UNITED STATES 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 11, 2006

The Williams Companies, Inc.

| | | (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | Delaware | 1-4174 | 73-0569878 | | | |
| (State or other jurisdiction | | (Commission | (I.R.S. Employer | | | |
| of incorporation) | | File Number) | Identification No.) | | | |
| | One Williams Center, Tulsa, OK | | 74172 | | | |
| | (Address of principal executive offices) | | (Zip Code) | | | |
| Registrant's telephone number, including area code Not Applicable | | uding area code Not Applicable | 918-573-2000 | | | |
| | | Former name or former address, if changed since last report | | | | |
| | neck the appropriate box below if the Form 8- ovisions: | -K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation | n of the registrant under any of the following | | | |
| X | Written communications pursuant to Rule 4 | 25 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425) | | | | |
|) | Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 | under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12) | | | | |
|) | Pre-commencement communications pursua | ant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2 | 2(b)) | | | |
|) | Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c)) | | | | | |

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EX-99.1: PRESS RELEASE

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Item 8.01. Other Events.

The Williams Companies, Inc. ("Williams") today announced that its registration statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-129779) (the "Registration Statement") was declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission as of January 11, 2006. The Registration Statement relates to Williams' offer to pay a cash premium to holders of any and all of up to \$299,987,000 principal amount outstanding 5.50% Junior Subordinated Convertible Debentures due 2033 who elect to convert their debentures to shares of Williams' common stock, \$1.00 par value per share, subject to the terms of the offer (the "Conversion Offer"). The Conversion Offer expires at 5:00 p.m. New York City time on Wednesday, January 11, 2006.

A copy of the press release announcing the same is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

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

Exhibit 99.1 Copy of press release dated January 11, 2006, publicly reporting the matters discussed herein, filed pursuant to Item 8.01.

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SIGNATURES

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.

The Williams Companies, Inc.

January 11, 2006

By: <u>/s/ Brian K. Sho</u>re

Name: Brian K. Shore Title: Secretary

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EX-99.1

Description
Press Release dated January 11, 2006

Exhibit 99.1

Filed by The Williams Companies, Inc.
Pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act of 1933
and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Securities Act of 1934

Subject Company: The Williams Companies, Inc.

Commission File No. 001 — 04174

The Williams Companies, Inc. Registration Statement on Form S-4 Registration No. 333 — 129779

The following press release was issued on January 11, 2006 by The Williams Companies, Inc.

NewsRelease



NYSE:WMB

Date: Jan. 11, 2006

Williams' Registration Statement Declared Effective

TULSA, Okla. – Williams (NYSE:WMB) announced today that its registration statement on Form S-4 (Registration No. 333-129779) was declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission as of Jan. 11, 2006.

The registration statement relates to Williams' offer to pay a cash premium to holders of any and all of its approximately \$300 million principal amount outstanding 5.50 percent Junior Subordinated Convertible Debentures due 2033 who elect to convert their debentures to shares of Williams' common stock, \$1.00 par value per share, subject to the terms of the conversion offer.

The registration statement was initially filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Nov. 17, 2005, and was amended by a filing on Form S-4/A on Dec. 29, 2005. The conversion offer is scheduled to expire today, Jan. 11, 2006, at 5 p.m. Eastern.

The registration statement, conversion offer prospectus, Schedule TO and other materials relating to the conversion offer may be obtained free of charge at www.sec.gov or free of charge by calling Williams at (918) 573-2362 or by calling the information agent, D.F. King & Co., Inc., at (800) 848-2998 or (212) 269-5550.

The materials relating to the conversion offer contain important information that should be read carefully before any decision is made with respect to the offer.

The completion of the conversion offer is subject to conditions described in the conversion offer

documents. Under the terms of the conversion offer, Williams has the right to extend or amend the conversion offer in its sole and absolute discretion, and to terminate the conversion offer if any one or more of the conditions to the conversion offer is not satisfied, but in no other circumstance.

This news release shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of Williams' common stock in any state or other jurisdiction in which such an offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state or other jurisdiction.

Williams has retained Lehman Brothers Inc. and Merrill Lynch & Co. to serve as the dealer managers for the conversion offer and D.F. King & Co., Inc. to serve as the information agent.

Questions regarding the conversion offer may be directed to liability management groups at Lehman Brothers Inc. at (800) 443-0892 or (212) 526-0111 or at Merrill Lynch & Co. at (800) 654-8637 or (212) 449-4914.

About Williams (NYSE:WMB)

Williams, through its subsidiaries, primarily finds, produces, gathers, processes and transports natural gas. The company also manages a wholesale power business. Williams' operations are concentrated in the Pacific Northwest, Rocky Mountains, Gulf Coast, Southern California and Eastern Seaboard. More information is available at www.williams.com.

Contact: Kelly Swan

Williams (media relations)

(918) 573-6932

Richard George

Williams (investor relations)

(918) 573-3679

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Portions of this document may constitute "forward-looking statements" as defined by federal law. Although the company believes any such statements are based on reasonable assumptions, there is no assurance that actual outcomes will not be materially different. Any such statements are made in reliance on the "safe harbor" protections provided under the Private Securities Reform Act of 1995. Additional information about issues that could lead to material changes in performance is contained in the company's annual reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.