\$7	\$34	\$155	\$261	\$282
Subtotal	\$22	\$39	\$150	\$133	\$174
Merchant Cash Flows	\$0	\$0	\$7	\$ 18	\$71
Est. Combined Power Portfolio Cash Flows	\$22	\$39	\$156	\$150	\$245
Forecasted Direct SG&A	(\$8)	(\$14)	(\$50)	(\$50)	(\$50)
Forecasted Indirect SG&A	(\$8)	(\$6)	(\$25)	(\$25)	(\$25)
Subtotal	\$6	\$19	\$81	\$75	\$170
Legacy Portfolio and Other Working Capital	\$81	\$94	\$233	\$51	\$36
Estimated Cash Flows	\$87	\$113	\$315	\$127	\$206

Note: Actual cash flows realized upon liquidation or sale of the portfolio may differ materially from those shown. Also, please note that proprietary positions, storage, transportation, transmission, crude and refined products, interest rates, and option premiums are not included.

Power West - Total Undiscounted Cash Flows



West Power Portfolio					
Estimated as of 6/30/04	Q1 A	Q2 A	2004 A+F	2005 F	2006 F
Tolling Demand Payment Obligations	(\$39)	(\$38)	(\$154)	(\$154)	(\$156)
Resale of Tolling	\$41	\$35	\$86	\$0	\$0
Long-term Physical Forward Power Sales	\$29	\$24	\$ 59	\$0	\$0
OTC Hedges	\$15	\$24	\$192	\$235	\$236
Tolling Cash Flows Associated With Hedges	\$12	\$26	\$104	\$160	\$176
Subtotal	\$58	\$70	\$287	\$241	\$256
Merchant Cash Flows	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$28
Estimated Cash Flows	\$58	\$70	\$287	\$241	\$285

Power Central - Total Undiscounted Cash Flows



Mid-Continent Power Portfolio Estimated as of 6/30/04	Q1 A	Q2 A	2004 A+F	2005 F	2006F
Tolling Demand Payment Obligations	(\$13)	(\$21)	(\$87)	(\$88)	(\$89)
Long-term Physical Forward Power Sales	(\$2)	(\$3)	(\$16)	\$2	\$0
OTC Hedges	\$1	\$9	\$21	(\$11)	(\$8)
Tolling Cash Flows Associated With Hedges	(\$3)	\$1	\$11	\$33	\$20
Subtotal	(\$17)	(\$15)	(\$71)	(\$64)	(\$77)
Merchant Cash Flows	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25
Estimated Cash Flows	(\$17)	(\$15)	(\$71)	(\$64)	(\$52)

Power

East - Total Undiscounted Cash Flows



East Power Portfolio					
Estimated as of 6/30/04	Q1 A	Q2 A	2004 A+F	2005 F	2006 F
Tolling Demand Payment Obligations	(\$36)	(\$39)	(\$155)	(\$154)	(\$157)
Full Requirements	(\$1)	\$11	\$14	\$16	\$16
OTC Hedges	\$19	\$4	\$34	\$26	\$49
Tolling Cash Flows Associated With Hedges	(\$1)	\$7	\$41	\$67	\$87
Subtotal	(\$18)	(\$17)	(\$67)	(\$44)	(\$6)
Merchant Cash Flows	\$0	\$0	\$7	\$18	\$18
Estimated Cash Flows	(\$18)	(\$17)	(\$60)	(\$25)	\$12

Consolidated Drivers



Dollars in millions	Segmer	nt Profit	CFI	CFFO					
	Low	High	Low	High					
2003	1,346	1,346	770	770					
Interest savings Gains on Asset Sales Impairments Power Other 2004	(337) 220 - (129) 1,100	(337) 220 150 21 1,400	375 - - - - (145) 1,000	410 - - 150 (30) 1,300					
Interest savings E&P improvements Other 2005	150 50 1,300	200 - 1,600	100 185 15 1,300	200 235 (135) 1,600					
Interest savings E&P improvements Other 2006	50 50 1, 400	50 50 50 1,700	40 75 (15) 1,400	70 90 (60) 1,700					

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NewsRelease



NYSE: WMB

Date: Aug. 5, 2004

Williams Reports Second-Quarter 2004 Results

• Company Reduced Debt \$1.5 Billion During Quarter; Initiates New Tender Offer Today

· Consolidated Operating Results Solid

TULSA, Okla. – Williams (NYSE:WMB) today announced a second-quarter 2004 unaudited net loss of \$18.2 million, or a loss of 3 cents per share on a diluted basis, compared with net income of \$269.7 million, or 46 cents per share, for second-quarter 2003.

For second-quarter 2004, the company reported a loss from continuing operations of \$18 million, or a loss of 3 cents per share on a diluted basis, compared with income of \$113.7 million, or 17 cents per share, on a restated basis for the same period in 2003. Results for the 2004 quarter were reduced by approximately \$97 million in pre-tax charges for premiums, as well as related fees and expenses, associated with the early retirement of debt.

Results for 2003 have been restated to reflect the operating results from the Canadian straddle plants as discontinued operations following the second quarter authorization to sell these assets, which were sold on July 28. In addition, the operating results associated with certain regulated gas gathering assets were transferred from Midstream to Gas Pipeline following a transfer of operating control between these segments due in part to a recent order by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Year-to-date, the company reported a net loss of \$8.3 million, or a loss of 2 cents per share on a diluted basis, compared with a loss of \$544.8 million, or a loss of \$1.10 per share, for the first half of 2003. Results for the first half of 2003 were reduced by an after-tax charge of \$761.3 million, or \$1.45 per share, to primarily reflect the cumulative effect of adopting the newly mandated accounting standard for contracts involved in energy trading and risk management activities.

For the first six months of the year, Williams reported a loss from continuing operations of \$19.5 million, or a loss of 4 cents per share on a diluted basis, compared with income of \$70.6 million, or 7 cents per share, on a restated basis for the same period in 2003.

Factors influencing the six-month decrease in income from continuing operations are primarily attributable to the absence of gains on two asset sales in the prior-year period, the impact of lower net realized average prices for natural gas production, the costs of early debt retirement and lower Power segment profit, reflecting lower overall unrealized mark-to-market gains on derivative contracts.

Offsetting those factors were the favorable impact of continued strong performance in the company's Midstream Gas & Liquids unit, significantly reduced interest expense and the absence of impairment charges reported in investing income in 2003.

The company reported a loss of \$200,000 in discontinued operations, or 0 cents per share, in second-quarter 2004, compared with income of \$156 million, or diluted earnings per share of 29 cents, on a restated basis for the same period last year. The 2003 results include significant gains from the sales of assets. For the first six months of the year, income from discontinued operations was \$11.2 million, or 2 cents per share on a diluted basis, compared with \$145.9 million, or 28 cents per share, on a restated basis for the first half of 2003.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the first half of the year was \$615.1 million, including \$11.5 million from discontinued operations.

"Williams' turnaround is on track," said Steve Malcolm, chairman, president and chief executive officer. "We are driving our progress by delivering on our restructuring program, taking strategic advantage of our cash position and realizing the strength of our core businesses.

"For example, we have consistently executed on our business plan over the past two years. We've done exactly what we said we would — complete our major asset sales, strengthen our liquidity, reduce debt, live within our means and simplify our business mix.

"Second, even after paying down another \$1.5 billion of debt during the second quarter, we have launched a new tender offer today for another \$800 million in outstanding debt. Our stated goal is to reduce our total long-term debt to less than \$8 billion by the end of 2005.

"Finally, as we've re-shaped, re-sized and restructured the company, we've retained some crown jewels in our core natural gas businesses that are showing the results of disciplined investments. Our Midstream business had another near-record quarter, in part due to almost \$1 billion in new assets that we've added in the Gulf of Mexico since 1997."

Recurring Results

Recurring income from continuing operations – which excludes items of income or loss that the company characterizes as unrepresentative of its ongoing operations – was \$64.4 million, or 12 cents per share, for the second quarter of 2004. In last year's second quarter, there was a recurring loss from continuing operations of \$11.5 million, or 2 cents per share, on a restated basis.

For the first half of this year, recurring income from continuing operations was \$66.9 million, or 13 cents per share, compared with a loss of \$55.2 million, or a loss of 10 cents per share, for the first six months of 2003 on a restated basis.

A reconciliation of the company's income from continuing operations – a generally accepted accounting principles measure – to its recurring results accompanies this news release.

Update on Debt and Cash

Williams reduced its debt by approximately \$1.5 billion during the second quarter, including \$1.17 billion through cash tender offers and \$255 million through open market repurchases ahead of schedule. The company ended the second quarter with total long-term debt of approximately \$9.8 billion.

Year-to-date, Williams has reduced its debt by approximately \$2.2 billion through scheduled maturities and early debt retirements. Earlier today, Williams commenced a cash tender offer for an additional \$800 million of outstanding notes.

At July 30, Williams had available cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$1.5 billion. The amount includes the benefit of approximately \$536 million in proceeds from the July 28 sale of the Canadian straddle plants.

In addition to cash, Williams' overall liquidity is supported by approximately \$800 million in available credit capacity under the company's revolving credit facilities that were obtained during the first quarter. The facilities are used primarily for issuing letters of credit and for liquidity. Williams also has a commitment from its agent bank to expand the company's credit facility by an additional \$275 million.

Business Segment Performance

Williams' natural gas businesses – Exploration & Production, Midstream Gas & Liquids and Gas Pipeline – reported combined segment profit of \$274.7 million in the second quarter of 2004.

A year ago in the second quarter, the natural gas businesses reported combined segment profit of \$339.3 million on a restated basis, which included the benefit of a \$91.5 million gain on the sale of certain Exploration & Production properties.

For the first six months of 2004, the natural gas businesses reported combined segment profit of \$581.9 million vs. \$715.6 million for the same period last year on a restated basis.

Exploration & Production

Exploration & Production, which includes natural gas production and development in the U.S. Rocky Mountains, San Juan Basin and Midcontinent, reported second-quarter 2004 segment profit of \$43.3 million.

In the second quarter a year ago, the business reported segment profit of \$178.7 million, which included the benefit of a \$91.5 million gain on the sale of certain properties. Second-quarter 2004 results decreased primarily due to lower income on derivative instruments that did not qualify for hedge accounting, reduced income from the utilization of excess transportation capacity, an \$11.3 million loss provision associated with an ownership issue and the absence of the asset sale gain.

For the first six months of 2004, Exploration & Production reported segment profit of \$94.8 million vs. \$292.5 million for the same period last year. The first half of 2003 included the benefit of the asset sale gain, volumes associated with properties that have since been divested and higher net average realized prices.

In the second quarter of 2004, average daily production was approximately 555 million cubic feet of gas equivalent, compared with 502 MMcfe in the first quarter of 2004, or an 11 percent increase. Production has now surpassed levels that were reached prior to last year's asset sales.

In the Piceance Basin where drilling activity has increased throughout the year, average daily production continues to rise. In the second quarter, average daily production was 210 million cubic feet of gas equivalent. This was an increase of 19 percent vs. the average daily production in the first quarter of 177 million cubic feet of gas equivalent. Year-to-date, Piceance production has increased 33 percent since the fourth quarter of 2003, when average daily production was 158 million cubic feet of gas equivalent.

For the full year, Williams now expects \$235 million to \$260 million in segment profit from Exploration & Production. The company previously expected \$275 million to \$300 million in segment profit from Exploration & Production. The change reflects a higher impact from hedging, the \$11.3 million charge, reduced income from the utilization of excess transportation capacity and higher other costs, partially offset by increased production revenues.

Midstream Gas & Liquids

Midstream, which provides gathering, processing, natural gas liquids fractionation and storage services, reported second-quarter 2004 segment profit of \$98.6 million.

In the second quarter a year ago, Midstream reported segment profit of \$45.1 million on a restated basis. The increase in segment profit from the 2004 second quarter vs. the 2003 second quarter reflects the contribution of newly constructed assets in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, higher natural gas liquids processing and olefins margins, and higher equity earnings from partially owned domestic assets.

For the first six months of 2004, Midstream reported segment profit of \$206.9 million vs. a restated \$157.3 million for the same period last year. The increase in segment profit for the first six months reflects the contribution of newly constructed deepwater assets and higher olefins margins. Earnings from partially owned domestic assets increased in part due to the absence in 2004 of both impairment charges and prior period accounting adjustments recorded in 2003. Operations in Venezuela contributed approximately \$7 million in higher segment profit primarily due to reduced levels of operations in 2003 following a fire at the El Furrial facility.

Operating activities for the second quarter of 2004 include the May 5 receipt of first production at the newly built Devils Tower offshore platform at Mississippi Canyon block 773. This production initiated flows into the related Canyon Chief natural gas pipeline and the Mountaineer oil pipeline that were also recently constructed to serve this area in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico.

Subsequent to the close of the quarter, Williams on July 28 completed the sale of three natural gas liquids straddle plants in Canada for approximately \$536 million in U.S. funds. Williams also signed an agreement to divest approximately 500 miles of certain onshore pipeline in Texas for \$27.4 million, subject to approval by FERC.

For the full year, Williams now expects \$325 million to \$375 million in segment profit from Midstream. The company previously expected \$275 million to \$360 million in segment profit from Midstream after giving effect to the reclassification of the Canadian straddle plants to discontinued operations. The increase in guidance is based on strong performance in the second quarter and improving natural gas liquids margin expectations.

Gas Pipeline

Gas Pipeline, which provides natural gas transportation and storage services primarily in the Northwest and along the Eastern Seaboard, reported second-quarter 2004 segment profit of \$132.8 million.

In the second quarter a year ago, Gas Pipeline reported segment profit of \$115.5 million on a restated basis. The increase in segment profit in second-quarter 2004 reflects earnings from expansion projects placed into service after the first quarter of 2003 and the absence of a \$25.5 million charge in 2003 to write-off certain capitalized software development costs. These were partially offset by the second-quarter 2004 charge of \$9 million to write-off previously capitalized costs incurred on an idled segment of the Northwest system that will not be returned to service, lower transportation and gathering revenues, and lower sales of environmental credits.

For the first six months of 2004, Gas Pipeline reported segment profit of \$280.2 million vs. a restated \$265.8 million for the same period last year. Operating activities for the second quarter of 2004 included the temporary restoration of 131,000 dekatherms per day of service on 111 miles of the Northwest system in western Washington that had been idled since December 2003. The company currently plans to permanently replace in 2006 the full 360,000 dekatherms per day of capacity that was idled in December 2003.

Transco also completed a successful open season of its proposed Leidy-to-Long Island expansion and the jointly owned Gulfstream pipeline commenced construction on a 110-mile expansion project.

For the full year, Williams now expects \$540 million to \$570 million in segment profit from Gas Pipeline. The company previously expected \$525 million to \$575 million in segment profit from Gas Pipeline.

Power

Power, which manages more than 7,500 megawatts of power through long-term contracts, reported second-quarter 2004 segment profit of \$44.7 million.

In the second quarter a year ago, Power reported segment profit of \$348 million, which included a \$175 million gain on the sale of an energy contract and the benefit of approximately \$93 million in revenues from the correction of prior period amounts for certain third-party derivative contracts. The balance of the decrease in segment profit primarily results from lower unrealized mark-to-market gains associated with natural gas derivative contracts.

For the first six months of 2004, Power reported a segment profit of \$12 million vs. segment profit of \$211.6 million for the same period last year.

The company has been pursuing efforts to exit the Power business through a sale, but the number of viable parties expressing an interest has been limited.

As an alternative to continuing a plan of pursuing a complete exit from the Power business, Williams is evaluating whether the benefits of realizing the positive cash flows expected to be generated by this business through continued ownership exceed the benefits of a sale at a depressed price. If this alternative is pursued, Williams expects to continue the current program of managing this business to minimize financial risk, generate cash and manage existing contractual commitments.

For the full year, Williams continues to expect break-even to \$150 million in segment profit from Power.

Other

In the Other segment, the company reported a second-quarter 2004 loss of \$14.3 million, largely resulting from an impairment charge associated with an investment in a Texas pipeline project following a determination that additional funding would be required to commission the project into service.

In the second quarter a year ago, Other reported a segment loss of \$51.7 million, which included a \$42.4 million impairment of the same investment in a Texas pipeline project.

For the first six months of 2004, Other reported a segment loss of \$23 million vs. a segment loss of \$46.9 million for the same period last year.

Earnings Guidance

For the full year, Williams now expects recurring earnings of \$0.20 to \$0.40 per share. On a basis restated for the reclassification of the Canadian straddle plants to discontinued operations, the company previously expected recurring earnings of \$0.14 to \$0.37 per share.

Williams now expects consolidated segment profit of \$1.1 billion to \$1.4 billion for the year. On a basis restated for the reclassification of the Canadian straddle plants to discontinued operations, the company previously expected consolidated segment profit of \$1.075 billion to \$1.375 billion. Individual segment-profit guidance is outlined in their respective sections in this announcement.

The company confirmed its expectations to generate \$1 billion to \$1.3 billion in cash flow from operations this year.

Analyst Call

Williams' management will discuss the company's second-quarter 2004 financial results and outlook during an analyst presentation to be webcast live beginning at 10 a.m. Eastern today.

Participants are encouraged to access the presentation and corresponding slides via www.williams.com. A limited number of phone lines also will be available at (800) 810-0924. International callers should dial (913) 981-4900. Callers should dial in at least 10 minutes prior to the start of the discussion.

The webcast replay – audio and slides –will be available at www.williams.com later today. Audio-only replays of the presentation will be available at approximately 3 p.m. Eastern today through midnight Eastern on Aug. 12. To access the replay, dial (888) 203-1112. International callers should dial (719) 457-0820. The replay confirmation code is 523724.

Form 10-Q

The company is filing its Form 10-Q today with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The document will be available on both the SEC and Williams' websites.

About Williams (NYSE:WMB)

Williams, through its subsidiaries, primarily finds, produces, gathers, processes and transports natural gas. Williams' gas wells, pipelines and midstream facilities are concentrated in the Northwest, Rocky Mountains, Gulf Coast and Eastern Seaboard. More information is available at www.williams.com.

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Williams' reports, filings, and other public announcements might contain or incorporate by reference statements that do not directly or exclusively relate to historical facts. Such statements are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You typically can identify forward-looking statements by the use of forward-looking words, such as "anticipate," believe," "could," "continue," "estimate," "expect," "forecast," "may," "plan," "potential," "project," "schedule," "will," and other similar words. These statements are based on our intentions, beliefs, and assumptions about future events and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors. Actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. In addition to any assumptions and other factors referred to specifically in connection with such statements, other factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements. Those factors include, among others: changes in general economic conditions and changes in the industries in which Williams conducts business; changes in federal or state laws and regulations to which Williams is subject, including tax, environmental and employment laws and regulations; the cost and outcomes of legal and administrative claims proceedings, investigations, or inquiries; the results of financing efforts, including our ability to obtain financing on favorable terms, which can be affected by various factors, including our credit ratings and general economic conditions; the level of creditworthiness of counterparties to our transactions; the amount of collateral required to be posted from time to time in our transactions; the effect of changes in accounting policies; the ability to control costs; the ability of each business unit to successfully implement key systems, such as order entry systems and service delivery systems; the impact of future federal and state regulations of business activities, including allowed rates of return, the pace of deregulation in retail natural gas and electricity markets, and the resolution of other regulatory matters; changes in environmental and other laws and regulations to which Williams and its subsidiaries are subject or other external factors over which we have no control; changes in foreign economies, currencies, laws and regulations, and political climates, especially in Canada, Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela, where Williams has direct investments; the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices, interest rates, and foreign currency exchange rates; the weather and other natural phenomena; the ability of Williams to develop or access expanded markets and product offerings as well as their ability to maintain existing markets; the ability of Williams and its subsidiaries to obtain governmental and regulatory approval of various expansion projects; future utilization of pipeline capacity, which can depend on energy prices, competition from other pipelines and alternative fuels, the general level of natural gas and petroleum product demand, decisions by customers not to renew expiring natural gas transportation contracts; the accuracy of estimated hydrocarbon reserves and seismic data; and global and domestic economic repercussions from terrorist activities and the government's response to such terrorist activities. In light of these risks, uncertainties, and assumptions, the events described in the forward-looking statements might not occur or might occur to a different extent or at a different time that we have described. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Reconciliation of Income (Loss) from Continuing Operations to Recurring Earnings (UNAUDITED) $\,$

		2003					2004									
(Dollars in millions, except for per-share amounts)	1s	t Qtr *	21	nd Qtr *	3r	d Qtr *	4	th Qtr *		Year *	1st	Qtr*	_ 2	and Qtr		Year
Income (loss) from continuing operations ⁽¹⁾ Preferred stock dividends	\$	(43.1) 6.8	\$	113.7 22.7	\$	20.0	\$	(62.4)	\$	28.2 29.5	\$	(1.5)	\$	(18.0)	\$	(19.5)
Income (loss) from continuing operations available to common stockholders	\$	(49.9)	\$	91.0	\$	20.0	\$	(62.4)	\$	(1.3)	\$	(1.5)	\$	(18.0)	\$	(19.5)
Income (loss) from continuing operations — diluted earnings per share	\$	(0.10)	\$	0.17	\$	0.04	\$	(0.12)	\$	(0.01)	\$	_	\$	(0.03)	\$	(0.04)
Nonrecurring items:																
<u>Power</u> Accelerated compensation expense associated with																
workforce reductions		11.8		_		_		_		11.8		_		_		_
Severance accrual		_		0.6		_		_		0.6		_		_		_
Loss accrual for regulatory issues ⁽²⁾		— (4D.E)		20.0		_				20.0		_		_		_
Prior period item correction ⁽³⁾ Gain on sale of Jackson EMC power contracts		(13.7)		(93.1) (175.0)		(1.0) (13.0)		(9.0)		(116.8) (188.0)						
Gain on sale of crude contracts and pipeline		_		(7.1)		(13.0)		_		(7.1)		_		_		_
Gain on sale of eSpeed stock		_				(13.5)		_		(13.5)		_		_		_
Impairment of goodwill ⁽²⁾		_		_		_		45.0		45.0		_		_		
Hazelton impairment		_		_		_		44.1		44.1		_		_		_
California rate refund and other accrual adjustments ⁽⁴⁾	_	(1.0)	_	(25.4.6)	_	(27.5)		33.3	_	33.3	_		_		_	
Total Power nonrecurring items Gas Pipeline		(1.9)		(254.6)		(27.5)		113.4		(170.6)		_		_		_
Write—off of Oneline information system project Severance accrual		_		25.5 0.9				0.1		25.6 0.9				_		
Write—off of previously—capitalized costs — idled segment of Northwest's pipeline		_		_		_		_		_		_		9.0		9.0
Total Gas Pipeline nonrecurring items		_		26.4				0.1		26.5				9.0		9.0
Exploration & Production																
Gain on sale of certain E&P properties Loss provision related to an ownership dispute		_		(91.5)		_		_		(91.5)		_		11.3		11.3
Total Exploration & Production nonrecurring items Midstream Gas & Liquids	_		-	(91.5)	-		-		-	(91.5)			-	11.3	_	11.3
Impairment of investment in Aux Sable		_		8.5		5.6		_		14.1		_		_		_
La Maquina depreciable life adjustment		_		_		4.2		_		4.2		_		_		_
Gain on sale of West Texas LPG Pipeline, L.P.		_		_		(11.0)		(16.2)		(11.0)		_		_		_
Gain on sale of wholesale propane Total Midstream Gas & Liquids nonrecurring items	_		-	8.5	-	(1.2)	-	(16.2)	-	(16.2)	_		-		-	
<u>Other</u>		_		0.5		(1.2)		(16.2)						_		
Impairment of Longhorn and Aspen project (5)		_		49.6		(0.0)				49.6		_		10.8		10.8
Gain on sale of butane blending inventory Longhorn recapitalization fee				_		(9.2)				(9.2)		6.5		_		6.5
Total Other nonrecurring items	_			49.6		(9.2)			-	40.4		6.5		10.8		17.3
Nonrecurring items included in segment profit (loss)		(1.9)	-	(261.6)	-	(37.9)	-	97.3	-	(204.1)		6.5	-	31.1	-	37.6
Nonrecurring items below segment profit (loss) Convertible preferred stock dividends ⁽²⁾ (Preferred stock		()		(===:=)		(0:10)				(==)						
dividends — Corporate) Impairment of cost-based investments ⁽²⁾ (Investing		_		13.8		_		_		13.8		_		_		_
income (loss) —Various)		_		19.1		2.3		_		21.4		_				_
Severance accrual (General corporate expenses)		_		3.0		_		_		3.0		_		_		_
Impairment of Algar Telecom investment (Investing		40.0				4.0				40.0						
income (loss) — Other) Write-off of capitalized debt expense (Interest accrued —		12.0		145		1.2		_		13.2		_		_		-
Corporate) Premiums, fees and expenses related to the debt repurchase and debt tender offer				14.5		_		_		14.5		_		3.8		3.8
(Other income (expense) — net — Corporate and																
Exploration & Production) Loss provision related to an ownership dispute —		_		_		_		66.8		66.8		_		96.7		96.7
interest component (Interest accrued — Exploration & Production)		_		_		_		_		_		_		1.9		1.9
1 roduction)	_	12.0		50.4		3.5	-	66.8	-	132.7	_			102.4		102.4
						_,,,										··

Total nonrecurring items	10.1	(211.2)	(34.4)	164.1	(71.4)	6.5	133.5	140.0
Tax effect for above items	3.9	(108.7)	(14.0)	43.4	(75.5)	2.5	51.1	53.6
Recurring income (loss) from continuing operations								
available to common stockholders	\$ (43.7)	\$ (11.5)	\$ (0.4)	\$ 58.3	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.5	\$ 64.4	\$ 66.9
Recurring diluted earnings per common share	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.02)	\$	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.01	\$	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.13
Weighted—average shares — diluted (thousands)	517,652	534,839	524,711	518,502	518,137	525,752	521,698	520,592

⁽¹⁾ Includes \$126.8 million positive valuation adjustment associated with agreement to terminate contract with Allegheny in second quarter 2003.

Note: The sum of earnings (loss) per share for the quarters may not equal the total earnings (loss) per share for the year due to changes in the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding.

⁽²⁾No tax benefit

⁽³⁾Power recognized \$116.8 million of revenue in 2003 from a correction of the accounting treatment previously applied to certain third party derivative contracts during 2002 and 2001.

⁽⁴⁾For \$5.6 million, no tax benefit

⁽⁵⁾For \$20.2 million, no tax benefit in 2nd Qtr 2003.

^{*} Amounts have been restated from 1st quarter 2004 to reflect the Canadian straddle plants as discontinued operations.