

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P
Form 424B2
May 23, 2002

FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 424(b) (2)
REGISTRATION NO. 333-83952

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To Prospectus dated May 16, 2002)

[WILLIAM ENERGY LOGO]

8,000,000 COMMON UNITS

REPRESENTING LIMITED PARTNER INTERESTS

Williams Energy Partners is offering all of the common units in this offering. Our common units trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "WEG." The last reported sales price of our common units on the NYSE on May 22, 2002 was \$37.15 per common unit.

INVESTING IN THE COMMON UNITS INVOLVES RISK. "RISK FACTORS" BEGIN ON PAGE S-9 OF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND ON PAGE 2 OF THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS.

	PER COMMON UNIT	TOTAL
	-----	-----
Public offering price.....	\$37.150	\$297,200,000
Underwriting discount.....	\$ 1.579	\$ 12,632,000
Proceeds, before expenses, to Williams Energy Partners.....	\$35.571	\$284,568,000

We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 1,200,000 common units on the same terms and conditions as set forth above to cover over-allotments of common units, if any.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT OR THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The underwriters expect to deliver the common units on or about May 29, 2002.

Joint Book-Running Managers

LEHMAN BROTHERS

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY

BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC
MERRILL LYNCH & CO.
UBS WARBURG

A.G. EDWARDS & SONS, INC.

JPMORGAN

RAYMOND JAMES

RBC CAPITAL MARKETS

WACHOVIA SECURITIES

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

May 23, 2002

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of this offering of common units. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which gives more general information, some of which may not apply to the common units.

You should rely on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents or that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference.

TABLES OF CONTENTS

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Summary.....	S-1
Risk Factors.....	S-9
Use of Proceeds.....	S-11
Price Range of Common Units and Distributions.....	S-11
Capitalization.....	S-12
Summary Selected Historical and Pro Forma Financial and Operating Data.....	S-13
Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.....	S-15
Business.....	S-38
Management.....	S-62
Tax Considerations.....	S-64
Underwriting.....	S-65
Legal.....	S-68
Experts.....	S-68
Index to Financial Statements.....	F-1

PROSPECTUS

About this Prospectus.....	1
About Williams Energy Partners.....	1
The Subsidiary Guarantors.....	1
Risk Factors.....	2
Where You Can Find More Information.....	10
Forward-looking Statements and Associated Risks.....	11
Use of Proceeds.....	12
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.....	12
Description of Debt Securities.....	13
Description of Our Class B Units.....	23
Cash Distributions.....	24
Material Tax Consequences.....	32
Investment in Us by Employee Benefit Plans.....	46
Plan of Distribution.....	47
Legal.....	47
Experts.....	47

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. You should read the entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference and the other documents to which we refer for a more complete understanding of this offering. You should read "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-9 of this prospectus supplement and page 2 of the accompanying prospectus for more information about important factors that you should consider before buying common units in this offering. The information presented in this prospectus supplement assumes that the underwriters do not exercise their over-allotment option.

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

We are a Delaware limited partnership formed by The Williams Companies, Inc. in August 2000 to own, operate and acquire a diversified portfolio of complementary energy assets. We are principally engaged in the transportation, storage and distribution of refined petroleum products and ammonia. We have little direct exposure to commodity price fluctuations because we generally do not take title to the products we transport, store or distribute. For the year ended December 31, 2001, on a pro forma basis, we had revenues of \$402.3 million, EBITDA of \$153.8 million and net income of \$94.9 million. For the three months ended March 31, 2002, on a pro forma basis, we had revenues of \$92.9 million, EBITDA of \$41.5 million and net income of \$27.6 million.

We completed the initial public offering of our common units in February 2001 at an initial offering price of \$21.50 per common unit. Since our initial public offering, we have completed five acquisitions and have increased our quarterly cash distribution by an aggregate of approximately 17% from \$0.525 per unit to \$0.6125 per unit, or \$2.45 per unit on an annualized basis.

We intend to continue to pursue an asset acquisition strategy. Our asset portfolio currently consists of:

- the Williams Pipe Line system, a 6,700-mile refined petroleum products pipeline system, including 39 petroleum products terminals, serving the mid-continent region of the United States;
- five petroleum products terminal facilities located along the Gulf Coast and near the New York harbor, referred to as "marine terminal facilities";
- 25 petroleum products terminals located principally in the southeastern United States, referred to as "inland terminals"; and
- an 1,100-mile ammonia pipeline system, including six ammonia terminals, serving the mid-continent region of the United States.

The Williams Pipe Line system is a common carrier pipeline that provides transportation, storage and distribution services for refined petroleum products and liquefied petroleum gases, or LPGs, in 11 states from Oklahoma through the Midwest to Illinois and North Dakota. This system generates revenues principally from FERC-regulated tariffs based on the volumes of products transported and also from storage and other ancillary fees. Through direct refinery connections and interconnections with other pipelines, the Williams Pipe Line system can access approximately 45% of the refinery capacity in the United States and is well-positioned to adapt to shifts in product supply or demand. For the year ended December 31, 2001, on a pro forma basis, the Williams Pipe Line system generated 78.6% of our total revenues and 73.4% of our total EBITDA.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Our marine and inland terminals store and distribute gasoline and other petroleum products in 12 states. Our marine terminal facilities are large storage terminals that principally serve refiners, marketers and large end-users of petroleum products and are strategically located near major refining hubs along the Gulf Coast and near the New York harbor. Our inland terminals are part of a distribution network throughout the southeastern United States used by retail suppliers, wholesalers and marketers to receive gasoline and other refined petroleum products from large, interstate pipelines and to transfer these products to trucks, rail cars or barges for delivery to their final destination. For the year ended December 31, 2001, on a pro forma basis, our marine and inland terminals generated 17.8% of our total revenues and 20.6% of our total EBITDA.

S-1

Our ammonia pipeline system transports and distributes ammonia from production facilities in Texas and Oklahoma to various distribution points in the Midwest for use as an agricultural fertilizer. For the year ended December 31, 2001, on a pro forma basis, the ammonia pipeline system generated 3.6% of our total revenues and 6.0% of our total EBITDA.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Williams Pipe Line System Acquisition. On April 11, 2002, we acquired all of the membership interests of Williams Pipe Line Company, LLC from a wholly owned subsidiary of The Williams Companies for approximately \$1.0 billion. Williams Pipe Line Company owns and operates the Williams Pipe Line system. The Williams Pipe Line system further complements our "virtual supply network" that allows us to offer our customers same-day delivery of refined petroleum products at multiple points across our distribution network regardless of actual transportation time. Because Williams Pipe Line Company was an affiliate of ours at the time of the acquisition, we have restated our historical financial statements to combine our results with those of Williams Pipe Line Company. We financed the acquisition through a \$700.0 million short-term loan and the issuance of Class B units to The Williams Companies. The Class B units will be treated as common units for purposes of cash distributions, but no distributions will be made on the Class B units until we have repaid the short-term loan.

Other Acquisitions. On December 31, 2001, we acquired a natural gas liquids pipeline in Illinois from Aux Sable Liquid Products L.P. for approximately \$8.9 million. On October 31, 2001, we acquired a marine terminal facility in Gibson, Louisiana from Geonet Gathering, Inc. for approximately \$21.1 million. On June 30, 2001, we acquired two inland petroleum products terminals in Little Rock, Arkansas from TransMontaigne, Inc. for approximately \$29.1 million. On April 5, 2001, we acquired a refined petroleum products pipeline in Dallas, Texas from Equilon Pipeline Company LLC for \$0.3 million.

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES

One of our principal strengths is our relationship with The Williams Companies. The Williams Companies is an integrated energy company with 2001 revenues in excess of \$11.0 billion and is engaged in numerous aspects of the energy industry, including exploration and production of oil and natural gas, transportation, processing and storage of natural gas and natural gas liquids, refining, transportation and distribution of petroleum products and energy marketing and trading. Through our relationship with The Williams Companies, we have access to experienced management and benefit from strong relationships throughout the energy industry.

The Williams Companies has a long history of successfully pursuing and consummating energy acquisitions and utilizes us as a significant growth vehicle

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

for its transportation, storage and distribution businesses. We will continue to pursue strategic acquisitions from unaffiliated parties independently and jointly with The Williams Companies, including acquisitions that we would be unable to pursue on our own. We also expect to make additional acquisitions directly from The Williams Companies in the future, although no such additional acquisitions have currently been identified.

The Williams Companies has a significant interest in us. Upon completion of this offering, The Williams Companies will own a 52.6% limited partner interest in us and all of our 2% general partner interest. Additionally, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading Company and Williams Refining & Marketing, L.L.C., subsidiaries of The Williams Companies, are significant customers of ours. For the year ended December 31, 2001, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading, Williams Refining & Marketing and other affiliates of The Williams Companies collectively generated approximately 21.0% of our combined historical revenues and 13.4% of our revenues on a pro forma basis.

S-2

BUSINESS STRATEGIES

Our primary business strategies are:

- to grow through strategic acquisitions that increase per unit cash flow;
- to maximize the benefits of our relationship with The Williams Companies; and
- to generate stable cash flows to make quarterly cash distributions.

COMPETITIVE STRENGTHS

We believe we are well-positioned to execute our business strategies successfully because of the following competitive strengths:

- Our acquisition strategy is enhanced by our affiliation with The Williams Companies.
- Our officers and directors have extensive industry experience and include some of the most senior officers of The Williams Companies.
- Our assets are strategically located in areas with high demand for our services.
- We provide refined petroleum products distribution services through a virtual supply network that is capable of providing same-day delivery of refined petroleum products at multiple points across our distribution network regardless of actual transportation time.
- We have little direct commodity price exposure because we generally do not take title to the products we transport, store and distribute.

PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Our operations are conducted through, and our operating assets are owned by, our subsidiaries, including Williams Pipe Line Company. Upon consummation of the offering of our common units:

- There will be 12,600,000 publicly held common units outstanding representing a 45.4% limited partner interest in us;

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- The Williams Companies and its affiliates, including Williams GP LLC, our general partner, will own common units, Class B units and subordinated units representing an aggregate 52.6% limited partner interest in us; and
- Williams GP LLC will continue to own a 2.0% general partner interest in us and all of our incentive distribution rights.

Our general partner has sole responsibility for conducting our business and managing our operations. Some of the senior executives who currently manage our business also manage and operate the businesses of The Williams Companies or its subsidiaries. Our general partner does not receive any management fee or other compensation in connection with its management of our business, but it is reimbursed for direct and indirect expenses incurred on our behalf.

Our principal executive offices are located at One Williams Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74172, and our phone number is (918) 573-2000.

The chart on the following page depicts our organizational and ownership structure after giving effect to this offering. The percentages reflected in the organizational chart represent the ownership interests in us and our operating subsidiaries.

S-3

	PERCENTAGE INTEREST -----
OWNERSHIP OF WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.	
Public common units.....	45.4%
The Williams Companies' common units.....	3.9%
The Williams Companies' Class B units.....	28.2%
The Williams Companies' subordinated units.....	20.5%
The Williams Companies' general partner interest.....	2.0%

Total.....	100.0%

[ORGANIZATIONAL CHART]

(1) Currently held by Williams GP LLC.

S-4

THE OFFERING

Common units offered..... 8,000,000 common units; 9,200,000 common units if the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full.

Units outstanding after this offering..... 13,679,694 common units if the underwriters do not exercise their over-allotment option and 14,879,694 common units if the underwriters

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

exercise their over-allotment option in full;
7,830,924 Class B units; and
5,679,694 subordinated units.

Use of proceeds..... We will use substantially all of the net proceeds from this offering to partially repay the short-term loan incurred in connection with our acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system. Affiliates of some of the underwriters for this offering are lenders to us under our short-term loan and will be partially repaid with the net proceeds from this offering.

Cash distributions..... Under our partnership agreement, we must distribute all of our cash on hand at the end of each quarter, less reserves established by our general partner. We refer to this cash as "available cash," and we define its meaning in our partnership agreement.

On May 15, 2002, we paid a quarterly cash distribution for the first quarter of 2002 of \$0.6125 per common unit, or \$2.45 per common unit on an annualized basis. When quarterly cash distributions exceed \$0.578 per unit in any quarter, our general partner receives a higher percentage of the cash distributed in excess of that amount, in increasing percentages up to 50%. For a description of our cash distribution policy, please read "Cash Distributions" in the accompanying prospectus.

Subordination period..... During the subordination period, common units are entitled to receive a minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.525 per unit, plus arrearages from any prior quarters, before any distributions are paid on our subordinated units. The subordination period will end once we meet the financial tests in the partnership agreement, but it generally cannot end before December 31, 2005. When the subordination period ends, all remaining subordinated units will convert into common units, and the common units will no longer be entitled to arrearages.

Early conversion of subordinated units..... If we meet the financial tests in the partnership agreement for any quarter ending on or after December 31, 2003, 25% of the subordinated units will convert into common units. If we meet these tests for any quarter ending on or after December 31, 2004, an additional 25% of the subordinated units will convert into common units. The early conversion of the second 25% of the subordinated units may not occur until at least one year after the early conversion of the first 25% of the subordinated units.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Estimated ratio of taxable income to distributions..... We estimate that if you own the common units you purchase in this offering through December 31, 2004, you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for that period that will be less than 20% of the cash distributed to you with respect to that period. Please read "Tax Considerations" in this prospectus supplement for the basis of this estimate.

New York Stock Exchange
symbol..... WEG

S-5

SUMMARY HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA FINANCIAL AND OPERATING DATA

We have derived the summary historical financial data as of December 31, 2000 and 2001 and for each of the years ended December 31, 1999, 2000 and 2001 from our audited financial statements and related notes. We have derived the summary historical financial data as of December 31, 1999 and as of March 31, 2001 and 2002 and for the three-month periods then ended from our unaudited financial statements, which, in the opinion of management, include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the data. We have restated our consolidated financial statements and notes to reflect the results of operations, financial position and cash flows of Williams Energy Partners and Williams Pipe Line Company on a combined basis throughout the periods presented.

Our pro forma financial statements reflect adjustments to exclude income and expenses and assets and liabilities that were conveyed to and assumed by an affiliate of Williams Pipe Line Company prior to our acquisition of it. These assets primarily include Williams Pipe Line Company's interest in and agreements related to Longhorn Partners Pipeline, a discontinued refinery site at Augusta, Kansas and the ATLAS 2000 software system. In addition, the pro forma financial statements reflect adjustments to show that we will no longer take title to the natural gas liquids used for blending to produce different grades of gasoline or to the resulting gasoline but will perform these services for an affiliate of The Williams Companies for an annual fee. Further, the general and administrative expenses charged to us by The Williams Companies will be initially limited to \$30.0 million per year for Williams Pipe Line Company. These pro forma financial statements also reflect the short-term loan incurred and the Class B units issued to finance the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company and the application of the proceeds from the offering of common units made by this prospectus supplement.

We define EBITDA as income before income taxes plus interest expense (net of interest income) and depreciation and amortization expense. EBITDA provides additional information as to our ability to generate cash and is presented solely as a supplemental measure. EBITDA should not be considered as an alternative to net income, income before income taxes, cash flows from operations or any other measure of financial performance presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Our EBITDA may not be comparable to EBITDA of other entities, and other entities may not calculate EBITDA in the same manner as we do.

The following table should be read together with, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, the historical and pro forma financial statements and the accompanying notes included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and incorporated by reference. This table should also be read together with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Operations."

S-6

	HISTORICAL				
	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,	
	1999	2000	2001	2001	2002
	(\$ IN THOUSANDS)				
INCOME STATEMENT DATA:					
Operating revenues.....	\$ 375,732	\$ 426,846	\$ 448,599	\$ 107,676	\$ 102,648
Operating expenses.....	121,599	144,899	160,880	37,355	33,066
Product purchases.....	59,230	94,141	95,268	27,844	18,409
Affiliate construction expenses.....	15,464	1,025	--	--	--
Depreciation and amortization....	25,670	31,746	35,767	9,041	8,964
General and administrative.....	47,062	51,206	47,365	10,578	13,457
Total costs and expenses.....	\$ 269,025	\$ 323,017	\$ 339,280	\$ 84,818	\$ 73,896
Operating profit.....	\$ 106,707	\$ 103,829	\$ 109,319	\$ 22,858	\$ 28,752
Interest expense, net.....	18,998	25,329	12,366	4,257	763
Other (income) expense, net.....	(1,511)	(816)	(431)	(211)	(953)
Income before income taxes.....	\$ 89,220	\$ 79,316	\$ 97,384	\$ 18,812	\$ 28,942
Income taxes (a).....	34,121	30,414	29,512	5,759	7,816
Net income.....	\$ 55,099	\$ 48,902	\$ 67,872	\$ 13,053	\$ 21,126
Basic net income per limited partner unit (b).....					
Diluted net income per limited partner unit (b).....					
BALANCE SHEET DATA:					
Working capital (deficit) (c).....	\$ (2,115)	\$ 17,828	\$ (2,211)	\$ (740)	\$ (9,066)
Total assets.....	973,939	1,050,159	1,104,559	1,043,952	1,094,531
Total debt.....	--	--	139,500	90,100	148,000
Affiliate long-term note payable (d).....	406,022	432,957	138,172	170,747	108,392
Partners' capital.....	339,601	388,503	589,682	555,079	607,111
CASH FLOW DATA:					
Net cash flow provided by (used in):					
Operating activities.....	\$ 84,472	\$ 55,056	\$ 135,333	\$ 49,696	\$ 37,402
Investing activities.....	(277,906)	(74,446)	(87,502)	(8,967)	(16,923)
Financing activities.....	193,435	19,390	(34,004)	(28,059)	(26,166)
Cash distributions declared per unit (e).....			\$ 2.02	\$ 0.292	\$ 0.6125
OTHER DATA:					
Operating margin:					
Williams Pipe Line system.....	\$ 153,686	\$ 147,778	\$ 143,711	\$ 30,311	\$ 35,508
Petroleum products terminals....	17,141	31,286	38,240	10,421	12,435

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Ammonia pipeline system.....	8,612	7,717	10,500	1,745	3,230
EBITDA.....	133,888	136,391	145,517	32,110	38,669
Maintenance capital, net of amounts reimbursed to Williams Energy Partners by affiliate...	29,236	25,874	20,482	4,567	7,679
OPERATING STATISTICS:					
Williams Pipe Line system:					
Transportation revenue per barrel shipped (cents per barrel).....	91.4	89.1	90.8	90.5	88.4
Transportation barrels shipped (millions).....	222.5	229.1	236.1	53.2	52.1
Barrel miles (billions).....	67.8	68.2	70.5	15.4	14.5
Petroleum products terminals:					
Marine terminal average storage capacity utilized per month (million barrels) (f).....	10.1	14.7	15.7	15.2	16.0
Marine terminal throughput (million barrels) (g).....	N/A	3.7	11.5	3.3	5.0
Inland terminal throughput (million barrels).....	58.1	56.1	56.7	11.7	13.9
Ammonia pipeline system:					
Volume shipped (thousand tons).....	795	713	763	160	257

Footnotes on following page.

S-7

- (a) Prior to our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company on April 11, 2002, Williams Pipe Line Company was subject to income taxes. Prior to our initial public offering on February 9, 2001, our petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system operations were also subject to income taxes. Following our initial public offering, the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system were no longer subject to income taxes because we are a partnership. Williams Pipe Line Company is no longer subject to income taxes following its acquisition by us.
- (b) Pro forma basic and diluted net income per limited partner unit includes income attributable to Williams Pipe Line Company.
- (c) Pro forma periods include the net amount of the short-term loan of \$410.7 million incurred in connection with the Williams Pipe Line Company acquisition. Working capital, excluding this short-term loan, was \$(13.7) million for the pro forma period presented.
- (d) At the time of our initial public offering, the affiliate note payable associated with the petroleum products terminals operations was contributed to us as a capital contribution by an affiliate of The Williams Companies. At the closing of our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, its affiliate note payable was contributed to us as a capital contribution by an affiliate of The Williams Companies.
- (e) Cash distributions declared for 2001 include a pro-rated distribution for the first quarter, which included the period from February 10, 2001 through March 31, 2001. The cash distribution associated with the fourth quarter of 2001 was declared on January 22, 2002 and paid on February 14, 2002.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- (f) For the year ended December 31, 1999, represents the average storage capacity utilized per month for the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities for the five months that we owned these assets in 1999. For the year ended December 31, 2000, represents the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the Gulf Coast facilities (11.8 million barrels) and the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the four months that we owned the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility in 2000 (2.9 million barrels). For the year ended December 31, 2001, represents the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the Gulf Coast facilities (12.7 million barrels) and the New Haven facility (3.0 million barrels). All of the above amounts exclude the Gibson, Louisiana facility, which is operated as a throughput facility.
- (g) For the year ended December 31, 2000, represents four months of activity at the New Haven, Connecticut facility, which was acquired in September 2000. For the year ended December 31, 2001, represents a full year of activity for the New Haven facility (9.3 million barrels) and two months of activity at the Gibson, Louisiana facility (2.2 million barrels), which was acquired in October 2001.

S-8

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common units involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following risk factors, together with all of the other information included in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus supplement, in evaluating an investment in our common units. If any of the following risks were to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be adversely affected. In that case, the trading price of our common units could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment. For information concerning the other risks related to our business, please read the risk factors included under the caption "Risk Factors" beginning on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus.

OUR FAILURE TO MAKE PRINCIPAL OR INTEREST PAYMENTS ON OUR SHORT-TERM LOAN INCURRED TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION OF THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON US AND THE HOLDERS OF OUR COMMON UNITS.

In April 2002, we borrowed \$700.0 million from a group of financial institutions to finance the acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system. This loan matures on October 8, 2002, and the interest rate increases by 1.5% commencing on August 9, 2002. This significant amount of debt increases our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions. We cannot assure you that we will be able to repay this loan prior to its maturity. If we are unable to repay or extend the loan, we will not be able to pay distributions to our common and subordinated unitholders.

RATE REGULATION OR A SUCCESSFUL CHALLENGE TO THE RATES WE CHARGE ON THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM MAY REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF CASH WE GENERATE.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or the FERC, regulates the tariff rates for the Williams Pipe Line system. Shippers may protest the pipeline system's tariffs, and the FERC may investigate the lawfulness of new or changed tariff rates and order refunds of amounts collected under rates ultimately found to be unlawful. The FERC may also investigate tariff rates that have become final and effective.

The FERC's ratemaking methodologies may limit our ability to set rates based on our true costs or may delay the use of rates that reflect increased costs. The FERC's primary ratemaking methodology is price indexing. We use this

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

methodology to establish our rates in approximately one-third of our interstate markets. The indexing method allows a pipeline to increase its rates by a percentage equal to the change in the producer price index, or PPI, for finished goods minus 1%. If the PPI rises by less than 1% or falls, we are required to reduce our rates that are based on the FERC's price indexing methodology if they exceed the new maximum allowable rate. In addition, changes in the PPI might not be large enough to fully reflect actual increases in the costs associated with the pipeline.

In recent decisions involving unrelated pipeline limited partnerships, the FERC has ruled that these partnerships may not claim an income tax allowance for income attributable to non-corporate limited partners. A shipper could rely on these decisions to challenge our indexed rates and claim that, because we now own the Williams Pipe Line system, the Williams Pipe Line system's income tax allowance should be reduced. If the FERC were to disallow all or part of our income tax allowance, it may be more difficult to justify our rates. If a challenge were brought and the FERC found that some of the indexed rates exceed levels justified by the cost of service, the FERC would order a reduction in the indexed rates and could require reparations for a period of up to two years prior to the filing of a complaint. Any reduction in the indexed rates or payment of reparations could have a material adverse effect on our operations and reduce the amount of cash we generate.

MERGERS AMONG OUR CUSTOMERS AND COMPETITORS, PARTICULARLY THE PENDING MERGER BETWEEN CONOCO, INC. AND PHILLIPS PETROLEUM COMPANY, COULD RESULT IN LOWER VOLUMES BEING SHIPPED ON THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM, THEREBY REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF CASH WE GENERATE.

The Williams Pipe Line system and its associated terminals compete in several markets with pipelines and terminals owned by Conoco, Inc. or by joint ventures in which Conoco is a partner. Phillips Petroleum Company is a major shipper on the Williams Pipe Line system. The pending merger of Phillips with Conoco could provide strong economic incentives for Phillips to utilize the Conoco pipeline systems instead of the Williams Pipe Line system in those markets where the systems compete. As a result, we could lose some or all of the volumes and associated revenues from Phillips when Phillips' current commitments to the Williams Pipe Line system expire. We could experience difficulty in replacing those lost volumes and revenues. Because most of our operating costs are fixed, a reduction in volumes would result not only in a reduction of revenues, but also a decline in net income and cash flow of a similar

S-9

magnitude, which would reduce our ability to pay cash distributions to our unitholders. Any additional mergers among our customers and competitors could have similar potential effects on our performance.

THE CLOSURE OF MID-CONTINENT REFINERIES THAT SUPPLY THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM COULD RESULT IN DISRUPTIONS OR REDUCTIONS IN THE VOLUMES TRANSPORTED ON THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM AND THE AMOUNT OF CASH WE GENERATE.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently adopted requirements that require refineries to install equipment to lower the sulfur content of gasoline and some diesel fuel they produce. The requirements relating to gasoline will take effect and be implemented in 2004, and the requirements relating to diesel fuel will take effect in 2006 and be implemented through 2010. If refinery owners that use the Williams Pipe Line system determine that compliance with these new requirements is too costly, they may close some of these refineries, which could reduce the volumes transported on the Williams Pipe Line system and the amount of cash we generate.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM IS SUBJECT TO FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND OPERATIONAL SAFETY ASPECTS OF ITS OPERATIONS.

The Williams Pipe Line system is subject to the risk of incurring substantial costs and liabilities under environmental and safety laws. These costs and liabilities arise under increasingly strict environmental and safety laws, including regulations and governmental enforcement policies, and as a result of claims for damages to property or persons arising from its operations. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may result in assessment of administrative, civil and criminal penalties, imposition of cleanup and site restoration costs and liens and, to a lesser extent, issuance of injunctions to limit or cease operations. If we were unable to recover these costs through increased revenues, our ability to pay cash distributions to our unitholders could be adversely affected.

The terminal and pipeline facilities that comprise the Williams Pipe Line system have been used for many years to transport, distribute or store petroleum products. Over time, operations by us, our predecessors or third parties may have resulted in the disposal or release of hydrocarbons or solid wastes at or from these terminal properties and along such pipeline rights-of-way. In addition, some of our terminals and pipelines are located on or near current or former refining and terminal sites, and there is a risk that contamination is present on those sites. We may be held jointly and severally liable under a number of these environmental laws and regulations for such disposal and releases of hydrocarbons or solid wastes or the existence of contamination, even in circumstances where such activities or conditions were caused by third parties not under our control or were otherwise lawful at the time that they occurred.

COMPETITION WITH RESPECT TO THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM COULD ULTIMATELY LEAD TO LOWER LEVELS OF PROFITS AND REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF CASH WE GENERATE.

We face competition from other pipelines and terminals in the same markets as the Williams Pipe Line system, as well as from other means of transporting, storing and distributing petroleum products. For a description of the competitive factors facing the Williams Pipe Line system, please read "Business -- Williams Pipe Line System -- Competition."

ONE OF OUR AMMONIA PIPELINE SYSTEM CUSTOMERS IS EXPERIENCING LIQUIDITY DIFFICULTIES AND MAY BE UNABLE TO PAY US.

One of the three customers that ship ammonia on our ammonia pipeline system has disclosed that it is experiencing liquidity problems, including a potential default under its credit agreement, and may be forced to seek protection from its creditors if its plans to restore its liquidity are unsuccessful. If this customer is unable to pay us or seeks protection under the federal bankruptcy laws, it could have an adverse effect on our operations and reduce the amount of cash we generate.

OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES SUBJECTS US TO POTENTIAL RISKS THAT ARE BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

Due to our relationship with The Williams Companies, adverse developments or announcements concerning The Williams Companies could adversely affect our financial condition, even if we have not suffered any similar development. For example, a downgrade by one or more credit rating agencies of the outstanding indebtedness of The Williams Companies could result in a similar downgrade of our outstanding indebtedness or otherwise increase our borrowing costs or generally impede our access to capital markets. Such a development could adversely affect our ability to finance acquisitions and refinance existing indebtedness and could reduce the amount of cash we distribute to you.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will receive net proceeds of approximately \$283.2 million from the sale of the 8,000,000 common units we are offering, based on the public offering price of \$37.15 per common unit and after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full, we will receive net proceeds of approximately \$325.9 million. In connection with the offering, we will also receive a capital contribution of \$6.1 million from our general partner to maintain its 2% general partner interest (\$7.0 million if the underwriters exercise the over-allotment option in full).

Assuming no exercise of the over-allotment option, we will use the net proceeds of this offering and our general partner's capital contribution to repay approximately \$289.3 million of our \$700.0 million short-term loan incurred in connection with our acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system. The amount outstanding under this loan will be reduced to approximately \$410.7 million following the closing of this offering. As of April 30, 2002, the interest rate of the debt to be retired was 4.4%. Affiliates of some of the underwriters for this offering are lenders to us under our short-term loan and will be partially repaid with the net proceeds from this offering. Please read "Underwriting."

PRICE RANGE OF COMMON UNITS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

As of May 7, 2002, we had 5,679,694 common units outstanding, beneficially held by approximately 5,000 holders. The common units are traded on the NYSE under the symbol "WEG."

The following table sets forth, for the period indicated, the high and low closing sales price ranges for the common units, as reported on the NYSE Composite Transaction Tape, and quarterly declared cash distributions per common unit. The last reported sales price of our common units on the NYSE on May 22, 2002 was \$37.15 per unit.

	PRICE RANGES		CASH DISTRIBUTIONS PER UNIT (A)
	HIGH	LOW	
2001			
First Quarter.....	\$31.00	\$23.00	\$0.2920
Second Quarter.....	33.42	28.45	\$0.5625
Third Quarter.....	40.40	29.40	\$0.5775
Fourth Quarter.....	44.00	37.00	\$0.5900
2002			
First Quarter.....	43.30	32.85	\$0.6125
Second Quarter (through May 22, 2002).....	42.35	37.15	N/A (b)

(a) Represents cash distributions attributable to each respective quarter and declared and paid within 45 days following the close of each quarter. The distribution for the first quarter of 2001 was pro-rated for the period from February 10, 2001 through March 31, 2001.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

(b) We expect to declare and pay a cash distribution for the second quarter of 2002 within 45 days following the end of the quarter.

S-11

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of March 31, 2002 on:

- a consolidated historical basis;
- a pro forma basis to give effect to adjustments related to the terms of our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company and associated agreements, including the short-term loan we incurred and the Class B units we issued; and
- a pro forma as adjusted basis to give further effect to the sale of common units offered by this prospectus supplement, to our general partner's proportionate capital contribution and to the application of the net proceeds therefrom to partially repay the short-term loan.

You should read our financial statements and notes that are included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and that are incorporated by reference for additional information about our capital structure.

	AS OF MARCH 31, 2002		
	CONSOLIDATED HISTORICAL	PRO FORMA	PRO FORMA AS ADJUSTED
	(UNAUDITED)		
	(\$ IN THOUSANDS)		
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 8,150	\$ 23,146	\$ 23,146
	=====	=====	=====
Short-term debt:			
Short-term loan.....	\$ --	\$ 700,000	\$ 410,716
Long-term debt:			
Credit facility.....	\$148,000	\$ 148,000	\$ 148,000
Affiliate note payable.....	108,392	--	--
	-----	-----	-----
Total debt.....	\$256,392	\$ 848,000	\$ 558,716
Class B units.....	--	303,417	302,219
Partners' capital:			
Common unitholders.....	\$102,726	\$ 101,008	\$ 383,485
Subordinated unitholders.....	122,511	121,798	120,929
General partner.....	381,874	(408,055)	(402,110)
	-----	-----	-----
Total partners' capital.....	\$607,111	\$(185,249)	\$ 102,304
	-----	-----	-----
Total capitalization.....	\$863,503	\$ 966,168	\$ 963,239
	=====	=====	=====

S-12

SUMMARY SELECTED HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA FINANCIAL AND OPERATING DATA

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

We have derived the summary selected historical financial data as of December 31, 2000 and 2001 and for each of the years ended December 31, 1999, 2000 and 2001 from our audited financial statements and related notes. We have derived the summary selected historical financial data as of December 31, 1999 and as of March 31, 2001 and 2002 and for the three-month periods then ended from our unaudited financial statements, which, in the opinion of management, include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of the data. We have restated our consolidated financial statements and notes to reflect the results of operations, financial position and cash flows of Williams Energy Partners and Williams Pipe Line Company on a combined basis throughout the periods presented.

Our pro forma financial statements reflect adjustments to exclude income and expenses and assets and liabilities that were conveyed to and assumed by an affiliate of Williams Pipe Line Company prior to our acquisition of it. These assets primarily include Williams Pipe Line Company's interest in and agreements related to Longhorn Partners Pipeline, a discontinued refinery site at Augusta, Kansas and the ATLAS 2000 software system. In addition, the pro forma financial statements reflect adjustments to show that we will no longer take title to the natural gas liquids used for blending to produce different grades of gasoline or to the resulting gasoline but will perform these services for an affiliate of The Williams Companies for an annual fee. Further, the general and administrative expenses charged to us by The Williams Companies will be initially limited to \$30.0 million per year for Williams Pipe Line Company. These pro forma financial statements also reflect the short-term loan incurred and the Class B units issued to finance the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company and the application of the proceeds from the offering of common units made by this prospectus supplement.

We define EBITDA as income before income taxes plus interest expense (net of interest income) and depreciation and amortization expense. EBITDA provides additional information as to our ability to generate cash and is presented solely as a supplemental measure. EBITDA should not be considered as an alternative to net income, income before income taxes, cash flows from operations or any other measure of financial performance presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Our EBITDA may not be comparable to EBITDA of other entities, and other entities may not calculate EBITDA in the same manner as we do.

The following table should be read together with, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, the historical and pro forma financial statements and the accompanying notes included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and incorporated by reference. This table should also be read together with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

S-13

HISTORICAL				
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,	
1999	2000	2001	2001	2002
(\$ IN THOUSANDS)				

INCOME STATEMENT DATA:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Operating revenues.....	\$ 375,732	\$ 426,846	\$ 448,599	\$ 107,676	\$ 102,6
Operating expenses.....	121,599	144,899	160,880	37,355	33,0
Product purchases.....	59,230	94,141	95,268	27,844	18,4
Affiliate construction expenses.....	15,464	1,025	--	--	
Depreciation and amortization.....	25,670	31,746	35,767	9,041	8,9
General and administrative.....	47,062	51,206	47,365	10,578	13,4
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total costs and expenses.....	\$ 269,025	\$ 323,017	\$ 339,280	\$ 84,818	\$ 73,8
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Operating profit.....	\$ 106,707	\$ 103,829	\$ 109,319	\$ 22,858	\$ 28,7
Interest expense, net.....	18,998	25,329	12,366	4,257	7
Other (income) expense, net.....	(1,511)	(816)	(431)	(211)	(9
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income before income taxes.....	\$ 89,220	\$ 79,316	\$ 97,384	\$ 18,812	\$ 28,9
Income taxes (a).....	34,121	30,414	29,512	5,759	7,8
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net income.....	\$ 55,099	\$ 48,902	\$ 67,872	\$ 13,053	\$ 21,1
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Basic net income per limited partner unit (b).....					
Diluted net income per limited partner unit (b).....					
BALANCE SHEET DATA:					
Working capital (deficit) (c).....	\$ (2,115)	\$ 17,828	\$ (2,211)	\$ (740)	\$ (9,0
Total assets.....	973,939	1,050,159	1,104,559	1,043,952	1,094,5
Total debt.....	--	--	139,500	90,100	148,0
Affiliate long-term note payable (d).....	406,022	432,957	138,172	170,747	108,3
Partners' capital.....	339,601	388,503	589,682	555,079	607,1
CASH FLOW DATA:					
Net cash flow provided by (used in):					
Operating activities.....	\$ 84,472	\$ 55,056	\$ 135,333	\$ 49,696	\$ 37,4
Investing activities.....	(277,906)	(74,446)	(87,502)	(8,967)	(16,9
Financing activities.....	193,435	19,390	(34,004)	(28,059)	(26,1
Cash distributions declared per unit (e).....			\$ 2.02	\$ 0.292	\$ 0.61
OTHER DATA:					
Operating margin:					
Williams Pipe Line system.....	\$ 153,686	\$ 147,778	\$ 143,711	\$ 30,311	\$ 35,5
Petroleum products terminals.....	17,141	31,286	38,240	10,421	12,4
Ammonia pipeline system.....	8,612	7,717	10,500	1,745	3,2
EBITDA.....	133,888	136,391	145,517	32,110	38,6
Maintenance capital, net of amounts reimbursed to Williams Energy Partners by affiliate.....	29,236	25,874	20,482	4,567	7,6
OPERATING STATISTICS:					
Williams Pipe Line system:					
Transportation revenue per barrel shipped (cents per barrel).....	91.4	89.1	90.8	90.5	88
Transportation barrels shipped (millions).....	222.5	229.1	236.1	53.2	52
Barrel miles (billions).....	67.8	68.2	70.5	15.4	14
Petroleum products terminals:					
Marine terminal average storage capacity utilized per month (million barrels) (f).....	10.1	14.7	15.7	15.2	16
Marine terminal throughput (million barrels) (g).....	N/A	3.7	11.5	3.3	5
Inland terminal throughput (million barrels).....	58.1	56.1	56.7	11.7	13

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Ammonia pipeline system:

Volume shipped (thousand tons)..... 795 713 763 160

-
- (a) Prior to our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company on April 11, 2002, Williams Pipe Line Company was subject to income taxes. Prior to our initial public offering on February 9, 2001, our petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system operations were also subject to income taxes. Following our initial public offering, the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system were no longer subject to income taxes because we are a partnership. Williams Pipe Line Company is no longer subject to income taxes following its acquisition by us.
 - (b) Pro forma basic and diluted net income per limited partner unit includes income attributable to Williams Pipe Line Company.
 - (c) Pro forma periods include the net amount of the short-term loan of \$410.7 million incurred in connection with the Williams Pipe Line Company acquisition. Working capital, excluding this short-term loan, was \$(13.7) million for the pro forma period presented.
 - (d) At the time of our initial public offering, the affiliate note payable associated with the petroleum products terminals operations was contributed to us as a capital contribution by an affiliate of The Williams Companies. At the closing of our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, its affiliate note payable was contributed to us as a capital contribution by an affiliate of The Williams Companies.
 - (e) Cash distributions declared for 2001 include a pro-rated distribution for the first quarter, which included the period from February 10, 2001 through March 31, 2001. The cash distribution associated with the fourth quarter of 2001 was declared on January 22, 2002 and paid on February 14, 2002.
 - (f) For the year ended December 31, 1999, represents the average storage capacity utilized per month for the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities for the five months that we owned these assets in 1999. For the year ended December 31, 2000, represents the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the Gulf Coast facilities (11.8 million barrels) and the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the four months that we owned the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility in 2000 (2.9 million barrels). For the year ended December 31, 2001, represents the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the Gulf Coast facilities (12.7 million barrels) and the New Haven facility (3.0 million barrels). All of the above amounts exclude the Gibson, Louisiana facility, which is operated as a throughput facility.
 - (g) For the year ended December 31, 2000, represents four months of activity at the New Haven, Connecticut facility, which was acquired in September 2000. For the year ended December 31, 2001, represents a full year of activity for the New Haven facility (9.3 million barrels) and two months of activity at the Gibson, Louisiana facility (2.2 million barrels), which was acquired in October 2001.

S-14

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

INTRODUCTION

We are a publicly traded limited partnership formed by The Williams Companies in August 2000 to own, operate and acquire a diversified portfolio of complementary energy assets. We are principally engaged in the transportation, storage and distribution of refined petroleum products and ammonia. We intend to pursue an asset acquisition strategy, and our asset portfolio currently consists of:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- the Williams Pipe Line system;
- five marine terminal facilities;
- 25 inland terminals; and
- an ammonia pipeline system.

On April 11, 2002, we acquired for approximately \$1.0 billion all of the membership interests of Williams Pipe Line Company, which owns and operates the Williams Pipe Line system. Because Williams Pipe Line Company was an affiliate of ours at the time of the acquisition, the transaction was between entities under common control and, as such, was accounted for similarly to a pooling of interest. Accordingly, our consolidated financial statements and notes have been restated to reflect the historical results of operations, financial position and cash flows of Williams Energy Partners and Williams Pipe Line Company on a combined basis throughout the periods presented. We will report the Williams Pipe Line system's operations as a separate operating segment.

OVERVIEW

The Williams Pipe Line System. The Williams Pipe Line system is a common carrier transportation pipeline and terminals network. The system generates approximately 80% of its revenues, excluding the sale of petroleum products, through transportation tariffs for volumes of petroleum products it ships. These tariffs vary depending upon where the product originates, where ultimate delivery occurs and any applicable discounts. All transportation rates and discounts are in published tariffs filed with the FERC. The Williams Pipe Line system also earns revenues from non-tariff based activities, including leasing pipeline and storage tank capacity to shippers on a long-term basis, providing data services and providing product services such as ethanol unloading and loading, additive injection, custom blending and laboratory testing.

The Williams Pipe Line system generally does not produce or trade refined petroleum products or LPGs or take title to the products it transports. The system generates small volumes of product by blending natural gas liquids with gasoline and by fractionating transmix, which is a mixture of products resulting from the intermingling of different product grades during normal operation of the pipeline. The Williams Pipe Line system has historically purchased and taken title to the inventories associated with blending and fractionation until the processed product has been sold. In connection with the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, we and Williams Energy Services, an affiliate of The Williams Companies, agreed that the Williams Pipe Line system will no longer take title to the natural gas liquids it blends with gasoline or the resulting product. Consequently, both product sales and product purchases are expected to decline by approximately 40-45% in future periods. We will continue to perform these blending services for Williams Energy Services under a ten-year agreement for an annual fee of approximately \$3.0 million. Through the Williams Pipe Line system, we will continue to purchase and fractionate transmix and to sell the resulting separated products.

The historical results for Williams Pipe Line Company include income and expenses and assets and liabilities that were conveyed to and assumed by an affiliate of Williams Pipe Line Company prior to our acquisition of it. These assets primarily include Williams Pipe Line Company's interest in and agreements related to Longhorn Partners Pipeline, a discontinued refinery site at Augusta, Kansas and the

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

ATLAS 2000 software system. Longhorn Partners Pipeline is a 700-mile pipeline developed to transport refined petroleum products from Gulf Coast refineries west to Odessa and El Paso, Texas. Williams Pipe Line Company formerly owned a 0.3% partnership interest in Longhorn Partners Pipeline and managed the project's construction and operations in exchange for a management fee.

Operating costs and expenses incurred by the Williams Pipe Line system are principally fixed costs related to routine maintenance and system integrity as well as field and support personnel. Other costs, including fuel and power, fluctuate with volumes transported and stored on the system. Expenses resulting from environmental remediation projects are also included in operating expenses and have historically included costs from projects relating both to current and past events. In connection with our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, Williams Energy Services generally agreed to indemnify us for costs and expenses relating to environmental remediation for events that occurred before April 11, 2002 and are discovered within six years from that date. Please read "Business -- Environmental."

Petroleum Products Terminals. Within our terminals network, we operate two types of terminals: marine terminal facilities and inland terminals. The marine terminal facilities are large product storage facilities that generate revenues primarily from fees that we charge customers for storage and throughput services. The inland terminals earn revenues primarily from fees that we charge based on the volumes of refined petroleum products distributed from these terminals. The inland terminals also earn ancillary revenues from injecting additives into gasoline and jet fuel, from filtering jet fuel and from rental income. Also included in ancillary revenues is the gain or loss resulting from differences in metered-versus-physical volumes of refined petroleum products received at our terminals.

Operating costs and expenses that we incur in our marine and inland terminals are principally fixed costs related to routine maintenance as well as field and support personnel. Other costs, including fuel and power, fluctuate with storage capacity or throughput levels.

Ammonia Pipeline System. The ammonia pipeline system earns the majority of its revenue from transportation tariffs that we charge for transporting ammonia through the ammonia pipeline. Generally, most of the operating costs for the ammonia pipeline system fluctuate with the volume of ammonia transported.

General and Administrative Expenses. The Williams Companies allocates both direct and indirect general and administrative expenses to its subsidiaries. Direct expenses allocated by The Williams Companies are primarily salaries and benefits of employees and officers associated with the business activities of the subsidiary. Indirect expenses include legal, accounting, treasury, engineering, information technology and other corporate services. The Williams Companies allocates indirect expenses to its subsidiaries, including to our general partner, based on a three-factor formula that considers operating margins, payroll costs and property, plant and equipment. Under our partnership agreement, we are generally required to reimburse our general partner and its affiliates for direct and indirect expenses incurred by or allocated to them on our behalf.

In connection with our initial public offering, and with respect solely to the petroleum products terminal and ammonia pipeline assets we owned at the time of that offering, we and our general partner agreed with The Williams Companies that the general and administrative expenses to be reimbursed to our general partner by us would not exceed \$6.0 million for 2001, excluding expenses associated with our long-term incentive plans, regardless of the amount of the direct and indirect general and administrative expenses actually incurred by or allocated to our general partner. The reimbursement limitation will remain in place through 2011 and may increase by no more than the greater of 7.0% per year

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

or the percentage increase in the consumer price index for that year. If we make an acquisition, general and administrative expenses may also increase by the amount of these expenses included in the valuation of the business acquired. As a result of the acquisitions made during 2001, the annual amount of the general and administrative expense reimbursement limitation increased to \$6.3 million, excluding expenses associated with our long-term incentive plans. Based on the 7.0% escalation, our maximum reimbursement obligation for general and administrative expenses in 2002 is \$6.7 million before long-term incentive plans and adjustments for acquisitions.

S-16

As a result of our acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system, general and administrative expenses that had previously been incurred by or allocated to Williams Pipe Line Company will be charged to our general partner. In connection with the acquisition, we and our general partner agreed with The Williams Companies that the general and administrative expenses to be reimbursed to our general partner by us for charges related to the Williams Pipe Line system would be \$30.0 million for 2002, pro rated for the actual period that we own the Williams Pipe Line system. In each year after 2002, these expenses may increase by the lesser of 2.5% per year or the percentage increase in the consumer price index for that year.

ACQUISITION HISTORY

We have materially increased our operations through a series of transactions since our initial public offering in February 2001 including:

- in April 2002, the acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system from an affiliate of The Williams Companies;
- in December 2001, the acquisition of a natural gas liquids pipeline in Illinois from Aux Sable Liquid Products L.P.;
- in October 2001, the acquisition of a marine crude oil terminal facility in Gibson, Louisiana from Geonet Gathering, Inc.;
- in June 2001, the acquisition of two inland refined petroleum products terminals in Little Rock, Arkansas from TransMontaigne, Inc.; and
- in April 2001, the acquisition of a refined petroleum products pipeline in Dallas, Texas from Equilon Pipeline Company LLC.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2002 COMPARED TO THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2001

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,	
-----	-----
2001	2002
-----	-----
(\$ IN MILLIONS)	

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Revenues:

Williams Pipe Line system transportation and related activities.....	\$ 57.5	\$ 56.6
--	---------	---------

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Petroleum products terminals.....	17.6	19.8
Ammonia pipeline system.....	2.7	4.4
	-----	-----
Revenues excluding product sales and construction revenues.....	\$ 77.8	\$ 80.8
Williams Pipe Line system product sales and construction revenues.....	29.9	21.8
	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	\$107.7	\$102.6
Operating expenses:		
Williams Pipe Line system transportation and related activities.....	\$ 29.3	\$ 24.5
Petroleum products terminals.....	7.2	7.5
Ammonia pipeline system.....	0.9	1.1
	-----	-----
Operating expenses excluding product purchases and construction expenses.....	\$ 37.4	\$ 33.1
Williams Pipe Line system product purchases and construction expenses.....	27.8	18.4
	-----	-----
Total operating expenses.....	\$ 65.2	\$ 51.5
	-----	-----
Total operating margin.....	\$ 42.5	\$ 51.1
	=====	=====

S-17

THREE MONTHS ENDED
MARCH 31,

2001 2002

(\$ IN MILLIONS)

OPERATING STATISTICS

Williams Pipe Line system:

Transportation revenue per barrel shipped (cents per barrel).....	90.5	88.4
Transportation barrels shipped (million barrels).....	53.2	52.1
Barrel miles (billions).....	15.4	14.5

Petroleum products terminals:

Marine terminal facilities:

Average storage capacity utilized per month (barrels in millions).....	15.2	16.0
Throughput (barrels in millions) (a).....	3.3	5.0

Inland terminals:

Throughput (barrels in millions).....	11.7	13.9
---------------------------------------	------	------

Ammonia pipeline system:

Volume shipped (tons in thousands).....	160	257
---	-----	-----

- (a) For the three months ended March 31, 2002, represents throughput at the Gibson and New Haven marine facilities. As the Gibson facility was acquired in October 2001, the three months ended March 31, 2001 represents throughput at the New Haven facility only.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Our revenues excluding product sales and construction revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2002 were \$80.8 million compared to \$77.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2001, an increase of \$3.0 million, or 4%. This increase was a result of:

- a decrease in Williams Pipe Line system's transportation and related activities revenues of \$0.9 million, or 2%. This decrease was primarily attributable to reduced transportation volumes and lower weighted-average tariffs. Demand for distillates, utilized in the farming industry as a fuel oil, was lower as farmers took advantage of the warm weather during late 2001 to begin working their fields versus waiting until the first quarter of 2002. In addition, gasoline volumes were slightly lower due to competitive market conditions. The transportation revenue per barrel shipped declined due to our customers transporting products a shorter distance which results in a lower tariff;
- an increase in petroleum products terminals revenues of \$2.2 million, or 13%, primarily due to the acquisitions of the Gibson marine terminal facility in October 2001 and two Little Rock inland terminals in June 2001. Further, revenues increased due to the initiation of jet fuel service to Dallas Love Field, partially offset by lower throughput volumes at several of our inland terminals due to unfavorable market conditions;
- an increase in ammonia pipeline system revenues of \$1.7 million, or 63%, primarily due to a 97,000 ton, or 61%, increase in ammonia shipped through our pipeline. Natural gas is the primary component for the production of ammonia. As the price of natural gas has declined to more historical levels, our customers have elected to produce and ship more ammonia through our pipeline.

Operating expenses excluding product purchases for the three months ended March 31, 2002 were \$33.1 million compared to \$37.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2001, a decrease of \$4.3 million, or 12%. This decrease was a result of:

- a decrease in Williams Pipe Line system expenses of \$4.7 million, or 16%, primarily due to reduced power costs associated with less volume transported, lower property taxes and reduced environmental expenses;

S-18

- an increase in petroleum products terminals expenses of \$0.2 million, or 3%, primarily due to the addition of the Gibson marine facility and the Little Rock inland terminals;
- an increase in ammonia pipeline system expenses of \$0.2 million primarily due to higher property taxes and increased costs associated with greater volume shipments.

Revenues from product sales were \$21.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2002, while product purchases were \$18.4 million, resulting in a net margin of \$3.2 million in 2002. The 2002 net margin represents an increase of \$1.5 million compared to a net margin in 2001 of \$1.6 million resulting from product sales for the three months ended March 31, 2001 of \$29.5 million and product purchases of \$27.8 million. This increase was due to lower average product costs in the current quarter.

Affiliate construction and management fee revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2002 were \$0.2 million compared to \$0.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2001. Williams Pipe Line Company received a fee to manage

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Longhorn Partners Pipeline and to provide consulting services associated with the pipeline's construction and start-up, as needed. During 2002, no consulting services were rendered.

Depreciation and amortization expense for the three months ended March 31, 2002 was unchanged from 2001 at \$9.0 million. Additional depreciation associated with acquisitions and capital improvements was offset by lower depreciation on existing assets.

General and administrative expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2002 were \$13.5 million compared to \$10.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2001, an increase of \$2.9 million, or 27%. For our petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system, general and administrative expenses are allocated from The Williams Companies as defined by the omnibus agreement. For 2002, these expense allocations were limited to \$1.7 million per quarter plus actual incentive compensation expenses related to Williams Energy Partners' performance. The amount of general and administrative expenses incurred by our general partner but not allocated to us was \$2.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2002. Incentive compensation costs associated with our long-term incentive plan are specifically excluded from the expense limitation and were \$1.5 million during the three months ended March 31, 2002. The current quarter incentive compensation costs included a \$1.0 million charge associated with the early vesting of a portion of the restricted units, or phantom units, issued to key employees at the time of our initial public offering. The early vesting was triggered as a result of our growth in cash distributions paid to unitholders. Williams Pipe Line Company was allocated general and administrative costs from The Williams Companies during these periods based on a three-factor formula that considers operating margin, payroll costs and property, plant and equipment. The amounts allocated to Williams Pipe Line Company were \$10.2 million during the three months ended March 31, 2002 compared to \$8.3 million for 2001. The limit on general and administrative expenses that can be charged by our general partner to us will continue to be adjusted in the future to reflect additional general and administrative expenses associated with completed acquisitions. Following the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, we expect the aggregate limit to be \$9.2 million per quarter plus long-term incentive compensation expenses.

Net interest expense for the three months ended March 31, 2002 was \$0.8 million compared to \$4.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2001. The decline in interest expense was primarily related to significantly lower interest rates and the partial payment and cancellation of an affiliate note in connection with the closing of our initial public offering on February 9, 2001.

We do not pay income taxes because we are a partnership. However, Williams Pipe Line Company was subject to income taxes prior to our acquisition of it in April 2002, and our pre-IPO earnings in 2001 were also taxable. We primarily based our income tax rate of 38.2% and 37.9% for the three months ended March 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively, upon the effective income tax rate for The Williams Companies. The effective income tax rate exceeds the U.S. federal statutory income tax rate primarily due to state income taxes.

S-19

Net income for the three months ended March 31, 2002 was \$21.1 million compared to \$13.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2001, an increase of \$8.0 million, or 61%. The operating margin increased by \$8.7 million during the period, largely as a result of reduced operating expenses for the Williams Pipe Line system and enhanced earnings from the acquisitions of the Little Rock and Gibson terminal facilities and increased volumes on the ammonia pipeline system. General and administrative and depreciation expenses increased by \$2.8 million while net interest expense decreased by \$3.5 million. Other income

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

increased \$0.7 million primarily due to a gain on the sale of land, and income taxes increased \$2.1 million.

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001 COMPARED TO YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,	
	2000	2001
	(\$ IN MILLIONS)	
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS		
Revenues:		
Williams Pipe Line system transportation and related activities.....	\$245.6	\$254.9
Petroleum products terminals.....	60.8	71.5
Ammonia pipeline system.....	11.7	14.5
	-----	-----
Revenues excluding product sales and construction revenues.....	\$318.1	\$340.9
Williams Pipe Line system product sales and construction revenues.....	108.7	107.7
	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	\$426.8	\$448.6
Operating expenses:		
Williams Pipe Line system transportation and related activities.....	\$111.4	\$123.6
Petroleum products terminals.....	29.5	33.3
Ammonia pipeline system.....	4.0	4.0
	-----	-----
Operating expenses excluding product purchases and construction expenses.....	\$144.9	\$160.9
Williams Pipe Line system product purchases and construction expenses.....	95.2	95.3
	-----	-----
Total operating expenses.....	\$240.1	\$256.2
	-----	-----
Total operating margin.....	\$186.7	\$192.4
	=====	=====

OPERATING STATISTICS

Williams Pipe Line system:

Transportation revenue per barrel shipped (cents per barrel).....	89.1	90.8
Transportation barrels shipped (million barrels).....	229.1	236.1
Barrel miles (billion miles).....	68.2	70.5

Petroleum products terminals:

Marine terminal facilities:

Average storage capacity utilized per month (barrels in millions) (a).....	14.7	15.7
Throughput (barrels in millions) (b).....	3.7	11.5

Inland terminals:

Throughput (barrels in millions).....	56.1	56.7
---------------------------------------	------	------

Ammonia pipeline system:

Volume shipped (tons in thousands).....	713	763
---	-----	-----

(a) For the year ended December 31, 2001, represents the average monthly

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

storage capacity utilized for the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities (12.7 million barrels) and the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility (3.0 million barrels). For the

S-20

year ended December 31, 2000, represents the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the Gulf Coast marine terminals facilities (11.8 million barrels) and the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the four months that we owned the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility (2.9 million barrels), which we acquired in September 2000. All of the above amounts exclude the Gibson, Louisiana facility.

- (b) For the year ended December 31, 2001, represents a full year of activity at the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility (9.3 million barrels) and two months of activity at the Gibson, Louisiana marine terminal facility (2.2 million barrels), which we acquired on October 31, 2001. For the year ended December 31, 2000, represents four months of activity at the New Haven marine terminal facility, which we acquired in September 2000.

Our revenues excluding product sales and construction revenues for the year ended December 31, 2001 were \$340.9 million compared to \$318.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, an increase of \$22.8 million, or 7%. This increase was primarily a result of:

- Williams Pipe Line system's transportation and other related revenues increasing by \$9.2 million, or 4%, from \$245.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 to \$254.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2001. The increase was due primarily to higher transportation revenues, offset by a decrease in revenues from product services. The increase in transportation revenues resulted from a 3% increase in volumes shipped and an approximate 3% increase in tariff rates in July 2001. Transportation volumes increased in part due to system expansions made to secure new volumes from customers. Volumes also increased as a result of additional volume incentive agreements and general demand increases for gasoline and distillates, slightly offset by a decrease in demand for aviation fuel resulting from the recession and consumer reaction to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Product services decreased primarily due to a reduction in revenues from additive injection, due to lower prices for those services under new agreements;
- an increase in the petroleum products terminal revenues of \$10.7 million, or 18%, from \$60.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 to \$71.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2001. The increase was primarily a result of the acquisitions of the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility in September 2000, the Little Rock, Arkansas inland terminals in June 2001 and the Gibson, Louisiana marine terminal facility in October 2001, as well as an improved Gulf Coast marketing environment which resulted in a 0.9 million barrel per month higher utilization at the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities. These increases were slightly offset by a decrease in inland terminals revenues, primarily due to the December 2000 expiration of a customer's contractual commitment to utilize a specified amount of throughput capacity; and
- an increase in ammonia pipeline system revenues of \$2.8 million, or 24%, from \$11.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 to \$14.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2001, partly due to a \$1.3 million throughput deficiency billing resulting from a shipper not meeting its minimum annual throughput commitment for the contract year ended June 2001. In addition, warm fall weather and a return to historically average prices for natural gas, which is the primary component for the production

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

of ammonia, combined to create favorable conditions for the application of ammonia during the fourth quarter of 2001, resulting in a 50,000 ton, or 7%, increase in volume shipped on the pipeline compared to 2000.

Operating expenses excluding product purchases and construction expenses for the year ended December 31, 2001 were \$160.9 million compared to \$144.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, an increase of \$16.0 million, or 11%. This increase was a result of:

- an increase in Williams Pipe Line system's operating expenses of \$12.2 million, or 11%, from \$111.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 to \$123.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2001. The increase was primarily caused by a \$14.4 million increase in Williams Pipe Line system's field operating expenses and \$3.0 million higher power and utilities expenses, partially offset by \$2.5 million lower environmental remediation expenses and \$3.3 million lower casualty losses. Field operating costs increased as a result of higher pipeline integrity costs due to new regulations, increased tank maintenance and coating costs related to our system integrity program, the Department of Transportation's adoption of the API 653 tank inspection requirements and mainline pump overhauls and repairs. Power and utilities expenses increased \$3.0 million, with

S-21

30% of the increase related to increased shipments and 70% related to the rising cost of power for the pumps and terminals along the system. Remediation expenses declined after increased costs were recognized in 2000 related to a discontinued refining site, which was not included in the assets and liabilities transferred to us in connection with the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company. Casualty losses decreased compared to higher losses incurred in 2000 as a result of a \$2.4 million expense accrual associated with a groundwater contamination lawsuit that was settled in 2001; and

- an increase in petroleum products terminals expenses of \$3.8 million, or 13%, from \$29.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 to \$33.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2001, due primarily to the acquisitions of the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility in September 2000, the Little Rock, Arkansas inland terminals in June 2001 and the Gibson, Louisiana marine terminal facility in October 2001. Expenses at the other Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities increased slightly due to higher utility costs, partially offset by lower environmental and maintenance expenses, while property taxes at some inland terminals increased.

Revenues from product sales were \$106.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2001, while product purchases were \$95.3 million, resulting in a net margin of \$11.4 million in 2001. The 2001 net margin represents a decrease of \$1.4 million compared to a net margin in 2000 of \$12.7 million resulting from product sales in 2000 of \$106.9 million and product purchases of \$94.1 million. This decrease was due primarily to lower blending and fractionation margins as a result of lower price volatility during 2001, partially offset by an increase in over and short margins, which result from management of the system's physical inventory balances through the purchasing of physical shortages and selling of physical overages.

Affiliate construction and management fee revenues were \$1.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2001, while there were no affiliate construction expenses, resulting in a net margin of \$1.0 million. The 2001 net margin represents an increase of \$0.2 million compared to a net margin in 2000 of \$0.8 million resulting from affiliate construction and management fee revenues in

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

2000 of \$1.9 million and affiliate construction expenses of \$1.0 million.

Depreciation and amortization expense for the year ended December 31, 2001 was \$35.8 million compared to \$31.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, an increase of \$4.0 million, or 13%. The increase was due primarily to the acquisitions of the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility in September 2000, the Little Rock, Arkansas inland terminals in June 2001, and the Gibson, Louisiana marine terminal facility in October 2001, as well as maintenance capital expenditures.

General and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2001 were \$47.4 million compared to \$51.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, a decrease of \$3.8 million, or 7%. This decrease is primarily the result of the general and administrative expense limit agreed to at the time of our initial public offering. For 2001, general and administrative expenses related to the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system include the established limit of \$6.0 million per year plus additional general and administrative costs associated with businesses acquired during 2001 and \$2.0 million of expenses associated with our long-term incentive compensation plan. For 2000, general and administrative costs related to the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system were \$12.0 million. The general and administrative expenses incurred by or allocated to Williams Pipe Line Company in 2001 were \$38.4 million compared to \$39.2 million in 2000.

Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2001 was \$14.9 million compared to \$27.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, a decrease of \$12.1 million or 45%. This decrease is primarily the result of a decline in affiliate notes payable to The Williams Companies and lower interest rates. The affiliate note payable associated with the Williams Pipe Line system declined by \$68.6 million as a result of a partial repayment using cash generated from operations in excess of capital expenditures. At the end of 2001, the affiliate note payable associated with the Williams Pipe Line system had a balance of \$138.2 million. The affiliate note payable associated with the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system was partially repaid and the balance was canceled and contributed to us as capital in connection with our initial public offering in February 2001. Concurrent with the closing of our initial public offering, we borrowed \$90.0 million under our term loan facility and \$0.1 under our revolving credit

S-22

facility. At the end of 2001, \$90.0 million was outstanding under the term loan facility and \$49.5 million was outstanding under the revolving credit facility due to the acquisition of the Little Rock, Arkansas inland terminals and the Gibson, Louisiana marine terminal facility.

Interest income for the year ended December 31, 2001 was \$2.5 million compared to \$1.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, an increase of \$0.8 million due primarily to a larger average balance of an affiliate receivable due from Longhorn Partners Pipeline.

We do not pay income taxes because we are a partnership. We primarily based our income tax rate of 38.0% for our pre-initial public offering earnings from our petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline businesses upon the effective income tax rate for The Williams Companies. In addition, the Williams Pipe Line Company was taxed as a corporation prior to its acquisition by us on April 11, 2002. Williams Pipe Line Company's effective tax rates for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 were 38.9% and 38.4%, respectively, also based primarily on the effective income tax rates for The Williams Companies for those periods. The effective income tax rates exceeded the U.S. federal statutory income tax rate for corporations primarily due to state income taxes.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Net income for the year ended December 31, 2001 was \$67.9 million compared to \$48.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, an increase of \$19.0 million, or 39%. The operating margin increased by \$5.7 million during the period, primarily as a result of increased transportation revenues on the Williams Pipe Line system and the New Haven, Little Rock and Gibson petroleum products terminals acquisitions, offset by higher operating costs associated with those acquisitions and higher system integrity costs on the Williams Pipe Line system. While depreciation and amortization increased by \$4.0 million and other income fell by \$0.4 million, general and administrative expenses and interest expense declined by \$16.0 million in the aggregate, interest income increased by \$0.8 million, and income taxes declined by \$0.9 million.

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 COMPARED TO YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,	
	1999	2000
	(\$ IN MILLIONS)	
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS		
Revenues:		
Williams Pipe Line system transportation and related activities.....	\$242.7	\$245.6
Petroleum products terminals.....	32.3	60.8
Ammonia pipeline system.....	12.1	11.7
	-----	-----
Revenues excluding product sales and construction revenues.....	\$287.1	\$318.1
Williams Pipe Line system product sales and construction revenues.....	88.6	108.7
	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	\$375.7	\$426.8
Operating expenses:		
Williams Pipe Line system transportation and related activities.....	\$103.0	\$111.4
Petroleum products terminals.....	15.1	29.5
Ammonia pipeline system.....	3.5	4.0
	-----	-----
Operating expenses excluding product purchases and construction expenses.....	\$121.6	\$144.9
Williams Pipe Line system product purchases and construction expenses.....	74.7	95.2
	-----	-----
Total operating expenses.....	\$196.3	\$240.1
	-----	-----
Total operating margin.....	\$179.4	\$186.7
	=====	=====

S-23

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,	
1999	2000

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

 (\$ IN MILLIONS)

OPERATING STATISTICS

Williams Pipe Line system:

Transportation revenue per barrel shipped (cents per barrel).....	91.4	89.1
Transportation barrels shipped (million barrels).....	222.5	229.1
Barrel miles (billion miles).....	67.8	68.2

Petroleum products terminals:

Marine terminal facilities:

Average storage capacity utilized per month (barrels in millions) (a).....	10.1	14.7
Throughput (barrels in millions) (b).....	N/A	3.7

Inland terminals:

Throughput (barrels in millions).....	58.1	56.1
---------------------------------------	------	------

Ammonia pipeline system:

Volume shipped (tons in thousands).....	795	713
---	-----	-----

(a) For the year ended December 31, 2000, represents the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities (11.8 million barrels) and the average monthly storage capacity for the four months that we owned the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility in 2000 (2.9 million barrels). For the year ended December 31, 1999, represents the average monthly storage capacity utilized for the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities for the five months that we owned these assets in 1999. All of the above amounts exclude the Gibson, Louisiana facility.

(b) For the year ended December 31, 2000, represents four months of activity at the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility, which we acquired in September 2000.

Our revenues excluding product sales and construction revenues for the year ended December 31, 2000 were \$318.1 million compared to \$287.1 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, an increase of \$31.0 million, or 11%. This increase was primarily a result of:

- an increase in petroleum products terminals revenues of \$28.5 million, or 89%, due primarily to the acquisitions of three Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities in August 1999 and the New Haven marine terminal facility in September 2000, as well as a 1.7 million barrel per month increase in utilization of the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities, slightly offset by a storage rate decline because of the expiration in July 2000 of a revenue deficiency billing associated with the purchase of the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities;
- a \$1.9 million increase in Williams Pipe Line system's non-tariff based revenues, consisting primarily of \$0.7 million from new capacity lease agreements, \$0.6 million in increased laboratory testing fees from the addition of a new laboratory in mid-1999, \$0.5 million in increased data service revenues largely due to an over-billing which was reversed in 2001, and \$0.5 million from a new reclamation facility added to the system in 1999; and
- an increase of \$0.7 million, or 0.3%, in transportation revenues on the Williams Pipe Line system, due to higher shipments of diesel and aviation fuel as a result of capital expenditures that were made to secure new volumes from several significant customers, partially offset by an

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

approximate 3% decrease in the rate per barrel shipped due to reduced average haul miles.

Operating expenses excluding product purchases and construction expenses for the year ended December 31, 2000 were \$144.9 million compared to \$121.6 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, an increase of \$23.3 million, or 19%. This increase was a result of:

- an increase in petroleum products terminals expenses of \$14.4 million, or 95%, due to a \$15.2 million increase in marine terminal facilities expense as a result of the acquisition of three Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities in August 1999 and of the New Haven marine terminal facility in September 2000, offset by a decrease of \$0.8 million in inland terminal expenses resulting

S-24

from higher environmental expenses in 1999 associated with a system-wide environmental evaluation, higher employee relocation expenses in 1999 related to the acquisition of 12 terminals and lower utility expenses due to lower throughput volumes;

- an increase in Williams Pipe Line system expenses of \$8.4 million, or 8%, consisting primarily of a \$2.8 million increase in casualty losses, \$2.3 million higher environmental remediation expenses, \$2.0 million of higher power and utilities expenses and \$1.9 million higher field operating expenses, offset by \$0.5 lower product loss expenses. The casualty loss increase was largely due to a \$2.4 million expense accrual associated with a groundwater contamination lawsuit in 2000. Environmental remediation expenses increased primarily from accruals related to a discontinued refining site, which was not included in the assets and liabilities transferred to us in connection with the acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line Company. Power and utilities expenses increased primarily because of higher prices for electricity and natural gas. Field operating expenses increased from higher expenses related to a new laboratory and inflation; and
- an increase of ammonia pipeline system expenses of \$0.5 million, or 13%, primarily due to a one-time adjustment for lease expense and increased utility expenses as a result of higher natural gas prices.

Revenues from product sales were \$106.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, while product purchases were \$94.1 million, resulting in a net margin of \$12.9 million in 2000. The 2000 net margin represents an increase of \$1.2 million compared to a net margin in 1999 of \$11.5 million resulting from product sales in 1999 of \$70.8 million and product purchases of \$59.2 million. This increase was due primarily to higher blending revenues due to greater volatility in the blending and fractionation markets, offset by reduced over and short margins.

Affiliate construction and management fee revenues were \$1.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, while affiliate construction expenses were \$1.0 million, resulting in a net margin of \$0.8 million. The 2000 net margin represents a decrease of \$1.6 million compared to a net margin in 1999 of \$2.4 million resulting from affiliate construction and management fee revenues in 1999 of \$17.9 million and affiliate construction expenses of \$15.5 million. This decrease was due primarily to a significant reduction during 2000 in construction activity on the Longhorn Partners Pipeline, which was managed by Williams Pipe Line Company during those periods.

Depreciation and amortization expense for the year ended December 31, 2000

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

was \$31.7 million compared to \$25.7 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, an increase of \$6.1 million, or 24%. The increase was due primarily to the acquisition of the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility in September 2000 and a full year of depreciation related to the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities acquired in August 1999, as well as maintenance capital expenditures, largely on the Williams Pipe Line system.

General and administrative expenses for the year ended December 31, 2000 were \$51.2 million compared to \$47.1 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, an increase of \$4.1 million, or 9%. This increase is primarily the result of the acquisitions of three Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities in August 1999 and of the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility in September 2000. These acquisitions increased our size relative to other subsidiaries of The Williams Companies, and as a result increased the percentage of general and administrative expenses allocated by The Williams Companies to us. This increase was partially offset by a decrease in the general and administrative expense allocated by The Williams Companies to Williams Pipe Line Company, due largely to a significant acquisition made by The Williams Companies which reduced Williams Pipe Line Company's size relative to other subsidiaries of The Williams Companies.

Interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2000 was \$27.0 million compared to \$19.2 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, an increase of \$7.8 million or 41%. This increase is primarily the result of a full year of interest on debt incurred in the acquisition of three Gulf Coast marine terminal

S-25

facilities in August 1999 and four months of interest on debt incurred in the acquisition of the New Haven marine terminal facility in September 2000.

Interest income for the year ended December 31, 2000 was \$1.7 million compared to \$0.2 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, an increase of \$1.5 million due primarily to an increase in the balance of a receivable due from Longhorn Partners Pipeline.

We do not pay income taxes because we are a partnership. We primarily based our income tax rate of 38.0% for the pre-initial public offering earnings from our petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline businesses upon the effective income tax rate for The Williams Companies. In addition, the Williams Pipe Line Company was taxed as a corporation prior to its acquisition by us on April 11, 2002. Williams Pipe Line Company's effective tax rates for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999 were 38.4% and 38.3%, respectively, also based primarily on the effective income tax rates for The Williams Companies for those periods. The effective income tax rates exceeded the U.S. federal statutory income tax rate for corporations primarily due to state income taxes.

Net income for the year ended December 31, 2000 was \$48.9 million compared to \$55.1 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, a decrease of \$6.2 million, or 11%. The operating margin increased by \$7.3 million during the period, primarily as a result of the acquisition of three Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities in August 1999 and the New Haven marine terminal facility in September 2000, partially offset by higher expenses related to those acquisitions as well as higher casualty loss, environmental remediation, power and other field operating expenses on the Williams Pipe Line system. Depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$6.1 million and general and administrative and interest expense increased by \$12.0 million in the aggregate. Interest income rose \$1.5 million, and other income fell \$0.7 million. In addition, income taxes declined by \$3.7 million.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

CASH FLOWS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Net cash provided by operating activities for the three months ended March 31, 2002 was \$37.4 million compared to \$49.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2001. The \$12.3 million decrease in cash flows from operating activities from 2001 to 2002 was primarily a result of changes in our affiliate and accounts receivable balances. Prior to 2001, some of Williams Pipe Line Company's affiliates did not remit payment each month associated with intercompany receivables, allowing the balances to build. Beginning in 2001, these affiliate accounts receivable balances were paid each month, resulting in a large cash inflow during the first quarter of 2001 to eliminate the accumulated balances. In addition, in 2001 we collected a significant accounts receivable balance associated with a one-time service provided to a third party. These working capital changes were partially offset by increased net income before depreciation and deferred compensation costs due to enhanced results from our existing assets and acquisitions.

Net cash used by investing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2002 and 2001 was \$16.9 million and \$9.0 million, respectively. Investing activities in 2002 included \$8.9 million for the purchase of the natural gas liquids pipeline from Aux Sable in December 2001. Maintenance capital expenditures for the period ended March 31, 2002 were \$7.7 million, compared with \$4.6 million during 2001. Please see "Capital Requirements" below for more discussion of capital expenditures.

Net cash used by financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2002 and 2001 was \$26.2 million and \$28.1 million, respectively. The cash used for the first three months of 2002 principally involved the partial repayment of an affiliate note by Williams Pipe Line Company. The cash used for the first three months of 2001 principally involved the repayment of a portion of two affiliate notes, partially offset by the net equity proceeds from our initial public offering and the net proceeds from borrowings under our operating partnership's credit facility at the time of our initial public offering.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the year ended December 31, 2001 was \$135.3 million compared to \$55.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 and \$84.5 million for the year ended

S-26

December 31, 1999. The increase from 2000 to 2001 was primarily attributable to increased net income before non-cash items such as depreciation, deferred compensation expense and deferred income taxes for the year ended December 31, 2001, and to changes in components of operating assets and liabilities between 2000 and 2001. Net income was increased primarily by the New Haven, Little Rock and Gibson petroleum products terminals acquisitions, as well as by lower general and administrative and interest expenses. Significant changes in components of operating assets and liabilities during 2001 included:

- a decrease of \$10.4 million in accounts receivable versus a \$9.7 million increase in 2000, due primarily to the collection during 2001 of receivables related to reimbursable construction projects;
- a decrease of \$15.8 million in affiliate accounts receivable versus a \$1.9 million increase in 2000, due to the collection in 2001 of a large outstanding short-term affiliate receivable due from a subsidiary of The Williams Companies; and
- an increase of \$12.9 million in inventories associated with blending, fractionation and over and short activities, versus a \$2.5 million decrease in 2000, due primarily to higher commodity prices during 2001.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

The decrease in net cash from operating activities from 1999 to 2000 was partially attributable to lower deferred income taxes in 2000 compared to 1999 and to changes in components of assets and liabilities between 1999 and 2000. Deferred taxes were \$2.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2000 compared to \$22.4 million for the year ended December 31, 1999, largely due to one-time adjustments in 1999 to accruals for rate refunds and payroll liabilities that required adjustments to the related deferred income taxes. Significant changes in components of operating assets and liabilities during 2000 included:

- an increase of \$9.7 million in accounts receivable, versus a \$5.7 million increase in 1999, due primarily to an increase during 2000 in receivables related to reimbursable construction projects;
- a decrease of \$6.6 million in accounts payable, versus a \$5.3 million increase in 1999, due primarily to the conversion during 2000 of Williams Pipe Line Company's accounts payable accounting system, which resulted in lower total accounts payable outstanding;
- an increase of \$4.5 million in current and noncurrent environmental liabilities, due primarily to accruals for environmental remediation expenses related to a discontinued refinery site, which was not included in the assets and liabilities transferred to us in connection with the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company; and
- a negative change of \$16.5 million in other current and noncurrent assets and liabilities, versus a \$21.8 million negative change in 1999, due primarily to an increase in unbilled reimbursable construction projects classified as other current assets and to an increase in long-term affiliate receivables related to reimbursable Longhorn Partners Pipeline construction costs. The large negative change in 1999 was due primarily to reductions during the year of rate refund and pension liabilities.

Net cash used by investing activities for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999 was \$87.5 million, \$74.4 million and \$277.9 million, respectively. We increased capital expenditures during these years primarily to make acquisitions of petroleum products terminals, as well as to maintain and expand the Williams Pipe Line system. In 2001, we acquired two inland terminals in Little Rock, Arkansas and a marine terminal facility in Gibson, Louisiana. In 2000, we acquired an inland terminal and the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility. In 1999, we acquired 12 inland terminals, the Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities and an additional ownership interest in eight existing inland terminals. Capital expenditures related to the Williams Pipe Line system were higher in 2000 and 1999 as a result of construction costs for truck racks and costs related to the development of the ATLAS 2000 software system. These costs totaled \$9.1 million in 2000 and \$16.8 million in 1999.

Net cash provided (used) by financing activities for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999 was \$(34.0) million, \$19.4 million and \$193.4 million, respectively. The cash flow for 2001 is primarily comprised of \$77.3 million of net equity proceeds from our initial public offering, \$89.2 million

S-27

of net proceeds from borrowings under our operating partnership's credit facility at the time of our initial public offering and \$49.5 million of additional proceeds from borrowings under that facility for the acquisitions of the Little Rock, Arkansas inland terminals and Gibson, Louisiana marine terminal facility. These proceeds were offset by a \$166.5 million repayment of the affiliate note payable associated with petroleum products terminal acquisitions using funds from the equity and debt proceeds and a \$68.6 million repayment of the affiliate note payable associated with the Williams Pipe Line system using

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

free cash flow generated by the system. The 2000 and 1999 amounts primarily represent loans we received from The Williams Companies to fund our terminal acquisitions, offset by repayments of \$6.7 million in 2000 and \$38.6 million in 1999 of the affiliate note payable associated with the Williams Pipe Line system using free cash flow generated by the system.

CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

The transportation, storage and distribution business requires continual investment to upgrade or enhance existing operations and to ensure compliance with safety and environmental regulations. The capital requirements of our businesses consist primarily of:

- maintenance capital expenditures, such as those required to maintain equipment reliability and safety and to address environmental regulations; and
- expansion capital expenditures to acquire additional complementary assets to grow our business and to expand or upgrade our existing facilities, such as projects that increase storage or throughput volumes or develop pipeline connections to new supply sources.

The Williams Companies has agreed to reimburse us for maintenance capital expenditures incurred in 2001 and 2002 in excess of \$4.9 million per year related to the assets contributed to us at the time of our initial public offering. This reimbursement obligation is subject to a maximum combined reimbursement for 2001 and 2002 of \$15.0 million. Of the \$9.2 million in maintenance capital expenditures in 2001 related to these assets, we incurred \$8.8 million after our initial public offering. Consequently, we recorded a reimbursement from The Williams Companies of \$3.9 million in 2001. As a result of these reimbursements, the maximum reimbursement obligation of The Williams Companies with respect to these assets has been reduced to \$11.1 million for 2002. For 2002 we expect to incur maintenance capital expenditures for these assets of approximately \$16.0 million, of which \$11.1 million will be reimbursed by The Williams Companies.

In connection with the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, The Williams Companies has agreed to reimburse us for maintenance capital expenditures incurred in 2002, 2003 and 2004 in excess of \$19.0 million per year related to the Williams Pipe Line system, subject to a maximum combined reimbursement for 2002, 2003 and 2004 of \$15.0 million. In 2002, we expect to incur maintenance capital expenditures related to the Williams Pipe Line system of approximately \$16.8 million and, therefore, do not anticipate that we will be reimbursed for such expenditures.

We expect to incur aggregate maintenance capital expenditures for 2002 for all of our businesses, in excess of reimbursements from The Williams Companies, of \$21.7 million.

In addition to maintenance capital expenditures, we are also planning to incur expansion and upgrade capital expenditures at our existing facilities, including pipeline connections. The total we plan to spend for expansion is approximately \$7.0 million in 2002, not including capital needs associated with additional acquisitions, if any. We expect to fund our expansion capital expenditures, including any acquisitions, from:

- cash provided by operations;
- borrowings under the revolving credit facility discussed below and other borrowings; and
- the issuance of additional common units.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

If capital markets tighten and we are unable to fund these expenditures, our business may be adversely affected and we may not be able to acquire additional assets and businesses.

S-28

LIQUIDITY

Williams Pipe Line Short-term Loan. In connection with the acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system, we and our subsidiary, Williams Pipe Line Company, entered into a 180-day \$700.0 million credit agreement. Substantially all of the proceeds were used to finance this acquisition.

Our obligations under this short-term loan are unsecured. This indebtedness ranks equally with all of our outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated debt. Our operating partnership is not a borrower under this credit agreement. We may prepay this short-term loan at any time, in whole or in part, without penalty.

This indebtedness bears interest, at our election, at the Eurodollar rate plus 2.5%, or the prime rate plus 1.5%, for the first 120 days of the short-term loan and, thereafter, at the Eurodollar rate plus 4.0%, or the prime rate plus 3.0%.

In addition, the credit agreement contains various covenants limiting our and Williams Pipe Line Company's ability to:

- incur additional unsecured indebtedness other than under our operating partnership's credit facility described below;
- grant liens other than tax liens, mechanic's and materialman's liens and other liens and encumbrances incurred in the ordinary course of business;
- make investments, other than investments in the Williams Pipe Line system, cash and short-term securities and acquisitions;
- merge or consolidate unless Williams Energy Partners is the survivor;
- dispose of assets;
- make distributions other than from available cash or, in the case of Williams Pipe Line Company, in excess of \$7.5 million in each quarter;
- engage in any business other than the transportation, storage and distribution of hydrocarbons and ammonia;
- create obligations for some lease payments; or
- engage in transactions with affiliates other than arm's-length transactions.

The credit agreement also contains a covenant requiring Williams Pipe Line Company to maintain EBITDA (as defined in the credit agreement) of at least \$20.0 million for each fiscal quarter.

Operating Partnership Credit Facility. Subsequent to the closing of our initial public offering on February 9, 2001, we have relied on cash generated from internal operations as our primary source of funding. Additional funding requirements are met by a \$175.0 million credit facility of our operating partnership that expires on February 5, 2004. This credit facility is comprised of a \$90.0 million term loan and an \$85.0 million revolving credit facility. The

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

revolving credit facility is comprised of a \$73.0 million acquisition subfacility and a \$12.0 million working capital subfacility.

Immediately after the closing of our initial public offering, we borrowed the entire \$90.0 million term loan and \$0.1 million under the revolving credit facility. As of December 31, 2001, \$23.5 million was available under the acquisition subfacility after borrowing \$49.5 million to fund the Little Rock, Arkansas and Gibson, Louisiana acquisitions. In January 2002, we borrowed \$8.9 million to pay for the Aux Sable transaction. In addition, \$12.0 million was available under the working capital subfacility at December 31, 2001.

Obligations under the credit facility are unsecured but are guaranteed by all of the subsidiaries of our operating partnership. Indebtedness under the credit facility ranks equally with all the outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated debt of our operating partnership. Williams Pipe Line Company is a separate operating subsidiary of ours and is not a borrower or guarantor under this credit facility.

S-29

We may prepay all loans at any time without penalty. We must reduce all borrowings under the working capital subfacility to zero for a period of at least 15 consecutive days once during each year, beginning on the effective date of the credit facility.

Indebtedness under the credit facility bears interest at the Eurodollar rate plus an applicable margin that ranges from 1.00% to 1.45%. We incur a commitment fee on the unused portions of the revolving credit facility and the term loan.

In addition, the credit facility contains various covenants limiting our operating partnership's ability to:

- incur additional unsecured indebtedness of more than \$75.0 million, subordinated debt owed to affiliates of more than \$50.0 million and secured purchase money debt of more than \$5.0 million, including maintaining the ratios described below;
- grant liens other than tax liens, mechanic's and materialman's liens and other liens and encumbrances incurred in the ordinary course of the operating partnership's business;
- make investments, other than investments in the operating partnership's subsidiaries, cash and short term securities and acquisitions;
- merge or consolidate;
- sell all of the operating partnership's assets;
- make distributions other than from available cash;
- engage in any business other than the transportation, storage and distribution of hydrocarbons and ammonia;
- create obligations for some lease payments; or
- engage in transactions with affiliates other than arm's-length transactions.

The credit facility also contains covenants requiring the operating partnership to maintain specified ratios of:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- EBITDA (as defined in the credit facility), pro forma for any asset acquisitions, to interest expense of not less than 3.0 to 1.0; and
- total debt to EBITDA, pro forma for any asset acquisitions, of not more than 4.0 to 1.0.

Our management believes that our operating partnership is in compliance with all of these covenants.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Our operations are subject to environmental laws and regulations adopted by various governmental authorities in the jurisdictions in which these operations are conducted. We have accrued liabilities for estimated site restoration costs to be incurred in the future at our facilities and properties, including liabilities for environmental remediation obligations at various sites where we have been identified as a possibly responsible party. Under our accounting policies, liabilities are recorded when site restoration and environmental remediation and cleanup obligations are either known or considered probable and can be reasonably estimated.

In conjunction with our initial public offering, and with respect solely to the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline assets owned at the time of that offering, Williams Energy Services, an affiliate of ours and a subsidiary of The Williams Companies, agreed to indemnify us against environmental liabilities, up to \$15.0 million, that arose prior to February 9, 2001, that become known within three years after February 9, 2001 and that exceed all amounts recovered or recoverable by us under contractual indemnities from third parties or under any applicable insurance policies.

As of December 31, 2001, we had accrued environmental remediation liabilities associated with our petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system of \$5.4 million. This amount includes a

S-30

\$2.6 million liability recorded in 2001 associated with our New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility, based on third-party estimates developed as part of a Phase II environmental assessment required by the State of Connecticut. Management estimates that these expenditures for environmental remediation liabilities will be paid over the next two to five years. Receivables of \$5.1 million associated with these environmental liabilities have been recognized as recoverable from affiliates and third parties.

In connection with our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company on April 11, 2002, Williams Energy Services agreed to indemnify us for losses and damages related to breach of environmental representations and warranties and the failure to comply with environmental laws prior to closing in excess of \$2.0 million up to a maximum of \$125.0 million. This \$125.0 million will also be subject to indemnification claims made by us for breaches of other representations and warranties. The environmental indemnification obligation applies to liabilities that result from conduct prior to the closing of our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company and that are discovered within six years of closing. In addition, certain of Williams Pipe Line Company's assets and liabilities, including environmental remediation liabilities, were transferred to an affiliate of The Williams Companies prior to our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company.

During 2001, we recorded \$7.5 million of environmental remediation expenses associated with the Williams Pipe Line system. These expenses were primarily the

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

result of cleanup at several terminals located on the system and at a discontinued refining site, which was not included in the assets and liabilities transferred to us in connection with the acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system. In addition, we incurred costs related to the assessment and monitoring of soil, groundwater and surface water conditions at various locations on the system where operations may have resulted in releases of hydrocarbons and other wastes.

As of December 31, 2001, we had accrued environmental remediation liabilities associated with the Williams Pipe Line system of \$11.5 million. Of these liabilities, \$2.0 million were transferred to an affiliate of The Williams Companies prior to our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company on April 11, 2002, and a receivable was recognized at the time of the closing of the acquisition for \$7.5 million that is recoverable under the indemnification from Williams Energy Services. We expect to pay the remaining \$2.0 million of the \$11.5 million of accrued environmental remediation liabilities as the deductible required under that indemnification. Management estimates that these remaining expenditures for environmental remediation liabilities will be paid over the next two to five years.

IMPACT OF INFLATION

Although the impact of inflation has slowed in recent years, it is still a factor in the United States economy and may increase the cost to acquire or replace property, plant and equipment and may increase the costs of labor and supplies. To the extent permitted by competition, regulation and our existing agreements, we have and will continue to pass along increased costs to our customers in the form of higher fees.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates. We deem the following accounting policies to be critical:

- Transportation revenues are recognized when products are delivered to customers. Injection service fees associated with customary proprietary additives are recognized upon injection to the customer's product, which occurs at the time the product is delivered. Leased storage, terminalling and other related revenues are recognized upon provision of contract services. Other revenue, principally blending and fractionation revenue, is recognized upon sale of the product.

S-31

- Depreciation expense is calculated based on our estimate of the remaining useful lives of our assets. Because of the expected long useful lives of our assets, we depreciate terminals and pipelines over a 6-year to 67-year period for financial statement purposes. Changes in the estimated lives of our assets could have a material effect on results of operations.
- Incentive compensation expense is recorded for the restricted unit compensation program for The Williams Companies employees assigned to our businesses. The expense associated with the one-time IPO award is based on the price of the units on the date of grant. The expense associated with the annual incentive compensation plan is computed based on the estimated number of units that will ultimately vest adjusted by the current market value of the units at each period end. We are accruing

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

costs for these units assuming the maximum number of units that can vest. Any changes in those assumptions would result in lower compensation expense to the us.

- Environmental liabilities are recorded when site restoration, environmental remediation and cleanup obligations are either known or considered probable and can be reasonably estimated. Environmental liabilities are recorded independently of any potential claim for recovery. Receivables are recognized in cases where reimbursements for remediation costs are considered probable.
- With the adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, goodwill will no longer be amortized beginning January 1, 2002 but will be tested periodically for impairment. Management's judgments and assumptions relative to estimating the future cash flows of our various assets will be critical in determining whether an impairment exists and, if so, the financial impact of such impairment. Changes in market conditions, customers and/or industry financial conditions, technology and other factors could materially impact the future assessment of goodwill values, which could have a material impact on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In August 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets." This Statement supersedes SFAS No. 121, "Accounting for the Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and for Long-Lived Assets to be Disposed of" and amends Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 30, "Reporting the Results of Operations -- Reporting the Effects of Disposal of a Segment of a Business and Extraordinary, Unusual and Infrequently Occurring Events and Transactions." The Statement retains the basic framework of SFAS No. 121, resolves certain implementation issues of SFAS No. 121, extends applicability to discontinued operations and broadens the presentation of discontinued operations to include a component of an entity. The Statement is to be applied prospectively and is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001. The Statement is not expected to have any initial impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In June 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 143, "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations." This Statement addresses financial accounting and reporting for obligations associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets and the associated asset retirement costs and amends FASB Statement No. 19, "Financial Accounting and Reporting by Oil and Gas Producing Companies." The Statement requires that the fair value of a liability for an asset retirement obligation be recognized in the period in which it is incurred if a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made and that the associated asset retirement costs be capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the long-lived asset. The Statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2002. We plan to adopt this standard in January 2003, and we are evaluating its effect on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In June 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141, "Business Combinations" and SFAS No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." SFAS No. 141 establishes accounting and reporting standards for business combinations and requires all business combinations to be accounted for by the purchase method. The Statement is effective for all business combinations for which the date of acquisition is July 1, 2001 or later. SFAS No. 142 addresses accounting and reporting standards for goodwill and other intangible assets.

Under this Statement, goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives will no longer be amortized but will be tested annually for impairment. The Statement becomes effective for all fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001. We will apply the new rules on accounting for goodwill and other intangible assets beginning January 1, 2002. Based on the amount of goodwill recorded as of December 31, 2001, application of the non-amortization provision of the Statement will result in a decrease to amortization expense in future years of approximately \$1.1 million.

In September 2000, the FASB issued SFAS No. 140, "Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities." The Statement provides guidance for determining whether a transfer of financial assets should be accounted for as a sale or a secured borrowing and whether a liability has been extinguished. The Statement is effective for recognition and reclassification of collateral and for disclosures ending after December 15, 2000. The Statement became effective for transfers and servicing of financial assets and extinguishments of liabilities occurring after March 31, 2001. The initial application of SFAS No. 140 had no impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In June 1998, the FASB issued SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." This was followed in June 2000 by the issuance of SFAS No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities," which amends SFAS No. 133. SFAS No. 133 and No. 138 establish accounting and reporting standards for derivative financial instruments. The standards require that all derivative financial instruments be recorded on the balance sheet at their fair value. Changes in fair value of derivatives will be recorded each period in earnings if the derivative is not a hedge. If a derivative qualifies for special hedge accounting, changes in the fair value of the derivative will either be recognized in earnings as an offset against the change in fair value of the hedged assets, liabilities or firm commitments also recognized in earnings, or the changes in fair value will be deferred on the balance sheet until the hedged item is recognized in earnings. The ineffective portion of a derivative's change in fair value will be recognized immediately in earnings. These standards were adopted on January 1, 2001. There was no impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows from adopting these standards.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

We have entered into a number of commercial agreements with affiliates, including Williams Energy Marketing & Trading, Williams Refining & Marketing, Williams Ethanol Services, Inc. and Mid-America Pipeline Company. Each of these entities is a subsidiary of The Williams Companies and an affiliate of ours and of our general partner. The principal business of Williams Energy Marketing & Trading is the marketing and trading of energy commodities including natural gas, natural gas liquids, power, crude oil and refined petroleum products. Williams Refining & Marketing primarily owns and operates a refinery in Memphis, Tennessee and also engages in the purchase and sale of crude and refined petroleum products. Williams Ethanol Services operates two ethanol plants and an ethanol distribution system and also engages in the purchase and sale of ethanol. Mid-America Pipeline is an interstate common carrier pipeline company engaged in the transportation and distribution of natural gas liquids.

The agreements with our affiliates vary depending upon location and the types of services provided. Approximately \$15.9 million of our revenues in 2001 were generated from agreements with affiliates at our petroleum products terminals while approximately \$78.4 million of revenue in 2001 was generated from agreements with affiliates on The Williams Pipe Line system. In addition,

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

approximately \$81.0 million of expenses were incurred from product purchases with our affiliates on the Williams Pipe Line system. A summary of the significant agreements follows:

THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM

Tariff-Based Shipments. Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing ship refined petroleum products on our pipeline system. We charge rates for the shipments based upon tariffs filed with the FERC or the applicable state agency that are the same rates we charge to non-affiliated entities. These tariffs serve as individual contractual agreements that commit our affiliate to pay

S-33

for volume transported on our system as long as we abide by the terms of the tariff. As a result, contracts do not exist that obligate our affiliates to ship volume or make payments to us in the future. These tariff-based shipments generated approximately \$5.0 million of revenue in 2001.

System Lease Storage Agreements. We have entered into several agreements with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing for the access and utilization of storage along the Williams Pipe Line system. These agreements provide for a fixed monthly storage capacity on the pipeline system at a fixed rate. The rates charged to our affiliates are consistent with those charged to non-affiliated entities. Services provided under these agreements include the receipt of refined petroleum products into our system at any origin point on our system. Our affiliates remain responsible for tariff charges related to the actual shipment of product and delivery through our terminals. A majority of these contracts have a term of one to two years. Historically, at the end of the contract term, we have extended the agreements for one to two additional years. These agreements generated approximately \$2.2 million in revenues in 2001.

Ethanol Storage and Throughput Agreements. We have entered into several agreements with Williams Ethanol Services for the access and utilization of storage along the Williams Pipe Line system. These agreements provide for a fixed monthly ethanol storage capacity at our terminals at a fixed storage rate. The rates charged to our affiliates are consistent with those charged to non-affiliated entities. In addition, we charge additional fees ranging from \$0.80 per barrel to over \$1.25 per barrel for blending services and handling fees at certain terminals. A majority of these contracts have a term ranging from less than one year and up to two years. These agreements generated approximately \$3.2 million in revenues in 2001.

Facility Rental Agreement. We have entered into an agreement to lease to Mid-America Pipeline approximately 292 miles of pipeline, three active pump stations and a propane storage and loading facility in Canton, South Dakota. Mid-America Pipeline is responsible for utilities and other operating costs. The agreement was entered into in 1998 and has been renewed yearly since that time. The rate charged for this lease has not changed from year to year. This agreement generated approximately \$0.3 million in revenues in 2001.

System Services Agreements. We have entered into agreements with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading, Williams Refining & Marketing and Williams Ethanol Services providing them with a non-exclusive and non-transferable sublicense to use the ATLAS 2000 software system. The system can be utilized to access data for monitoring shipment and inventory status and performing other functions related to shipment activities. The agreements establish fixed rates at which we provide certain services. These agreements generated approximately \$0.3 million in revenues in 2001.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Over and Short Settlement and Product Purchases and Sales Agreements. We have entered into agreements with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading to buy natural gas liquids blendstocks and sell the refined petroleum products related to our blending program and to purchase from or sell to us refined petroleum products needed to maintain inventory balances on our pipeline system (which we refer to as over and short settlements). These transactions are subject to master purchase and sale agreements for refined petroleum products or a master purchase agreement for natural gas liquids. Each transaction with our affiliate is recorded on a confirmation statement, which is subject to the general terms outlined in the master agreements. These confirmation statements determine the volume, price and timing associated with the product purchases and sales. Because the confirmation statements are generally associated with discrete transactions over short time frames, contracts do not exist that obligate our affiliate to buy or sell refined petroleum products or natural gas liquids to us in the future. The revenues associated with these agreements were approximately \$66.4 million in 2001, while the expenses incurred to purchase products from our affiliates were approximately \$76.8 million in 2001. Additional details related to the activities that produce the purchase and sale opportunities are as follows:

- Blending. Historically, Williams Pipe Line Company purchased natural gas liquids from Williams Energy Marketing & Trading at cost plus a fixed fee of \$0.105 per barrel. Williams Energy Marketing & Trading purchased at prevailing market prices a majority of the finished gasoline that

S-34

was produced from blending. In connection with the acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system, we and Williams Energy Services agreed that the Williams Pipe Line system will no longer take title to the natural gas liquids it blends or the resulting product. We will continue to perform these blending services for Williams Energy Services under a ten-year agreement for an annual fee of approximately \$3.0 million. This agreement provides for a total annual amount of \$3.5 million, of which \$0.5 million is attributable to blending services provided at one of our inland petroleum products terminals not connected to the Williams Pipe Line system.

- Over and Short Settlement. Generally, the physical volumes on our system will not match the balances recorded by our customers. These differences are either product quality differences or absolute volume differences. Quality differences usually result from the commingling of product on the pipeline during times when we change the product being shipped on our pipeline. When these differences occur, we purchase and sell product at prevailing market prices from our affiliate to manage the imbalances.

Longhorn Partners Pipeline Construction Revenue Agreement. Williams Pipe Line Company entered into agreements with Longhorn Partners Pipeline to provide engineering, design, construction, start-up and pipeline operating services. Under these agreements, Williams Pipe Line Company was reimbursed for costs incurred and received contractor and operating fees. The revenues associated with these agreements were approximately \$1.0 million in 2001. In connection with our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, these agreements were transferred to another affiliate of The Williams Companies and consequently we will no longer provide these services and receive these fees.

Mid-America Pipeline Agreements. We have entered into agreements to lease from Mid-America Pipeline underground natural gas liquids storage in Kansas, to ship natural gas liquids on Mid-America Pipeline at published tariffs and to lease from Mid-America Pipeline approximately 15 miles of pipeline in Illinois. The natural gas liquids storage leases are typically renewed yearly, and the

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

pipeline lease has a term of ten years. Any tariff-based shipments are subject to the prevailing tariff and are not subject to any other contract. Together, these agreements generated operating expenses of \$0.8 million in 2001.

Natural Gas and Fuel Oil Supply Agreements. We have entered into agreements with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing for the supply of natural gas and fuel oil used at pump stations throughout the Williams Pipe Line system. We purchase fuel oil from Williams Refining & Marketing at the prevailing market price. These purchases are identified on confirmation statements that are subject to the master refined products purchase and sale agreements used in the blending and over and short program. We purchase natural gas from Williams Energy Marketing & Trading either based on indexed prices or at fixed prices. In 2001, we elected to purchase a majority of our natural gas at fixed prices, which required that we commit to a definite volume of natural gas purchases. Long-term volume commitments are not required for index-based pricing. The natural gas purchase agreement for fixed price natural gas expires in August 2002. At that time, we expect to enter into a new agreement with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading on terms similar to those in the existing contract. These agreements generated operating expenses of \$4.2 million in 2001.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TERMINALS

Inland Terminal Use and Access Agreements. We have entered into several agreements with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and William Refining & Marketing for the access and utilization of our inland terminals. The services provided under these agreements include the receipt and delivery of refined petroleum products via connecting pipelines, tank trucks or transport terminals. Additional services include product handling, storage and additive injection. These agreements establish a fixed fee at which these services are provided at rates consistent with those charged to non-affiliated entities. A majority of these contracts have a term of one year and are renewed on an annual basis. The revenue associated with these agreements in 2001 was approximately \$6.5 million.

S-35

Products Terminalling Agreement for the Galena Park, Texas Marine Terminal Facility. We entered into an agreement with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading to provide approximately 2.5 million barrels of storage capacity and to provide other ancillary services at our Galena Park, Texas marine terminal facility. Because the storage fees are fixed and the storage capacity is already committed, revenues only fluctuate to the extent other ancillary services are utilized. The primary services provided include receipt and delivery of refined petroleum products and blendstocks via marine vessel, pipeline, tank truck or other transfers from customers within the terminal facility. Upon the request of Williams Energy Marketing & Trading, we provide gasoline blending services to their product at an additional cost. The prices charged under this agreement are consistent with those charged to non-affiliated entities. The agreement generated approximately \$7.4 million of revenue during 2001 and extends until September 30, 2004, at which time it may be renewed monthly.

Products Terminalling Agreement for Marrero, Louisiana and Galena Park, Texas Marine Terminal Facilities. We entered into an agreement with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading to provide up to 0.4 million barrels of storage capacity at Marrero and 0.1 million barrels of storage capacity at Galena Park. We also agreed to provide other ancillary services including blending and tank heating services. The primary services provided include receipt and delivery of refined petroleum products and blendstocks at Galena Park and heavy oils and feedstocks at Marrero. The prices charged under this agreement are consistent with those charged to non-affiliated entities. The agreement generated approximately \$1.4 million of revenue during 2001. This contract has been

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

canceled and replaced with the contract described immediately above.

Products Terminalling Agreement for the Gibson, Louisiana Marine Terminal Facility. We entered into an agreement to provide Williams Energy Marketing & Trading capacity utilization rights to substantially all of the capacity of the Gibson, Louisiana facility for nine years starting November 1, 2001. This agreement allows for the delivery of crude oil and condensate to our facility by barge, truck and pipeline where we then provide storage, blending and throughput services. Williams Energy Marketing & Trading has committed to utilize substantially all of the capacity at our facility at a fixed rate which is consistent with rates charged by other service providers for similar services at other locations. As a result, the revenues we receive should not significantly vary as long as the services we provide do not fall below certain performance standards. This contract expires after nine years and we expect it to generate approximately \$4.0 million in revenue in 2002. This contract generated approximately \$0.6 million in revenue for the two months we owned the facility in 2001.

OTHER AFFILIATE AGREEMENTS

In addition to the expenses incurred under the commercial agreements with our affiliates discussed above, we also incur affiliate expenses for general and administrative, operating and maintenance services under the terms of our partnership agreement and our omnibus agreement, which governs the relationship between us, our general partner and The Williams Companies.

ENRON EXPOSURE

We have a crude oil storage contract with an affiliate of Enron. Following Enron's voluntary bankruptcy petition, the Enron affiliate failed to pay approximately \$0.2 million of the amount due to us under this contract. Under the terms of our agreement, we seized assets from the Enron affiliate in an amount sufficient to settle the obligation. As a result, we did not incur any loss exposure associated with Enron or its affiliates at December 31, 2001. We have continued our business dealings with Enron's affiliate but the terms have been changed such that the crude storage services are on a prepaid basis.

S-36

Through a variety of energy commodity and derivative contracts, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading, a subsidiary of The Williams Companies, has credit exposure to various Enron entities. During the fourth-quarter 2001, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading recorded a reduction in trading revenues of approximately \$130.0 million as a part of its valuation of energy commodity and derivative tracking contracts with Enron entities. Approximately \$91.0 million of this reduction in revenues was recorded pursuant to events immediately preceding and following Enron's announced bankruptcy. At December 31, 2001, The Williams Companies had reduced its exposure to accounts receivable from Enron, net of margin deposits, to expected recoverable amounts.

S-37

BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION

We were formed by The Williams Companies in August 2000 to own, operate and acquire a diversified portfolio of complementary energy assets. We are principally engaged in the transportation, storage and distribution of refined petroleum products and ammonia. Our asset portfolio currently consists of:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- the Williams Pipe Line system;
- five marine terminal facilities;
- 25 inland terminals; and
- an 1,100-mile ammonia pipeline system.

The Williams Pipe Line system is a 6,700-mile common carrier pipeline that provides refined petroleum products transportation and terminalling services in 11 states from Oklahoma through the Midwest to Illinois and North Dakota. Our marine and inland terminals store and distribute refined petroleum products in 12 states. Our ammonia pipeline system transports and distributes ammonia from production facilities in Texas and Oklahoma to various distribution points in the Midwest for use as an agricultural fertilizer.

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES

One of our principal attributes is our relationship with The Williams Companies. Through this relationship, we have access to experienced management and strong relationships throughout the energy industry. The Williams Companies has a long history of successfully pursuing and consummating energy acquisitions and utilizes us as a significant growth vehicle for its transportation, storage and distribution businesses. We will continue to pursue strategic acquisitions from unaffiliated parties independently and jointly with The Williams Companies, including acquisitions that we would be unable to pursue on our own. We also expect to make additional acquisitions directly from The Williams Companies in the future, although no such additional acquisitions have currently been identified.

The Williams Companies has a significant interest in us. Upon completion of this offering, The Williams Companies will own a 52.6% limited partner interest in us and all of our 2% general partner interest. Additionally, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing subsidiaries of The Williams Companies, are significant customers of ours. For the year ended December 31, 2001, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading, Williams Refining & Marketing and other affiliates of The Williams Companies collectively represented approximately 21.0% of our combined historical revenues.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Williams Pipe Line System Acquisition. On April 11, 2002, we acquired all of the membership interests of Williams Pipe Line Company from a wholly owned subsidiary of The Williams Companies for approximately \$1.0 billion. Williams Pipe Line Company owns and operates the Williams Pipe Line system. The Williams Pipe Line system further complements our virtual supply network that allows us to offer our customers same-day delivery of refined petroleum products at multiple points across our distribution network regardless of actual transportation time.

We financed the acquisition through a \$700.0 million short-term loan and the issuance of Class B units to The Williams Companies. The Class B units will be treated as common units for purposes of cash distributions, but no distributions will be made on the Class B units until we have repaid the short-term loan. The terms of the short-term loan are described under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations -- Liquidity and Capital Resources" in this

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

prospectus supplement and the Class B Units are described under the caption "Description of Our Class B Units" in the accompanying prospectus.

In connection with the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, Williams Energy Services agreed to indemnify us for any breach of a representation or warranty that results in losses and damages of up to \$110.0 million after the payment of a \$6.0 million deductible. With respect to any amount exceeding \$110.0 million, Williams Energy Services will be responsible for one-half of that amount up to \$140.0 million. In no event will Williams Energy Services' liability exceed \$125.0 million. These indemnification obligations will survive for one year, except that those relating to employees and employee benefits will survive for the applicable statute of limitations and those relating to real property, including title to Williams Energy Services' assets, will survive for ten years. This indemnity also provides that we will be indemnified for an unlimited amount of losses and damages related to tax liabilities. In addition, any losses and damages related to environmental liabilities that arose prior to the acquisition will be subject only to a \$2.0 million deductible.

In connection with the acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system, we and The Williams Companies also amended the omnibus agreement among ourselves and the other affiliated entities named therein. The amended omnibus agreement includes provisions governing:

- potential competition between us and The Williams Companies with respect to the acquisition or construction of additional transportation assets;
- the maximum reimbursement amount to be paid by us to The Williams Companies for general and administrative expenses related to the operation of the Williams Pipe Line system through 2017; and
- the amount of reimbursement to be paid by The Williams Companies to us if the maintenance capital expenditures related to the Williams Pipe Line system exceed certain levels through 2004.

Other Acquisitions. On December 31, 2001, we acquired a natural gas liquids pipeline in Illinois from Aux Sable Liquid Products L.P. for approximately \$8.9 million. On October 31, 2001, we acquired a marine terminal facility in Gibson, Louisiana from Geonet Gathering, Inc. for approximately \$21.1 million. On June 30, 2001, we acquired two inland petroleum products terminals in Little Rock, Arkansas, from TransMontaigne, Inc. for approximately \$29.1 million. On April 5, 2001, we acquired a refined petroleum products pipeline in Dallas, Texas from Equilon Pipeline Company LLC for \$0.3 million.

BUSINESS STRATEGIES

Our primary business strategies are to:

Grow through strategic acquisitions that increase per unit cash flow. Since our initial public offering in February 2001, we have successfully completed five acquisitions and have increased our quarterly cash distribution by approximately 17% from \$0.525 per common unit to \$0.6125 per common unit for the first quarter of 2002. We will continue to pursue acquisitions independently, as well as jointly with The Williams Companies. Future acquisition targets may include assets to be directly integrated into our current operations, such as additional pipelines or terminals that will expand and complement our existing refined petroleum products distribution network, or acquisitions of other businesses in which we are not currently active. The acquisition of the Williams Pipe Line system was a significant transaction for us and our first acquisition directly from The Williams Companies. We will continue to capitalize on the opportunity to make acquisitions directly from The Williams Companies in the future, although no such additional acquisitions have currently been identified.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Maximize the benefits of our relationship with The Williams Companies. The Williams Companies is engaged in numerous aspects of the energy industry and has a long history of aggressively pursuing and consummating energy acquisitions. Through our relationship with The Williams Companies, we have access to a significant pool of management talent and strong relationships throughout the energy industry that we utilize to execute our strategies. The Williams Companies formed us as a primary growth vehicle

S-39

for its transportation, storage and distribution businesses. For this reason, we have the opportunity to participate with The Williams Companies in considering transactions that we would not be able to pursue on our own. We also benefit from an increased likelihood that potential sellers will contact, and solicit bids from, us as a result of our affiliation with The Williams Companies. In addition, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing are two of our largest customers.

Generate stable cash flows to make quarterly cash distributions. In conducting our existing operations and pursuing future opportunities, we focus on businesses and assets that generate stable cash flows with limited exposure to commodity price fluctuations. In each of our business lines, our customers pay fees based on the amount of product they transport, store and distribute. We have little direct exposure to commodity price fluctuations because we take title to less than 2% of the products we transport, store and distribute. We will continue to focus on businesses that generate stable cash flows with limited exposure to commodity price fluctuations as we consider future acquisition opportunities.

COMPETITIVE STRENGTHS

We believe that we are well-positioned to execute our business strategies because of the following competitive strengths:

Our acquisition strategy is enhanced by our affiliation with The Williams Companies. We believe that our affiliation with The Williams Companies will provide us with a competitive advantage when we jointly pursue acquisition opportunities. As is frequently the case in the petroleum industry, potential acquisition opportunities may have an element of commodity price risk inherent in its operations. We expect to be able to pursue such acquisitions jointly with The Williams Companies in a manner that minimizes or eliminates commodity price exposure to us. In these circumstances, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing may assume most or all of the commodity price exposure inherent in the acquired business and incorporate these risks into their overall commodity trading operations. As a result of this affiliation, we expect to be able to pursue acquisition targets that would otherwise not be attractive acquisition candidates for us or other competing potential acquirers because of the commodity price risk inherent in the target operations. Additionally, we will continue to explore acquisition opportunities, like the Williams Pipe Line system, directly from The Williams Companies in the future.

Our officers and directors have extensive industry experience and include some of the most senior officers of The Williams Companies. Steve Malcolm, Chief Executive Officer and President of The Williams Companies, serves as a director of our general partner, and Phil Wright, the Chief Executive Officer and President of Williams Energy Services, serves as the Chairman of the Board of our general partner. We believe that we benefit from the experience and long-standing industry relationships of our senior management team. Additionally, our senior management team enhances our ability to benefit from our relationship with The Williams Companies.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Our assets are strategically located in areas with high demand for our services. The Williams Pipe Line system includes more than 6,700 miles of pipeline and 39 terminals that play a critical role in the transportation and distribution of refined petroleum products across 11 states in the mid-continent region of the United States. This region has historically had high demand for refined petroleum products, and this demand is expected to grow at an average rate of 1.7% per year over the next 10 years. Additionally, four of our marine terminal facilities are located along the Gulf Coast, which has the largest concentration of petroleum refineries and petrochemical plants in the United States and is connected to most major distribution systems. Our fifth marine terminal facility is located in close proximity to the New York harbor, a key trading hub for refined petroleum products. Most of our inland terminals are connected to the Colonial or Plantation pipelines, which are the principal common carrier refined products pipelines serving the southeastern United States. Additionally, our ammonia pipeline system connects ammonia production facilities located in Texas and Oklahoma with ammonia consumption areas throughout the agricultural regions of the Midwest.

S-40

We provide refined petroleum products distribution services through a virtual supply network that is capable of providing same-day delivery of refined petroleum products at multiple points across our distribution network regardless of actual transportation time. We benefit from owning and operating geographically diverse refined petroleum products distribution facilities that are interconnected by the Williams Pipe Line system as well as pipelines owned by third parties. This permits us to offer our customers same-day delivery of refined petroleum products at multiple points across our distribution network, regardless of actual transportation time. For example, a customer may deliver gasoline to our Tulsa terminal and be able to withdraw gasoline on the same day from any one of our terminals on the Williams Pipe Line system.

We have little direct commodity price exposure because we generally do not take title to the products we transport, store and distribute. Substantially all of our operations are conducted under storage contracts or involve transportation and distribution services in which we generally do not take title to the customers' products. As a result, our business depends primarily upon the volumes of products that we transport, store and distribute, and we have little direct exposure to commodity prices. However, commodity prices may affect demand for our services. We intend to continue to minimize our direct exposure to commodity prices in the future.

REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TRANSPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION

The United States refined petroleum products transportation and distribution system links oil and gas refineries to end-users of gasoline and other refined petroleum products and is comprised of a network of pipelines, terminals, storage facilities, tankers, barges, rail cars and trucks. For transportation of refined petroleum products, pipelines are generally the lowest-cost alternative for intermediate and long-haul movements between different markets. Throughout the distribution system, terminals play a key role in moving products to the end-user market by providing storage, distribution, blending and other ancillary services. Products transported, stored and distributed through the Williams Pipe Line system and marine and inland terminals include:

- Refined Petroleum Products, which are the output from refineries and are often used as fuels by consumers. Refined petroleum products include gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, kerosene and heating oil.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- Liquefied Petroleum Gases, or LPGs, which are produced as by-products of the crude oil refining process and in connection with natural gas production. LPGs include butane and propane.
- Blendstocks, which are blended with petroleum products to change or enhance their characteristics such as increasing a gasoline's octane or oxygen content. Blendstocks include alkylates and oxygenates.
- Heavy Oils and Feedstocks, which are often used as burner fuels or feedstocks for further processing by refineries and petrochemical facilities. Heavy oils and feedstocks include #6 fuel oil and vacuum gas oil.

The Energy Information Administration forecasts that total petroleum demand throughout the United States will grow at an average rate of 1.9% per year over the next 10 years. More than 70% of the growth in petroleum demand is predicted to come from increased demand for transportation fuels, which is projected to grow 2.2% annually over the same period. Meanwhile, U.S. petroleum supply is expected to continue shifting as the petroleum industry furthers the process of consolidation that began in the 1990s, when refiners and marketers began to pursue development of large-scale, cost-efficient operations. This process has led to many refinery acquisitions, mergers, alliances and joint ventures. Major integrated oil companies have re-deployed resources to core competencies of exploration and production, refining and retail marketing and have sought to lower their distribution costs. The pace of consolidation has accelerated as increasingly strict environmental regulations and fuel standards are forcing many refineries to make significant capital investments or cease operations. This regulatory pressure has further increased the importance of large-scale refining operations such as those found along the U.S. Gulf Coast, often at the expense of refineries in other regions.

S-41

One effect of the increasing U.S. demand for refined petroleum products and the concurrent shifts in U.S. refined petroleum products supply is an increasing emphasis on the role of the transportation and distribution system. Pipelines and terminals, especially those with connections to the U.S. Gulf Coast, are well-positioned to capitalize on the need to satisfy growing demand while adapting to shifting supply. Our ability to adapt to these market shifts is enhanced by the broad geographic coverage of our distribution network and our ability to utilize a virtual supply network to provide our customers with same-day delivery of refined petroleum products regardless of actual transportation time.

WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM

The Williams Pipe Line system covers an 11-state area extending from Oklahoma through the Midwest to North Dakota, Minnesota and Illinois. The system transports refined petroleum products and LPGs and includes a common carrier pipeline and 39 terminals that provide transportation and terminalling services. The products transported on the Williams Pipe Line system are largely transportation fuels, comprised of 58% gasolines, 32% diesel fuels and 10% LPGs and aviation fuels in 2001. Product originates on the system from direct connections to refineries and interconnections with other interstate pipelines for transportation and ultimate distribution to retail gasoline stations, truck stops, railroads, airlines and other end-users.

The Williams Pipe Line system largely depends on the demand for refined petroleum products and LPGs in the markets it serves and the ability of refiners and marketers to meet those needs through the pipeline system. According to statistics provided by the Energy Information Administration, the demand for

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

refined petroleum products in the market area served by Williams Pipe Line system, known as Petroleum Administration for Defense District II, or PADD II, is expected to grow at an average rate of 1.7% per year over the next 10 years. The total production of refined petroleum products from refineries located in PADD II is currently insufficient to meet the demand for refined petroleum products in PADD II. The excess PADD II demand has been and is expected to be met largely by imports of refined petroleum products via pipelines from Gulf Coast refineries that are located in PADD III.

U.S. refineries, including the refineries located in PADD II, are required to comply with increasingly strict clean fuels regulations mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency. Many refineries will be forced to make significant capital investments in order to meet these higher regulatory standards. Some refineries located in PADD II, including some refineries directly connected to the Williams Pipe Line system, may be unable or unwilling to make such additional investments and may find it more economically attractive to cease operations. The possibility of such refinery closings in PADD II, coupled with continued increases in PADD II demand growth, will likely result in shifts in the supply of refined petroleum products in PADD II, potentially resulting in increasing imports to PADD II from the Gulf Coast refineries via pipeline.

The Williams Pipe Line system is well-connected to the Gulf Coast refineries through interconnections with the Explorer, Equilon, Phillips and CITGO pipelines. These connections to Gulf Coast refineries, together with the Williams Pipe Line system's extensive network throughout PADD II and connections to PADD II refineries, should allow it to accommodate not only demand growth, but also any major supply shifts that may occur.

The Williams Pipe Line system has experienced steadily increased shipments over the last three years, with total shipments increasing by 3.3% from 1999 to 2000 and by 2.3% from 2000 to 2001. The volume increases have come as a result of development projects on the system and from incentive agreements with shippers utilizing the system. In addition, the volume increase is partially a result of refined petroleum

S-42

products demand growth in the markets served by the system. The operating statistics below reflect the Williams Pipe Line system's operations for the periods indicated:

	1999 -----	2000 -----	2001 -----
Shipments (thousands of barrels):			
Refined Products			
Gasolines.....	132,444	130,580	137,552
Distillates.....	70,466	74,299	75,887
Aviation fuels.....	12,060	16,488	14,752
LPGs.....	7,521	7,781	7,901
Capacity Lease.....	23,215	24,780	23,671
	-----	-----	-----
Total Shipments.....	245,706	253,928	259,763
	=====	=====	=====
Daily average (thousands of barrels).....	673	694	712
Barrel miles (billions).....	67.8	68.2	70.5

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

The maximum number of barrels that the system can transport per day depends upon the operating balance achieved at a given time between various segments on the system. This balance is dependent upon the mix of petroleum products to be shipped and the demand levels at the various delivery points. We believe that we will be able to accommodate anticipated demand increases in the markets we serve through expansions or modifications of the Williams Pipe Line system, if necessary.

OPERATIONS

The Williams Pipe Line system is the fifth largest common carrier pipeline of refined petroleum products and LPGs in the United States based on barrel miles shipped. Through direct refinery connections, and interconnections with other interstate pipelines, the system can access approximately 45% of the refinery capacity in the United States. In general, the system does not produce or trade refined petroleum products or LPGs and does not take title to the petroleum products it transports.

The Williams Pipe Line system generates approximately 80% of its revenue, excluding product sales revenue, through transportation tariffs for volumes it ships. These tariffs vary depending upon where the product originates, where ultimate delivery occurs and any applicable discounts. All interstate transportation rates and discounts are in published tariffs filed with the FERC. Such tariffs also include charges for terminalling and storage of products at the Williams Pipe Line system's 39 terminals. Currently, the tariffs we charge to shippers for transportation of products generally do not vary according to the type of products transported. Published tariffs serve as contracts and shippers nominate the volume to be shipped on a monthly basis. In addition, we enter into supplemental agreements with shippers that commonly result in volume commitments by shippers in exchange for capital expansion commitments. These agreements have terms ranging from one to ten years. Nearly 60% of the shipments in 2001 were subject to these supplemental agreements. While many of these agreements do not represent guaranteed volumes, they do reflect a significant level of shipper commitment to the Williams Pipe Line system.

The system also earns revenue from leasing pipeline and storage tank capacity to shippers on a long-term basis and from providing product and other services such as ethanol unloading and loading, additive injection, custom blending, laboratory testing data services to shippers and from blending and fractionation activities. Product services such as ethanol unloading and loading, additive injection, custom blending and laboratory testing are performed under a mix of "as needed," monthly and long-term agreements. Data services provided to shippers are covered by a standard agreement and are generally performed on an as needed basis.

Blending activities involve the generation of small volumes of gasoline by blending natural gas liquids with gasoline already in the Williams Pipe Line system to produce grades of gasoline that satisfy quality and regulatory requirements for specific markets. We and Williams Energy Services agreed that we will

S-43

perform these blending activities for ten years at an annual fee of approximately \$3.0 million. Please read "Management Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

Fractionation activities involve processing transmix, a mixture of products resulting from the intermingling of different product grades during normal operation of a pipeline. Some of the transmix processed comes from the Williams Pipe Line system and some is purchased from other parties that do not have their

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

own fractionation capacity. The transmix is fractionated at a unit in Des Moines, Iowa, and the recovered gasoline and fuel oil is sold to third parties.

FACILITIES

The Williams Pipe Line system consists of a 6,700-mile pipeline. The pipeline system includes 25.8 million barrels of aggregate storage capacity at 39 terminals and at various pump stations. The terminals deliver refined petroleum products primarily into tank trucks, although two terminals can load into tank rail cars.

Pipe Line Map

S-44

The following table contains information regarding the Williams Pipe Line system's terminal facilities:

DELIVERY POINTS -----	TOTAL SHELL STORAGE CAPACITY ----- (IN THOUSAND BARRELS)	NUMBER OF TANKS -----	NUMBER LOADING -----
Arkansas			
Ft. Smith.....	205	8	6
Illinois			
Amboy.....	199	10	2
Chicago.....	657	15	3
Heyworth.....	433	10	2
Menard County.....	236	6	2
Iowa			
Des Moines.....	2,153	50	6
Dubuque.....	101	6	2
Ft. Dodge.....	138	7	2
Iowa City.....	722	27	4
Mason City.....	655	18	3
Milford.....	188	9	2
Sioux City.....	590	28	5
Waterloo.....	372	8	4
Kansas			
Kansas City.....	1,783	34	8
Olathe.....	223	5	2
St. Joseph.....	58	2	2
Topeka.....	157	7	2
Wichita.....	177	5	2
Minnesota			
Alexandria.....	646	28	3
Mankato.....	440	17	3
Marshall.....	208	10	2
Minneapolis.....	1,971	34	8
Rochester.....	146	8	2
Missouri			
Carthage.....	132	8	2
Columbia.....	297	9	3
Palmyra.....	185	7	2
Springfield.....	312	10	4
Nebraska			
Capehart.....	112	3	2
Doniphan.....	533	15	3

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Lincoln.....	152	8	2
Omaha.....	1,034	27	4
North Dakota			
Fargo.....	639	27	3
Grand Forks.....	358	21	3
Oklahoma			
Enid.....	322	6	2
Oklahoma City.....	324	8	4
Tulsa.....	2,058	29	4
South Dakota			
Sioux Falls.....	665	29	3
Watertown.....	223	12	2
Wisconsin			
Wausau.....	166	7	2
Pump Stations.....	5,792	83	--
Total.....	25,762	661	122
	=====	===	===

S-45

REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS SUPPLY

Refined petroleum products originate from both refining and pipeline interconnection points along the Williams Pipe Line system. In 2001, 57% of the refined petroleum products transported on the Williams Pipe Line system originated from direct refinery connections and 43% originated from interconnections with other pipelines. As set forth in the table below, the system is directly connected to, and receives product from, ten operating refineries. The largest supply of originated product comes from a Pine Bend, Minnesota refinery owned by Flint Hills Resources, a division of Koch Industries, Inc.

MAJOR ORIGINS -- REFINERIES (LISTED ALPHABETICALLY)

COMPANY	REFINERY LOCATION
-----	-----
Conoco, Inc.....	Ponca City, OK
Farmland Industries, Inc.....	Coffeyville, KS
Flint Hills Resources (Koch).....	Pine Bend, MN
Frontier Oil Corporation.....	El Dorado, KS
Gary Williams Energy Corp.....	Wynnewood, OK
Marathon Ashland Petroleum Company.....	St. Paul, MN
Murphy Oil USA, Inc.....	Superior, WI
Sinclair Oil Corp.....	Tulsa, OK
Sunoco, Inc.....	Tulsa, OK
Valero Energy Corp.....	Ardmore, OK

The Williams Pipe Line system receives product from 13 other pipeline systems. The most significant of these pipeline connections is to Explorer Pipeline in Glenpool, Oklahoma, which transports product from the large refining complexes located on the Texas and Louisiana Gulf Coast. Product from Explorer can be transferred into the Williams Pipe Line system for delivery into the mid-continent and northern-tier states. Another significant connection is to the Phillips Pipeline at Kansas City, Kansas, which transports product from the Phillips refinery in Borger, Texas and the U.S. Gulf Coast via the Seaway

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Products Pipeline. The Williams Pipe Line system is also connected to all Chicago area refineries through the West Shore Pipe Line.

MAJOR ORIGINS -- PIPELINE CONNECTIONS (LISTED ALPHABETICALLY)

PIPELINE -----	CONNECTION LOCATION -----	SOURCE OF PRODUCT -----
BP.....	Manhattan, IL	Whiting, IN refinery
Buckeye.....	Mazon, IL	East Chicago, IL storage
Cenex.....	Fargo, ND	Laurel, MT refinery
CITGO Pipeline.....	Drumright, OK	Various Gulf Coast refineries
Explorer Pipeline.....	Glenpool, OK; Mt. Vernon, MO	Various Gulf Coast refineries
Kanab Pipeline.....	El Dorado, KS	Various OK & KS refineries
Kinder Morgan.....	Plattsburg, MO; Des Moines, IA; Wayne, IL	Bushton, KS storage and Chicago area refineries
Mid-America Pipeline (Williams).....	El Dorado, KS	Conway, KS storage
Orion Pipeline (Equilon).....	Duncan, OK	Various Gulf Coast refineries
Phillips Pipeline.....	Kansas City, KS	Various Gulf Coast refineries Seaway/Standish Pipeline); B TX refinery
Tesoro.....	Minneapolis, MN	Mandan, ND refinery
Total (Valero).....	Wynnewood, OK	Ardmore, OK refinery
West Shore Pipe Line.....	East Chicago, IL	Various Chicago, IL area refineries

S-46

CUSTOMERS AND CONTRACTS

We ship refined petroleum products for several different types of customers, including independent and integrated oil companies, wholesalers, retailers, railroads, airlines and regional farm cooperatives. End markets for these deliveries are primarily retail gasoline stations, truck stops, farm cooperatives, railroad fueling depots and military and commercial jet fuel users. Propane shippers include wholesalers and retailers who, in turn, sell to commercial, industrial, agricultural and residential heating customers, as well as utilities who use propane as a fuel source.

For the year ended December 31, 2001, the pipeline system had approximately 50 customers. The principal shippers include six independent refining companies, three integrated oil companies and one large farm cooperative. Transportation revenues attributable to these top 10 shippers were \$170.0 million, or 47% of the Williams Pipe Line system's total revenues (54% on a pro forma basis), for the year ended December 31, 2001.

In 2001, Williams Energy Marketing & Trading accounted for \$69.6 million or approximately 19% of the Williams Pipe Line system's total revenues. Of these revenues approximately 92% were generated from products sales related to blending, fractionation and over and short settlement activities. As described above under "-- Operations," we will perform blending services for an annual fee of approximately \$3.0 million in the future, and as a result, we will not purchase and sell products related to blending activities.

COMPETITION

Pipelines are generally the lowest-cost alternative for refined product movements between different markets. As a result, the Williams Pipe Line

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

system's most significant competitors are other pipelines that serve the same markets. We believe that the pipeline system is competitive with other pipelines as evidenced by the growth in shipments over the last three years. Three key pipeline competitors include the Kanab pipeline systems in the western markets, the BP pipeline system in the northern markets and the Conoco pipeline system in the southern markets.

Kanab's East Pipeline, which runs from southern Kansas to North Dakota, operates approximately 100 miles west of and parallel to the Williams Pipe Line system. Kanab's East Pipeline receives product from both Gulf Coast and mid-continent refiners through connections to pipelines such as the Conoco pipeline and through direct refinery connections including a direct connection to the Frontier refinery in El Dorado, Kansas, to which the Williams Pipe Line system is also connected.

The portion of the BP pipeline system with which the Williams Pipe Line system competes is a non-common carrier pipeline system that is supplied by BP's refinery in Whiting, Indiana. This system extends south to Kansas City, Missouri and west through Iowa and Minnesota. If BP were to convert its pipeline system to a common carrier system, it could result in additional competition. The Conoco pipeline system and its joint venture, Heartland Pipeline Company, are common carrier systems that run through Oklahoma, north into Iowa and east through Missouri to Wood River, Illinois. Conoco's pipeline receives its product supply from mid-continent and Gulf Coast refiners, some of which also supply the Williams Pipe Line system.

Competition with each of these pipeline systems is based primarily on transportation charges, quality of customer service, proximity to end-users and longstanding customer relationships. However, given the different supply sources on each pipeline, pricing at either the origin or terminal point on a pipeline may outweigh transportation costs.

Shippers on the Williams Pipe Line system can reduce their transportation costs by entering into exchange agreements with other shippers. Under these arrangements, a shipper will agree to supply a market near its refinery in exchange for receiving supply from another refinery in a more distant market. These agreements allow the two parties to reduce the average transportation rate paid to us. We have been able to compete with these alternatives through price incentives and through long-term commercial arrangements with potential exchange partners. Nevertheless, a significant amount of exchange activity has occurred historically and is likely to continue.

S-47

TARIFF REGULATION

Interstate Regulation. The Williams Pipe Line system's interstate common carrier pipeline operations are subject to rate regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, under the Interstate Commerce Act, the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and rules and orders promulgated pursuant thereto. FERC regulation requires that interstate oil pipeline rates be posted publicly and that these rates be "just and reasonable" and nondiscriminatory. Rates of interstate oil pipeline companies, like those charged by the Williams Pipe Line system, are currently regulated by FERC primarily through an index methodology, whereby a pipeline is allowed to change its rates based on the annual change in the producer price index, or PPI, for finished goods less 1%. Under the indexing regulations, a pipeline can request a rate increase that exceeds index levels for indexed rates using a cost-of-service approach, but only after the pipeline establishes that a substantial divergence exists between the actual costs experienced by the pipeline and the rate resulting from application of the PPI. Approximately one-third of the Williams Pipe Line system is subject to this

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

indexing methodology. In addition to rate indexing and cost-of-service filings, interstate oil pipeline companies may elect to support rate filings by obtaining authority to charge market based rates or through an agreement between a shipper and the oil pipeline company that a rate is acceptable. Two-thirds of the Williams Pipe Line system's markets are deemed competitive by the FERC, and we are allowed to charge market-based rates in these markets.

In a June 1996 decision, the FERC disallowed the inclusion of a full income tax allowance in the cost-of-service tariff filing of Lakehead Pipe Line Company, L.P., an unrelated oil pipeline limited partnership. The FERC held that Lakehead was entitled to include an income tax allowance in its cost-of-service for income attributable to corporate partners but not on income attributable to individual partners. In 1997, Lakehead reached an agreement with its shippers on all contested rates, so there was no judicial review of the FERC's decision. In January 1999, in a FERC proceeding involving SFPP, L.P., another unrelated oil pipeline limited partnership, the FERC followed its decision in Lakehead and held that SFPP may not claim an income tax allowance with respect to income attributable to non-corporate limited partners. Several parties sought rehearing of the FERC's decision in SFPP and of several FERC orders issued on rehearing in the SFPP case. Several parties have also filed appeals of the FERC's orders, which are currently being held in abeyance by the court of appeals pending resolution by the FERC of the remaining requests for rehearing. The FERC's decision in the Lakehead and SFPP proceedings should have no effect on the market-based rates Williams Pipe Line charges in its competitive markets. However, the Lakehead and SFPP decisions might become relevant to the pipeline system should it (1) elect in the future to raise its indexed rates using the cost-of-service methodology, (2) be required to use a cost-of-service methodology to defend its indexed rates against a shipper protest alleging that an indexed rate increase substantially exceeds actual cost increases, or (3) be required to defend its indexed rates against a shipper complaint alleging that the pipeline's rates are not just and reasonable. In such case, a complainant or protestant could assert that, in light of the decisions regarding Lakehead and SFPP and our ownership of the Williams Pipe Line system, we should be allowed to collect an income tax allowance only with respect to the portion of our partnership units held by corporations. We believe that most if not all of the indexed rates can be supported on a cost-of-service basis, even assuming a reduction in the income tax allowance. Nevertheless, if the indexed rates were challenged, we cannot assure you that some or all of the indexed rates may not be reduced. If indexed rates were reduced, the amount of available cash could be materially reduced.

Intrastate Regulation. Some shipments the Williams Pipe Line system makes move within a single state and thus are considered to be in intrastate commerce. The Williams Pipe Line system is subject to certain regulation with respect to such intrastate transportation by state regulatory authorities in the states of Illinois, Kansas and Oklahoma. However, in most instances, the state commissions have not initiated investigations of the rates or practices of refined products pipelines.

TITLE TO PROPERTIES

Substantially all of our pipelines are constructed on rights-of-way granted by the apparent record owners of the property, and in some instances, these rights-of-way are revocable at the election of the

S-48

grantor. Several rights-of-way for our pipelines and other real property assets are shared with other pipelines and other assets owned by affiliates of The Williams Companies and by third parties. In many instances, lands over which rights-of-way have been obtained are subject to prior liens which have not been subordinated to the right-of-way grants. We have obtained permits from public

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

authorities to cross over or under, or to lay facilities in or along, water courses, county roads, municipal streets and state highways, and in some instances, these permits are revocable at the election of the grantor. We have also obtained permits from railroad companies to cross over or under lands or rights-of-way, many of which are also revocable at the grantor's election. In some cases, property for pipeline purposes was purchased in fee. In some states and under some circumstances, we have the right of eminent domain to acquire rights-of-way and lands necessary for our pipelines. The previous owners of the applicable pipelines may not have commenced or concluded eminent domain proceedings for some rights-of-way.

Some of the leases, easements, rights-of-way, permits and licenses that have been transferred to us will require the consent of the grantor to transfer these rights, which in some instances is a governmental entity. Our general partner believes that it has obtained or will obtain sufficient third-party consents, permits and authorizations for the transfer of the assets necessary for us to operate our business in all material respects as described in this prospectus supplement. With respect to any consents, permits or authorizations that have not been obtained, our general partner believes that these consents, permits, or authorizations will be obtained after the closing of this offering, or that the failure to obtain these consents, permits, or authorizations will have no material adverse effect on the operation of our business.

Our general partner believes that we have satisfactory title to all of our assets or are entitled to indemnification from affiliates of The Williams Companies (1) for title defects to the ammonia pipeline that arise within 15 years after the closing of our initial public offering and (2) for title defects related to the Williams Pipe Line system that arise within ten years from its acquisition. Record title to some of our assets may continue to be held by affiliates of The Williams Companies until we have made the appropriate filings in the jurisdictions in which such assets are located and obtained consents and approvals that have not been obtained prior to transfer. We intend to make these filings and obtain these consents. Although title to these properties is subject to encumbrances in some cases, such as customary interests generally retained in connection with acquisition of real property, liens that can be imposed in some jurisdictions for government-initiated action to clean up environmental contamination, liens for current taxes and other burdens, and easements, restrictions and other encumbrances to which the underlying properties were subject at the time of acquisition by us or our predecessor, our general partner believes that none of these burdens should materially detract from the value of our properties or from our interest in them or should materially interfere with their use in the operation of our business.

EMPLOYEES

To carry out our operations, our general partner or its affiliates employ approximately 800 employees, of which 600 conduct the operations of the Williams Pipe Line system. Of these 600 employees, approximately 230 are represented by the Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers International Union, or PACE. The employees represented by PACE are subject to a contract that extends to January 2006. We consider our employee relations to be good.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TERMINALS

MARINE TERMINAL FACILITIES

The Gulf Coast region is a major hub for petroleum refining, representing approximately 42% of total U.S. daily refining capacity in 2000 and 67% of U.S. refining capacity expansion from 1990 to 2000. The growth in Gulf Coast refining capacity has resulted in part from consolidation in the petroleum industry to take advantage of economies of scale from operating larger, concentrated refineries. We expect this trend to continue in order to meet growing domestic

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

and international demand. From 1990 to 2000, the amount of petroleum products exported from the Gulf Coast region increased by approximately 18%, or 195 million barrels. The growth in refining capacity and increased product flow attributable to the Gulf

S-49

Coast region has created a need for additional transportation, storage and distribution facilities. In the future, the larger competitors resulting from the consolidation trend, combined with continued environmental pressures, governmental regulations and market conditions, could result in the closing of smaller, less economical inland refiners, creating even greater demand for petroleum products refined in the Gulf Coast region.

We own and operate five marine terminal facilities, including four marine terminal facilities located along the Gulf Coast and one terminal facility located in Connecticut near the New York harbor. Our marine terminals are large storage and distribution facilities that provide inventory management, storage and distribution services for refiners and other large end-users of petroleum products. Our marine terminal facilities have an aggregate storage capacity of approximately 17.6 million barrels.

Our marine terminal facilities receive petroleum products by ship and barge, short-haul pipeline connections to neighboring refineries and common carrier pipelines. We distribute petroleum products from our marine terminals by all of those means as well as by truck and rail. Once the product has reached its terminal facilities, we store the product for a period of time ranging from a few days to several months. Products that we store in our marine terminal facilities include refined petroleum products, blendstocks and heavy oils and feedstocks.

In addition to providing storage and distribution services, our marine terminal facilities provide ancillary services including heating, blending and mixing of stored products and injection services. Many heavy oils require heating to keep them in a liquid state. In addition, in order to meet government specifications, products often must be combined with other products through the blending and mixing process. Blending is the combination of products from different storage tanks. Once the products are blended together, the mixing process circulates the blended product through mixing lines and nozzles to further combine the products. Finally, injection is the process of injecting refined petroleum products with additives and dyes to comply with governmental regulations.

Our marine terminal facilities generate fees primarily through providing long-term or spot "on demand" storage services and inventory management for a variety of customers. Refiners and chemical companies will typically use our facilities because their own facilities are inadequate, either because of size constraints or the specialized handling requirements of the stored products. We also provide storage services and inventory management to various industrial end-users, marketers and traders that require access to large storage capacity.

The following table outlines our marine terminal facility locations, capacities, primary products handled and the connections to and from these terminal facilities:

FACILITY	RATED STORAGE CAPACITY	PRIMARY PRODUCTS HANDLED	CONNECTIONS
	(IN THOUSAND)		

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

	BARRELS)		
Galena Park, Texas.....	8,884	Refined petroleum products, blendstocks, heavy oils and feedstocks	Pipeline, barge, ship, rail and truck
Corpus Christi, Texas.....	2,711	Blendstocks, heavy oils and feedstocks	Pipeline, barge, ship and truck
Marrero, Louisiana.....	2,006	Heavy oils and feedstocks	Barge, ship, rail and truck
New Haven, Connecticut.....	3,986	Refined petroleum products, heavy oils and feedstocks	Pipeline, barge, ship and truck
Gibson, Louisiana.....	56	Crude oil and condensate	Pipeline, barge and truck

Total storage capacity.....	17,643		
	=====		

S-50

Customers and Contracts. We have long-standing relationships with oil refiners, suppliers and traders at our facilities, and most of our customers have consistently renewed their short-term contracts. During 2001, approximately 89% of our marine terminal working storage capacity was under contract. As of December 31, 2001, approximately 44% of the revenues that we generated were from contracts with remaining terms in excess of one year or that renew on an annual basis. Williams Energy Marketing & Trading Company represented approximately 17% of revenues at our marine terminal facilities for the year ended December 31, 2001.

Markets and Competition. We believe that the strong demand for our marine terminal facilities from our refining and chemical customers results from our cost-effective distribution services and key transportation links such as deep-water ports. We experience the greatest demand at our marine terminal facilities in a contango market, when customers tend to store more product to take advantage of favorable pricing expected in the future. When the opposite market condition, known as backwardation, exists, some companies choose not to store product. The additional heating and blending services that we provide at our marine terminal facilities, however, attract additional demand for our storage services and result in increased revenue opportunities.

Several major and integrated oil companies have their own proprietary storage terminals along the Gulf Coast that are currently being used in their refining operations. If these companies choose to shut down their refining operations and elect to store and distribute refined petroleum products through their proprietary terminals, we would experience increased competition for the services that we provide. In addition, several companies have facilities in the Gulf Coast region and offer competing storage and distribution services.

INLAND TERMINALS

We own and operate a network of 25 refined petroleum products terminals located primarily in the southeastern United States with an aggregate storage capacity of 5.0 million barrels. Our customers utilize these facilities to take delivery of refined petroleum products transported on major common-carrier interstate pipelines. The majority of our inland terminals connect to the Colonial, Plantation, TEPPCO or Explorer pipelines, and some facilities have multiple pipeline connections. In addition, the Dallas terminal connects to Dallas Love Field airport via a 6-inch pipeline purchased in April 2001. During 2001, gasoline represented approximately 53% of the volume of product

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

distributed through our inland terminals, with the remaining 47% consisting of distillates such as low sulfur diesel and jet fuel.

Our inland terminals typically consist of multiple storage tanks that are connected by a third-party intra-facility pipeline system. We load and unload products through an automated system that allows products to move directly from the common carrier pipeline to our storage tanks and directly from our storage tanks to a truck or rail car loading rack.

We are an independent provider of storage and distribution services. Because we do not own the products moving through our terminals, we are not exposed to the risks of product ownership. We operate our inland terminals as distribution terminals, and we primarily serve the retail, industrial and commercial sales markets. We provide the following services at our inland terminals:

- inventory and supply management through our virtual supply network and the ATLAS 2000 software system;
- distribution; and
- other services such as injection of gasoline additives.

We generate revenues by charging our customers a fee based on the amount of product that we deliver through our terminals. We charge these fees when we deliver the product to our customers and load it into a truck or rail car. In addition to throughput fees, we generate revenues by charging our customers a fee for injecting additives into gasoline, diesel and jet fuel, and for filtering jet fuel.

S-51

We wholly own 14 of these inland terminals and our percentage ownership of the remaining 11 inland terminals ranges between 50% and 79%. The following table sets forth our inland terminal locations, percentage ownership, capacities and methods of supply:

FACILITY	PERCENTAGE OWNERSHIP	TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY	CONNECTIONS
-----	-----	-----	-----
		(IN THOUSAND BARRELS)	
Alabama			
Mobile.....	100%	135	Barge
Montgomery.....	100	104	Plantation Pipeline
Arkansas			
North Little Rock.....	100	273	TEPPCO Pipeline
South Little Rock.....	100	179	TEPPCO Pipeline
Florida			
Jacksonville.....	100	252	Barge and ship
Georgia			
Doraville.....	100	295	Colonial and Plantation Pipelines
South Albany.....	79	124	Colonial Pipeline
Missouri			
St. Charles.....	100	118	Explorer Pipeline
North Carolina			
Charlotte.....	100	334	Colonial Pipeline
Charlotte.....	79	158	Colonial Pipeline

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Greensboro.....	60	248	Colonial Pipeline
Greensboro.....	79	239	Colonial and Plantation Pipelines
Selma.....	79	305	Colonial Pipeline
South Carolina			
North Augusta.....	79	156	Colonial Pipeline
North Augusta.....	100	123	Colonial Pipeline
Spartanburg.....	100	116	Colonial Pipeline
Tennessee			
Chattanooga.....	100	105	Colonial Pipeline
Knoxville.....	100	115	Colonial and Plantation Pipelines
Nashville.....	50	252	Colonial Pipeline and barge
Nashville.....	100	164	Colonial Pipeline
Nashville.....	79	148	Colonial Pipeline
Texas			
Dallas.....	100	400	Explorer and Magtex Pipelines; pipeline to Dallas Love Field
Southlake.....	50	277	Explorer, Koch and Valero Pipelines
Virginia			
Montvale.....	79	171	Colonial Pipeline
Richmond.....	79	169	Colonial Pipeline

Total.....		4,960	
		=====	

Customers and Contracts. All but four of our inland terminals were acquired by The Williams Companies over a period of five years, beginning with the acquisition of interests in eight terminals in

S-52

1996. When The Williams Companies acquired the new terminals, it generally entered into long-term throughput contracts with the sellers under which they agreed to continue to use the facilities. These agreements typically last for two to ten years from the beginning of the agreement and must be renegotiated at the end of the term. In addition to these agreements, we entered into separate contracts with new customers that typically last for one year with a continuing one year renewal provision. Most of these contracts contain a minimum throughput provision that obligates the customer to move a minimum amount of product through our terminals or pay for terminal capacity reserved but not used. Our customers include:

- retailers that sell gasoline and other petroleum products through proprietary retail networks;
- wholesalers that sell petroleum products to retailers as well as to large commercial and industrial end-users;
- exchange transaction customers, where we act as an intermediary so that the parties to the transaction are able to exchange petroleum products; and
- traders that arbitrage, trade and market products stored in our terminals.

For the year ended December 31, 2001, Williams Refining & Marketing accounted for approximately 38% of our inland terminal revenues.

Markets and Competition. We compete with other independent terminal operators, as well as integrated oil companies, on the basis of terminal location and versatility, services provided and price. Our competition from

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

independent operators primarily comes from distribution companies with marketing and trading arms, independent terminal operators and refining and marketing companies.

AMMONIA PIPELINE SYSTEM

INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

We own and operate an 1,100-mile pipeline system that transports ammonia from production facilities in Texas and Oklahoma to terminals throughout the Midwest for ultimate distribution to end-users in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and South Dakota. Ammonia is produced by reacting natural gas with air at high temperatures and pressures in the presence of catalysts. Because natural gas is the primary feedstock for the production of ammonia, ammonia is typically produced near abundant sources of natural gas. Ammonia is primarily used as a nitrogen fertilizer. Nitrogen is an essential nutrient for plant growth and is the single most important element for maintenance of high crop yields for all grains. Unlike other primary nutrients, however, nitrogen must be applied each year because virtually all of its nutritional value is consumed during the growing season. Ammonia is the most cost-effective source of nitrogen and the simplest nitrogen fertilizer. It is also the primary feedstock for the production of upgraded nitrogen fertilizers and chemicals.

Although ammonia consumption peaks in the fall and early spring, ammonia production is reasonably consistent throughout the year. Generally, storage facilities reach their peak storage capacities during early spring, prior to agricultural application. As a result, we experience only limited seasonal fluctuations for transportation services on the ammonia pipeline system. Our customers inject the ammonia they produce into the ammonia pipeline system, and we transport it as a liquid to terminal facilities and storage and upgrade facilities located in the Midwest.

OPERATIONS

The ammonia pipeline system is a common carrier ammonia transportation pipeline. We do not produce or trade ammonia, and we do not take title to the ammonia it transports. Rather, we earn revenue from the following sources:

- transportation tariffs for the use of our pipeline capacity; and
- throughput fees at our six company-owned terminals.

S-53

We generate approximately 94% of our ammonia pipeline system revenue through transportation tariffs. These tariffs are "postage stamp" tariffs, which means that each shipper pays a defined rate per ton of ammonia shipped regardless of the distance that ton of ammonia travels on the ammonia pipeline system. In addition to transportation tariffs, we also earn revenue by charging our customers for services at the six terminals we own along the ammonia pipeline system, including unloading ammonia from our customers' trucks to inject the ammonia into the pipeline for shipment and removing ammonia from our pipeline to load the ammonia into our customers' trucks.

FACILITIES

The ammonia pipeline system was the world's first common carrier pipeline for ammonia. The main trunk line was completed in 1968. Today, it represents one of two ammonia pipelines operating in the United States and has a maximum annual delivery capacity of approximately 900,000 tons. Our ammonia pipeline system originates at production facilities in Borger, Texas, Verdigris, Oklahoma and

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Enid, Oklahoma and terminates in Mankato, Minnesota.

[MAP]

S-54

We transport ammonia to 13 delivery points along our pipeline system. The facilities at these points provide our customers with the ability to deliver ammonia to distributors who sell the ammonia to farmers and to store ammonia for future use. These facilities also provide our customers with the ability to remove ammonia from our pipeline for distribution to upgrade facilities that produce nitrogen compounds such as urea, ammonium nitrate, ammonium phosphate and ammonium sulfate.

The following table contains information regarding the delivery facilities on our ammonia pipeline system:

DELIVERY POINTS -----	FACILITY OPERATIONS -----	OWNER -----
Iowa		
Early.....	Terminal and storage	Agrium
Garner.....	Terminal and storage	Agrium
	Terminal and storage	Farmland
	Terminal and storage	Terra (a)
Port Neal.....	Terminal, storage, upgrade and production	Terra
Sgt. Bluff.....	Terminal and storage	Farmland
Whiting.....	Terminal and storage	Williams Energy Partners
Kansas		
Clay Center.....	Terminal and storage	Williams Energy Partners
Conway.....	Terminal and storage	Farmland
	Terminal and storage	Williams Energy Partners
Minnesota		
Mankato.....	Storage	Farmland
	Terminal and storage	Williams Energy Partners
Nebraska		
Beatrice.....	Terminal, storage and upgrade	Agrium
	Terminal, storage and upgrade	Farmland
Blair.....	Terminal and storage	Terra
Greenwood.....	Storage	Farmland
	Terminal and storage	Williams Energy Partners
Oklahoma		
Mocane.....	Terminal and storage	Williams Energy Partners
Texas		
Farnsworth.....	Terminal and storage	Farmland

(a) Facility owned by CF Industries, Inc. but utilized by Terra.

Customers and Contracts. We ship ammonia for three customers:

- Farmland Industries, Inc., one of the largest farmer-owned cooperatives in the United States;
- Agrium U.S. Inc., a subsidiary of Agrium Inc., the largest producer of

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

nitrogen fertilizers in North America; and

- Terra Nitrogen, L.P., a wholesaler of nitrogen fertilizer products.

Each of these companies has an ammonia production facility connected to our pipeline as well as related storage and distribution facilities along the pipeline. The transportation contracts with our customers extend through June 2005. Our customers are obligated to ship an aggregate minimum of

S-55

700,000 tons per year and have historically shipped an amount in excess of the required minimum. Our customers have been shipping ammonia through our pipeline for an average of more than 20 years.

Each transportation contract contains a ship-or-pay mechanism, whereby each customer must ship a specific minimum tonnage per year and an aggregate minimum tonnage amount over the life of the contract. On July 1 of each contract year, each of our customers nominates a tonnage that it expects to ship during the upcoming year. This annual commitment may be equal to or greater than the contractual minimum tonnage.

Currently the annual commitments of our customers represent 78% of our pipeline's 900,000 ton per year capacity. If a customer fails to ship its annual commitment, that customer must pay for the pipeline capacity it did not use.

In general, our customers have historically shipped ammonia in excess of their annual commitments. We allow our customers to bank any ammonia shipped in excess of their annual commitments. If a customer has previously shipped an amount in excess of its annual commitment, the shipper may offset subsequent annual shipment shortfalls against the excess tonnage in its bank. There are approximately 115,000 tons in this combined bank that may be used to offset future ship or pay obligations.

The transportation contracts establish a fixed tariff schedule per ton of ammonia shipped for each customer for the first five years of the contract period. Because of the long-term nature of these contracts, the shippers receive a volume incentive tariff per ton that decreases with increased commitments. Since July 1, 2000, we have had the right to adjust our tariff schedule on an annual basis pursuant to a formula contained in the contracts. The adjustment formula takes into consideration the cost of labor, power, property taxes and changes in the producer price index. We use the combined increase or decrease in these factors to calculate any increases or decreases in tariffs. Any annual adjustment is limited to a maximum increase or decrease of five percent measured against the rate previously in effect. These tariff adjustments cannot decrease the tariffs to rates less than those charged in 1997. Two of our three customers have credit ratings below investment grade.

Markets and Competition. Demand for nitrogen fertilizer has typically followed a combination of weather patterns and growth in population, acres planted and fertilizer application rates. Because natural gas is the primary feedstock for the production of ammonia, the profitability of our customers is impacted by high natural gas prices. To the extent our customers are unable to pass on higher costs to their customers, they may reduce shipments through our ammonia pipeline.

We compete primarily with ammonia shipped by rail carriers, but believe we have a distinct advantage over rail carriers because ammonia is a gas under normal atmospheric conditions and must be either placed under pressure or cooled to negative 33 degrees Celsius to be shipped or stored. Because the transportation and storage of ammonia requires specialized handling, we believe

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

that pipeline transportation is the safest and most cost-effective method for transporting bulk quantities of ammonia.

We also compete to a limited extent in the areas served by the far northern segment of our ammonia pipeline system with the other United States ammonia pipeline, which originates on the Gulf Coast and transports domestically produced and imported ammonia.

TARIFF REGULATION

Interstate Regulation. The Surface Transportation Board, or Board, a part of the United States Department of Transportation, has jurisdiction over interstate pipeline transportation of ammonia, including the rates charged for such transportation. These transportation rates must be reasonable, and a pipeline carrier may not unreasonably discriminate among its shippers. The Board will evaluate a pipeline's rates only if it determines that the pipeline's shippers lack effective competitive alternatives. In determining whether rates are reasonable, the Board considers, among other factors, the effect of the rates on the volumes transported by that carrier and the carrier's revenue needs. If the Board finds that a carrier's rates are unreasonable, it will prescribe reasonable rates. With regard to discrimination, the Board has held that unreasonable discrimination occurs when (1) there is a disparity in rates, (2) the complaining party is

S-56

competitively injured, (3) the carrier is the common source of both the allegedly prejudicial and preferential treatment and (4) the disparity in rates is not justified by transportation conditions.

Intrastate Regulation. Because in some instances our ammonia pipeline transports ammonia between two terminals in the same state, the pipeline's operations are subject to regulation by the state regulatory authorities in Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas. Although the Oklahoma Corporation Commission and the Texas Railroad Commission have the authority to regulate our rates, the state commissions have generally not investigated the rates or practices of ammonia pipelines in the absence of shipper complaints.

PIPELINE MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY REGULATION

The Williams Pipe Line system and the ammonia pipeline system have been constructed, operated, maintained, repaired, tested and used in general compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, American Petroleum Institute standards and other generally accepted industry standards and practices. The Williams Companies has performed regular maintenance on all the facilities of both pipeline systems and has an ongoing process of inspecting segments of the pipeline systems and making repairs and replacements when necessary or appropriate. In addition, The Williams Companies has conducted periodic air patrols of the pipeline systems to monitor pipeline integrity and third-party right of way encroachments. The Williams Companies will continue these inspection and maintenance and repair activities on our behalf.

The Williams Pipe Line system and the ammonia pipeline system are subject to regulation by the United States Department of Transportation under the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Act of 1979, or HLPESA, and comparable state statutes relating to the design, installation, testing, construction, operation, replacement and management of its pipeline facilities. HLPESA covers petroleum and petroleum products and requires any entity that owns or operates pipeline facilities to comply with such regulations, to permit access to and copying of records and to make certain reports and provide information as required by the Secretary of Transportation.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

In December 2000, the Department of Transportation adopted new regulations requiring operators of interstate pipelines to develop and follow an integrity management program that provides for continual assessment of the integrity of all pipeline segments that could affect designated "high consequence areas," including high population areas, drinking water and ecological resource areas that are unusually sensitive to environmental damage from a pipeline release, and commercially navigable waterways. Segments of our pipeline systems are located in high consequence areas. In response to this new rule, we utilize a management system known as the "System Integrity Plan," which is designed to control environmental, health, safety and property risk within its pipelines. Under this new rule, we are required to evaluate pipeline conditions by means of periodic internal inspection, pressure testing or other equally effective assessment means and to correct identified anomalies. If, as a result of our evaluation process, we determine that there is a need to provide further protection to high consequence areas, then we will be required to implement additional prevention and mitigation risk control measures for our pipelines, including enhanced damage prevention programs, corrosion control program improvements, leak detection system enhancements, installation of Emergency Flow Restricting Devices and emergency preparedness improvements. Under this new rule, we will also be required to evaluate and, as necessary, improve our management and analysis processes for integrating available integrity-related data relating to our pipeline segments and to remediate potential problems found as a result of the required assessment and evaluation process. Based on currently available information, the costs to implement this program are estimated to be approximately \$34.5 million between the years of 2002 and 2006.

We believe we are in material compliance with HLPESA requirements. Nevertheless, legislation that would increase the stringency of federal pipeline safety requirements is currently pending before the U.S. Congress. Significant expenses could be incurred in the future if additional safety measures are required or if existing safety standards are raised and exceed the current pipeline capabilities.

The Williams Pipe Line system and the ammonia pipeline system are also subject to the requirements of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act, or OSHA, and comparable state statutes. We believe

S-57

we are in material compliance with OSHA and state requirements, including general industry standards, record-keeping requirements and monitoring of occupational exposures. The OSHA hazard communication standard, the EPA community right-to-know regulations under Title III of the federal Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act and comparable state statutes require us to organize and disclose information about the hazardous materials used in our operations. Certain parts of this information must be reported to employees, state and local governmental authorities and local citizens upon request. In general, we expect to increase our expenditures during the next decade to comply with higher industry and regulatory safety standards such as those described above. We are subject to OSHA Process Safety Management, or PSM, regulations that are designed to prevent or minimize the consequences of catastrophic releases of toxic, reactive, flammable or explosive chemicals. These regulations apply to any process that involves a chemical at or above the specified thresholds or any process that involves a flammable liquid or gas, as defined in the regulations, stored on site in one location in a quantity of 10,000 pounds or more. We utilize certain covered processes and maintain storage of LPGs in pressurized tanks, caverns and wells in excess of 10,000 pounds at various locations. Flammable liquids stored in atmospheric tanks below their normal boiling point without benefit of chilling or refrigeration are exempt. We believe we are in material compliance with the PSM regulations.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

ENVIRONMENTAL

GENERAL

Our operation of our pipeline systems, terminals and associated facilities in connection with the transportation, storage and distribution of refined petroleum products, crude oil and other liquid hydrocarbons are subject to stringent and complex laws and regulations governing the discharge of materials into the environment or otherwise related to environmental protection. As an owner or lessee and operator of these facilities, we must comply with these laws and regulations at the federal, state and local levels. Compliance with existing and anticipated laws and regulations increases the cost of planning, constructing and operating pipelines, terminals and other facilities. Included in our construction and operation costs are capital cost items necessary to maintain or upgrade our equipment and facilities. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may result in the assessment of administrative, civil and criminal penalties, imposition of remedial actions and the issuance of injunctions or construction bans or delays on ongoing operations. We believe that our operations are in material compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations. However, these laws and regulations are subject to frequent change, and we cannot assure you that the cost to comply with these laws and regulations in the future will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position or results of operations.

INDEMNIFICATION

As described below, we will be indemnified for environmental liabilities by Williams Energy Services, Williams Natural Gas Liquids and by the entities from which The Williams Companies originally acquired some of the assets owned by us. Williams Energy Services and Williams Natural Gas Liquids are major operating subsidiaries of The Williams Companies with combined 2001 revenues in excess of \$4.0 billion. We will also be a beneficiary of environmental insurance relating to our marine terminal facilities. The terms and limitations of these indemnification agreements and insurance policies are summarized below.

For assets transferred to us from The Williams Companies at the time of our initial public offering, Williams Energy Services agreed to indemnify us for up to \$15.0 million for environmental liabilities that exceed the amounts covered by the seller indemnities and insurance coverage described below. The indemnity applies to environmental liabilities arising from conduct prior to the closing of the initial public offering and discovered within three years of closing the initial public offering. Liabilities resulting from a change in law after the closing of our initial public offering are excluded from this indemnity.

S-58

In accordance with our acquisition agreement with Amerada Hess, Amerada Hess will indemnify us for environmental and other liabilities related to the three Gulf Coast marine terminal facilities acquired in August 1999, including:

- Indemnification for special cleanup actions of pre-acquisition releases of hazardous substances. This indemnity is capped at a maximum of \$15.0 million. Amerada Hess, however, has no liability until the aggregate amount of initial losses is in excess of a \$2.5 million deductible, and then Amerada Hess is liable only for the succeeding \$12.5 million in losses. This indemnity will remain in effect until July 30, 2004.
- Indemnification for already known and required cleanup actions at the Corpus Christi, Texas and Galena Park, Texas terminal facilities. This indemnity has no limit and will remain in effect until July 30, 2014.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- Indemnification for a variety of pre-acquisition fines and claims that may be imposed or asserted under the Superfund Law and RCRA or analogous state laws. This indemnity is not subject to any limit or deductible amount.

In addition to these indemnities, Amerada Hess retained liability for the performance of corrective actions associated with hydrocarbon recovery from ground water and a cooling tower at the Corpus Christi, Texas terminal and process safety management compliance matter at the Galena Park, Texas terminal facility.

We have insurance against the first \$2.5 million of environmental liabilities related to the Amerada Hess terminal facilities that arose prior to closing of the acquisition from Amerada Hess, with a deductible of \$0.3 million, and any environmental liabilities in excess of \$15.0 million up to an aggregate of \$50.0 million.

In connection with the acquisition of the New Haven, Connecticut marine terminal facility acquired from Wyatt Energy and the acquisition of our inland terminals, the sellers of those terminals agreed to indemnify us against specified environmental liabilities. We also have insurance for up to \$25.0 million of environmental liabilities for the New Haven marine terminal facility, with a deductible of \$0.3 million.

For a description of indemnification with respect to the Williams Pipe Line system, please read "Environmental Liability Associated with the Williams Pipe Line System" below.

RECENT DEMAND MADE BY EL PASO CORPORATION

On March 11, 2002, El Paso Corporation served on The Williams Companies a demand letter alleging that it had incurred approximately \$5.3 million in costs responding to hydrocarbon and benzene releases at our Corpus Christi, Texas marine terminal and asserting its belief that The Williams Companies is responsible for at least a portion of the releases and threatened releases. Specifically, the letter states that contamination on the affected property originated from the former Amerada Hess terminal, which The Williams Companies acquired in 1999 and transferred to us in connection with our initial public offering. Subsequently, on or about March 29, 2002, El Paso Corporation filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas a motion for leave to file third-party original complaint and an original third-party complaint in the matter styled Elementis Chromium, L.P., and Elementis Chromium, Inc. v. Coastal States Petroleum Company et al., in which it sought to join Amerada Hess Corporation, The Williams Companies, Williams Terminals Holdings, L.L.C., Williams Energy Marketing & Trading Company f/k/a Williams Energy Services Company, Williams NGL, L.L.C., CITGO Petroleum Corporation, CITGO Refining and Chemicals Company, Inc., Koch Industries, Inc., and Koch Petroleum Group, L.P. f/k/a Koch Refining Company, L.P. The Williams Companies was served with a subsequent original third-party complaint on April 8, 2002.

We and The Williams Companies have only begun to investigate the merits of this demand. We believe that this matter is subject to an indemnification obligation of Amerada Hess, for which there is a \$2.5 million aggregate claims deductible, as discussed above. In addition, our Corpus Christi terminal is

S-59

subject to a pollution legal liability insurance policy. For these reasons, we cannot assure you at this time that this matter will not have a material adverse impact on us.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY ASSOCIATED WITH THE WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM

Contamination resulting from spills of refined products is not unusual within the petroleum pipeline industry. Historic spills of refined products along the pipelines and terminals of the Williams Pipe Line system as a result of past operations have resulted in contamination of the environment, including soils and groundwater. Site conditions, including soils and groundwater, are being evaluated at a number of properties associated with the Williams Pipe Line system where operations may have resulted in releases of hydrocarbons and other wastes.

Potentially significant assessment, monitoring and remediation programs are being performed at 17 sites in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin. These 17 sites include 13 terminals owned or operated by us and four right-of-way locations that were impacted by pipeline releases of petroleum products. We estimate that the total cost of performing the currently anticipated assessment, monitoring and remediation at these 17 sites over the next several years to be \$8.3 million. The most significant remedial costs at these 17 sites are costs attributed to cleanup at six terminals in Des Moines, Iowa City and Sioux City, all in Iowa, Kansas City, Kansas and Sioux Falls and Watertown, South Dakota, where we estimate that \$5.4 million of the \$8.3 million in costs of assessment, monitoring and remediation will be incurred. This estimate assumes that we will be able to use common remedial and monitoring methods or associated engineering or institutional controls to demonstrate compliance with applicable regulatory requirements. This estimate covers the cost of performing assessment, remediation and/or monitoring of impacted soils, groundwater and surface water conditions, but does not include any costs for potential claims by others with respect to these sites. While we do not expect any such potential claims by others to be materially adverse to our operations, financial position, or cash flows, we cannot assure you that the actual remediation costs or associated remediation liabilities will not exceed this \$8.3 million amount. In addition, we recently discovered a release from one of the refined product pipelines on the Williams Pipe Line system near Cottonwood, Minnesota. We have notified federal and state agencies of this release and are currently investigating the extent of the release. While the ultimate cost associated with cleanup of this incident cannot be determined at this time, we have preliminarily estimated a cleanup cost of between \$0.5 million and \$1.0 million.

In addition, there are several sites where capital expenditures such as the installation of new loading racks, new tank seals and/or secondary containment equipment will be required in order to comply with or otherwise satisfy applicable environmental requirements. In particular, we expect to incur \$7.7 million to \$8.5 million in capital expenditures, including: an estimated \$1.4 million to \$1.7 million to complete a new loading rack at Waterloo, Iowa; an estimated \$2.5 million to \$3.0 million to install a new loading rack at Palmyra, Missouri; an estimated \$1.6 million to install secondary containment for an existing rail rack at Des Moines, Iowa; an estimated \$1.6 million to install dike linings at Alexandria, Minnesota; and an estimated \$0.6 million to install breakout tank linings at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. In addition, we are considering several measures to address emissions concerns at an existing loading rack at Enid, Oklahoma.

In connection with historical operations at the terminal in Waterloo, Iowa, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources has alleged that this terminal incorrectly reported its air emissions from 1993 through 1999 by using an incorrect emission factor for the loading rack. This matter was referred to the Iowa Attorney General's office in July 2001, and we currently estimate that a penalty of up to \$150,000 may be assessed for this matter. Also, in connection with historical operations at five former Williams Pipe Line system facilities in Roseville, Mankato, Apple Valley, Albert Lee, and Marshall, all in Minnesota, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency issued three notices of violation between

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

March 28, 2001 and August 17, 2001, alleging violations of wastewater discharge and aboveground storage tank permits and water quality and hazardous waste rules. This matter is being negotiated with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and we currently estimate that a penalty of up to \$150,000 may be assessed for this matter. In addition, in connection with a liquid petroleum release discovered in Menard County, Illinois, in July 1994, the state of Illinois filed a suit against Williams Pipe Line Company in July 1996 with respect

S-60

to remediation of impacts arising from the release. Two landowners adjacent to the release area subsequently intervened in the suit. Currently, a consent order resolving this matter is being negotiated with the Illinois Attorney General's office. The proposed consent order includes a civil penalty of \$30,000 and a supplemental environmental project estimated to cost \$72,000. The total cost of the settlement, including the costs of smart pigging, has been estimated by Williams Energy Services to be about \$1.0 million.

Williams Energy Services has agreed to indemnify us for losses and damages related to breach of environmental representations and warranties and the failure to comply with environmental laws prior to the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company in excess of \$2.0 million up to a maximum of \$125.0 million. Consequently, the remedial programs, assessed penalties and capital expenditures discussed above arising in connection with a failure to comply with environmental laws prior to the acquisition are subject to claims of indemnification by us of Williams Energy Services, in accordance with the stated deductible amounts, capped amounts and term limits. Moreover, as discussed above, this \$125.0 million amount will also be subject to indemnification claims made by us for breaches of other than environmental representations and warranties. This environmental indemnity obligation will survive for six years.

We may experience future releases of refined petroleum products into the environment from the Williams Pipe Line system and our other pipelines and terminals or discover historical releases that were previously unidentified or not assessed. While we maintain an extensive inspection and audit program designed, as applicable, to prevent, detect and address these releases promptly, damages and liabilities incurred due to any future environmental releases from its assets nevertheless have the potential to substantially affect our business.

On July 2, 2001, the EPA issued an information request asking for information on oil releases and discharges in any amount from The Williams Companies and its affiliates' pipelines, pipeline systems and pipeline facilities used in the movement of oil or petroleum products during the period from July 1, 1998 through July 2, 2001. In November 2001, The Williams Companies furnished its response, which related primarily to the Williams Pipe Line system.

S-61

MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the executive officers and members of the board of directors of our general partner. Executive officers and directors are elected for one-year terms.

NAME	AGE	POSITION WITH GENERAL PARTNER
----	---	-----

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Phillip D. Wright.....	46	Chairman of the Board
Don R. Wellendorf.....	49	President, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, Director
Jay A. Wiese.....	46	Vice President, Terminals
Michael N. Mears.....	39	Vice President, Transportation
Richard A. Olson.....	43	Vice President, Pipeline Operations
Craig R. Rich.....	51	General Counsel
Keith E. Bailey.....	60	Director
William A. Bruckmann, III.....	50	Director
Don J. Gunther.....	63	Director
William W. Hanna.....	66	Director
Steven J. Malcolm.....	53	Director

Phillip D. Wright was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of our general partner on May 13, 2002. He served as President and Chief Operating Officer of our general partner from January 7, 2001 to May 12, 2002, and was elected as a director on February 9, 2001. He is currently President and Chief Executive Officer for Williams Energy Services and has served in that capacity since September 2001. From 1996 to September 2001, he served as Senior Vice President of Enterprise Development and Planning for Williams Energy Services. From 1989 to 1996 he held various senior management positions with The Williams Companies' primary refined product pipeline, Williams Pipe Line Company, Williams Energy Ventures, Inc. and Williams Energy Services. Prior to 1989, he spent 13 years working for Conoco, Inc.

Don R. Wellendorf serves as President, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and director of our general partner. He was elected President and Chief Executive Officer on May 13, 2002, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer on January 7, 2001, and as a director on February 9, 2001. He served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of our general partner from January 7, 2001 to May 12, 2002. Since 1998, he has served as Vice President of Strategic Development and Planning for Williams Energy Services. Prior to The Williams Companies' merger with MAPCO Inc. in 1998, he was Vice President and Treasurer for MAPCO from 1995 to 1998. From 1994 to 1995, he served as Vice President and Corporate Controller for MAPCO. He began his career in 1979 as an accountant with MAPCO and held various accounting positions with MAPCO from 1979 to 1994.

Jay A. Wiese serves as Vice President, Terminals of our general partner and was elected on January 7, 2001. He is currently Managing Director, Terminal Services and Commercial Development for Williams Energy Services and has served in that capacity since 2000. From 1995 to 2000, he served as Director, Terminal Services and Commercial Development of The Williams Companies' terminal distribution business. Prior to 1995, Mr. Wiese held various operations, marketing and business development positions with Williams Pipe Line Company, Williams Energy Ventures and Williams Energy Services. He joined Williams Pipe Line Company in 1982.

Michael N. Mears was elected Vice President, Transportation of our general partner on April 22, 2002. He was elected Vice President of Williams Petroleum Services, LLC in March 2002 and currently serves in that position. Mr. Mears served as Vice President of Transportation and Terminals for Williams Pipe Line Company from 1998 to 2002. He also served as Vice President, Petroleum Development for Williams Energy Services from 1996 to 1998. Prior to 1996, Mr. Mears served as Director of Operations Control and Business Development for Williams Pipe Line Company from 1993 to 1996. From 1985 to

1993 he worked in various engineering, project analysis, and operations control

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

positions for Williams Pipe Line Company.

Richard A. Olson was elected Vice President, Pipeline Operations of our general partner on April 22, 2002. He is currently Vice President of Mid Continent Operations for Williams Energy Services and has served in that capacity since 1996. Mr. Olson was Vice President of Operations and Terminal Marketing for Williams Pipe Line Company from 1996 to 1998, Director of Southern Operations from 1992 to 1997, Director of Product Movements from 1991 to 1992, and Central Division Manager from 1990 to 1991. From 1981 to 1990, Mr. Olson held various positions with Williams Pipe Line Company.

Craig R. Rich serves as General Counsel of our general partner and was elected on January 7, 2001. He is currently Associate General Counsel of Williams Energy Services and has served in that capacity since 1996. From 1993 to 1996, he served as General Counsel of The Williams Companies' midstream gas and liquids division. Prior to that time, Mr. Rich was a Senior Attorney representing Williams Gas Pipeline-West. He joined Williams in 1985.

Keith E. Bailey serves as a Director of the general partner and was elected on February 9, 2001. He is currently Chairman of the Board of The Williams Companies and has served in that capacity since 1994. He served as President of The Williams Companies from 1992 to 1994 and served as its Chief Executive Officer from 1994 to January 2002. He served as Executive Vice President of The Williams Companies from 1986 to 1992.

William A. Bruckmann, III serves as a director of our general partner and was elected on May 9, 2001. He is a former managing director at Chase Securities, Inc. He has more than 25 years of banking experience, starting with Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, where he became a senior officer in 1985. Mr. Bruckmann later served as managing director, sector head of the Manufacturers Hanover's gas pipeline and midstream practices through the acquisition of Manufacturers Hanover by Chemical Bank and the acquisition of Chemical Bank by Chase Bank.

Don J. Gunther serves as a director of our general partner and was elected May 9, 2001. He is a retired vice chairman of Bechtel Group Inc. He began his career with Bechtel in 1961 and was promoted to a variety of positions, including Bechtel's executive committee in 1989; president of Bechtel Petroleum in 1984; president of Europe, Africa, Middle East and southwest Asia operations in 1992; and president of Bechtel Americas in 1995. He was named vice chairman in July 1997, retiring from the position in 1998.

William W. Hanna serves as a director of our general partner and was elected on January 18, 2002. He is a retired vice chairman of Koch Industries where he held management and leadership positions since he commenced employment in 1968. In his first year, he established a gas and gas liquids group. In 1981, he became executive vice president of energy products for Koch. In 1984, he was elected to the board of directors, and in 1987, was named president and chief operating officer. In 1999, he was named vice chairman.

Steven J. Malcolm serves as a director of our general partner. He served as Chief Executive Officer of our general partner from January 7, 2001 to May 12, 2002, and was elected as a director on February 9, 2001. He is currently President and Chief Executive Officer of The Williams Companies and has served in the capacity as President since September 2001, and as Chief Executive Officer since January 2002. From 1998 to September 2001, he served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Williams Energy Services. From 1994 to 1998, he served as Senior Vice President for The Williams Companies' midstream gas and liquids division, and from 1993 to 1994, worked as Senior Vice President of the mid-continent region for Williams Field Services. From 1984 to 1993, he held various positions with Williams Natural Gas Company, including director of business development, director of gas management and vice president of gas

management and supply.

S-63

TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The tax consequences to you of an investment in common units will depend in part on your own tax circumstances. For a discussion of the principal federal income tax considerations associated with our operations and the ownership and disposition of common units, please read "Material Tax Consequences" in the accompanying prospectus. You are urged to consult your own tax advisor about the federal, state and local tax consequences peculiar to your circumstances.

We estimate that if you purchase common units in this offering and own them through the record date for the distribution for the fourth quarter of 2004, then you will be allocated, on a cumulative basis, an amount of federal taxable income for such period that will be less than 20% of the cash distributed with respect to the years 2002, 2003 and 2004. If you own common units purchased in this offering for a shorter period, the percentage of federal taxable income allocated to you may be higher. These estimates are based upon the assumption that our available cash for distribution will approximate the amount required to distribute cash to the holders of the common units in an amount equal to the current quarterly distribution of \$0.6125 per unit and other assumptions with respect to capital expenditures, cash flow and anticipated cash distributions. These estimates and assumptions are subject to, among other things, numerous business, economic, regulatory, competitive and political uncertainties beyond our control. Further, the estimates are based on current tax law and certain tax reporting positions that we have adopted with which the IRS could disagree. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that the estimates will be correct. The actual percentage of distributions that will constitute taxable income could be higher or lower, and any differences could be material and could materially affect the value of the common units.

S-64

UNDERWRITING

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement dated May 22, 2002, each of the managing underwriters named below for whom Lehman Brothers Inc. and Salomon Smith Barney Inc. are acting as joint book-running managers, have severally agreed to purchase from us the respective number of common units opposite their names below:

UNDERWRITERS	NUMBER OF COMMON UNITS
-----	-----
Lehman Brothers Inc.	1,600,000
Salomon Smith Barney Inc.	1,600,000
Banc of America Securities LLC.....	800,000
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated.....	800,000
UBS Warburg LLC.....	800,000
A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.	480,000
J.P. Morgan Securities Inc.	480,000
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.	480,000
RBC Dain Rauscher Inc.	480,000
First Union Securities, Inc.	480,000

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Total..... 8,000,000
 =====

The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters are obligated to purchase, subject to certain conditions, all of the common units in the offering if any are purchased, other than those covered by the over-allotment option described below. The conditions contained in the underwriting agreement include the requirements that:

- all the representations and warranties made by us to the underwriters are true;
- there has been no material adverse change in our condition or in the financial markets; and
- we deliver to the underwriters customary closing documents.

We have granted to the underwriters an option to purchase up to an aggregate of 1,200,000 additional common units at the price to the public less the underwriting discount set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement exercisable to cover over-allotments, if any. Such option may be exercised at any time until 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement. If this option is exercised, each underwriter will be committed, subject to satisfaction of the conditions specified in the underwriting agreement, to purchase a number of additional common units proportionate to the underwriters' initial commitment as indicated in the preceding table, and we will be obligated, pursuant to the option, to sell these common units to the underwriters.

The following table shows the underwriting fees to be paid to the underwriters by us in connection with this offering. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional common units. The underwriting fee is the difference between the public offering price and the amount the underwriters pay to us to purchase the common units from us.

	NO EXERCISE -----	FULL EXERCISE -----
Per unit.....	\$ 1.579	\$ 1.579
Total.....	\$12,632,000	\$14,526,800

We estimate that the total expenses of the offering, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$1.4 million.

S-65

We have been advised by the underwriters that the underwriters propose to offer the common units directly to the public at the price to the public set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to dealers (who may include the underwriters) at this price to the public less a concession not in excess of \$0.947 per unit. The underwriters may allow, and the dealers may reallow, a concession not in excess of \$0.100 per unit to certain brokers and dealers. After the offering, the underwriters may change the offering price and other selling terms.

We, our general partner and all of our subsidiaries have agreed to

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and liabilities arising from breaches of representations and warranties contained in the underwriting agreement, or to contribute to payments that may be required to be made in respect of these liabilities.

We, our affiliates that own common units and the directors and executive officers of our general partner have agreed that they will not, directly or indirectly, sell, offer or otherwise dispose of any common units or enter into any derivative transaction with similar effect as a sale of common units for a period of 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement without the prior written consent of Lehman Brothers Inc. and Salomon Smith Barney. The restrictions described in this paragraph do not apply to the sale of common units to the underwriters.

Lehman Brothers Inc. and Salomon Smith Barney, in their discretion, may release the common units subject to lock-up agreements in whole or in part at any time with or without notice. When determining whether or not to release common units from lock-up agreements, Lehman Brothers Inc. and Salomon Smith Barney will consider, among other factors, the unitholders' reasons for requesting the release, the number of common units for which the release is being requested and market conditions at the time.

In connection with this offering, the underwriter may engage in stabilizing transactions, over-allotment transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

- Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.
- Over-allotment transactions involve sales by the underwriters of the common units in excess of the number of common units the underwriters are obligated to purchase, which creates a syndicate short position. The short position may be either a covered short position or a naked short position. In a covered short position, the number of common units over-allotted by the underwriters is not greater than the number of common units they may purchase in the over-allotment option. In a naked short position, the number of common units involved is greater than the number of common units in the over-allotment option. The underwriters may close out any short position by either exercising their over-allotment option and/or purchasing common units in the open market. Similar to other purchase transactions, the underwriters' purchases to cover the syndicate short sales may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of the common units or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common units. As a result, the price of the common units may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market.
- Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the common units in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. In determining the source of the common units to close out the short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of common units available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase common units through the over-allotment option. If the underwriter sells more common units than could be covered by the over-allotment option, a naked short position, the position can only be closed out by buying common units in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there could be downward pressure on the price of the common units in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the

offering.

S-66

- Penalty bids permit the representatives to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the common units originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in a stabilizing or syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

These stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common units or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common units. As a result, the price of the common units may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on The New York Stock Exchange or otherwise and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

Neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the common units. In addition, neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation that the representatives will engage in these stabilizing transactions or that any transaction, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

The common units are listed on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "WEG."

Affiliates of Lehman Brothers Inc., Salomon Smith Barney, Banc of America Securities LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., respectively, are lenders to us under our short-term loan. Each of these lenders will receive an equal share of the partial repayment by us of amounts outstanding under our short-term loan from the net proceeds of this offering. Because we intend to use more than 10% of the net proceeds from the sale of the common units to repay indebtedness owed by us to such affiliates under our short-term loan, the offering is being made in compliance with the requirements of Rule 2710(c)(8) of the Conduct Rules of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. However, pursuant to Rule 2720, the appointment of a qualified independent underwriter is not required in connection with this offering because a bona fide independent market (as defined in the NASD Conduct Rules) exists for the common units. Because the NASD views the common units offered hereby as interests in a direct participation program, the offering is being made in compliance with Rule 2810 of the NASD Conduct Rules.

No sales to accounts over which the underwriters exercise discretionary authority may be made without the prior written approval of the customer.

Some of the underwriters and their affiliates have engaged in, and may in the future engage in, investment banking and other commercial dealings in the ordinary course of business with us and our affiliates.

First Union Securities, Inc. is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Wachovia Corporation. Wachovia Corporation conducts its investment banking, institutional, and capital markets businesses through its various bank, broker-dealer and non-bank subsidiaries (including First Union Securities, Inc.) under the trade name of Wachovia Securities. Any references to Wachovia Securities in this prospectus, however, do not include Wachovia Securities, Inc., a member NASD/SIPC, a separate broker-dealer subsidiary of Wachovia Corporation and an affiliate of First Union Securities, Inc., which may or may not be participating as a selling group member in the distribution of the common units.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

A prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the Internet sites or through other online services maintained by one or more of the underwriters and/or selling group members participating in this offering, or by their affiliates. In those cases, prospective investors may view offering terms online and, depending upon the particular underwriter or selling group member, prospective investors may be allowed to place orders online. The underwriters may agree with us to allocate a specific number of shares for sale to online brokerage account holders. Any such allocation for online distributions will be made by the representatives on the same basis as other allocations.

Other than the prospectus in electronic format, the information on any underwriter's or selling group member's web site and any information contained in any other web site maintained by an underwriter or selling group member is not part of the prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus

S-67

supplement forms a part, has not been approved and/or endorsed by us or any underwriter or selling group member in its capacity as underwriter or selling group member and should not be relied upon by investors.

LEGAL

The validity of the common units will be passed upon for us by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., Houston, Texas. Certain legal matters in connection with the common units offered hereby will be passed upon for the underwriters by Andrews & Kurth Mayor, Day, Caldwell & Keeton L.L.P., Houston, Texas.

EXPERTS

The restated consolidated financial statements of Williams Energy Partners L.P. for the year ended December 31, 2001 appearing in Williams Energy Partners L.P.'s Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed May 9, 2002 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, as set forth in their reports thereon included therein and incorporated herein by reference and also appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. These restated consolidated financial statements have been included and incorporated by reference in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

S-68

INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	PAGE

Williams Energy Partners L.P. Unaudited Pro Forma Financial Statements:	
Introduction.....	F-2
Pro Forma Statement of Income for the three months ended March 31, 2002.....	F-3
Pro Forma Statement of Income for the year ended December 31, 2001.....	F-4
Pro Forma Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2002.....	F-5
Notes to Pro Forma Financial Statements.....	F-6
Williams Energy Partners L.P. Financial Statements:	

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Report of Independent Auditors.....	F-9
Restated Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended December 31, 1999, 2000 and 2001 and the three months ended March 31, 2001 and 2002.....	F-10
Restated Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2000 and 2001 and the three months ended March 31, 2002.....	F-11
Restated Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 1999, 2000 and 2001 and the three months ended March 31, 2001 and 2002.....	F-12
Restated Consolidated Statement of Partners' Capital for the years ended December 31, 1999, 2000 and 2001.....	F-13
Notes to Restated Consolidated Financial Statements.....	F-14

F-1

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The pro forma financial statements are based upon the combined historical financial position and results of operations of Williams Energy Partners and Williams Pipe Line Company. Because Williams Pipe Line Company was an affiliate of Williams Energy Partners at the time of its acquisition by Williams Energy Partners, the transaction was between entities under common control and, as such, was accounted for similarly to a pooling of interest. Accordingly, our consolidated financial statements and notes have been restated to reflect the historical results of operations, financial position and cash flows of Williams Energy Partners and Williams Pipe Line Company throughout the periods presented.

The acquisition of Williams Pipe Line was consummated on April 11, 2002. The unaudited pro forma income statements have been prepared as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1 of the respective periods presented, and the pro forma balance sheet has been prepared as if the acquisition occurred on March 31, 2002. The acquisition was funded through a short-term loan and the issuance of Class B units to The Williams Companies.

The pro forma financial statements of Williams Energy Partners reflect adjustments to exclude income and expenses and assets and liabilities that were conveyed to and assumed by an affiliate of Williams Pipe Line Company prior to our acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company. These assets primarily include Williams Pipe Line Company's interest in and agreements related to Longhorn Partners Pipeline, a discontinued refinery site in Augusta, Kansas and the ATLAS 2000 software system. In addition, the pro forma financial statements reflect adjustments to show that we will no longer take title to natural gas liquids used for blending to produce different grades of gasoline or to the resulting gasoline but will perform these services for an affiliate of The Williams Companies for an annual fee. Further, the general and administrative expenses allocated to us by The Williams Companies will be limited initially to \$30.0 million per year for Williams Pipe Line Company. These pro forma financial statements also reflect the short-term loan and the issuance of Class B units to The Williams Companies to fund the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company, as well as this equity offering of common units and the application of the net proceeds to repay a portion of the short-term loan.

The pro forma financial statements have been prepared on the basis that Williams Energy Partners will continue to be treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. The unaudited pro forma financial statements should

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

be read in conjunction with and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the notes accompanying such pro forma financial statements and with the historical financial statements and related notes of Williams Energy Partners included in this prospectus.

The pro forma financial statements may not be indicative of the results that actually would have occurred or will occur in the future had Williams Energy Partners consummated the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company on the dates indicated or issued equity and borrowed funds on the dates indicated.

F-2

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

PRO FORMA STATEMENT OF INCOME THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2002 (IN THOUSANDS -- EXCEPT PER UNIT AMOUNTS) (UNAUDITED)

	WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS CONSOLIDATED HISTORICAL -----	ADJUSTMENTS -----	PRO FORM -----
Revenues:			
Williams Pipe Line system.....	\$ 78,426	\$ (210) (a) (10,281) (b) 750 (b)	\$ 68,686
Petroleum products terminals.....	19,847	--	19,847
Ammonia pipeline system.....	4,375	--	4,375
	-----	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	\$102,648	\$ (9,741)	\$ 92,907
Costs and expenses:			
Operating expenses.....	\$ 33,066	\$ (59) (a) (844) (c)	\$ 32,163
Product purchases.....	18,409	(8,900) (b)	9,509
Depreciation and amortization.....	8,964	(486) (a)	8,478
General and administrative expenses.....	13,457	(2,729) (d)	10,728
	-----	-----	-----
Total costs and expenses.....	\$ 73,896	\$ (13,018)	\$ 60,878
	-----	-----	-----
Operating profit.....	\$ 28,752	\$ 3,277	\$ 32,029
Interest expense.....	1,313	4,477 (e) (407) (e)	5,383
Interest income.....	(550)	550 (a)	-
Other (income) expense.....	(953)	--	(953)
	-----	-----	-----
Income before income taxes.....	\$ 28,942	\$ (1,343)	\$ 27,599
Provision for income taxes.....	7,816	(7,816) (f)	-
	-----	-----	-----
Net income.....	\$ 21,126	\$ 6,473	\$ 27,599
	=====	=====	=====
Portion of net income applicable to partners'			
interests.....	\$ 8,507		
Portion applicable to Williams Pipe Line.....	12,619		

Net income.....	\$ 21,126		

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

	=====	
Portion of net income applicable to partners' interest.....	\$ 8,507	\$ 27,597
General partner's interest in net income.....	242 (h)	77
	-----	-----
Limited partners' interest in net income.....	8,265	\$ 26,820
	=====	=====
Basic net income per limited partner unit.....	\$ 0.73 (i)	\$ 0.9
	=====	=====
Weighted average number of limited partner units outstanding used for basic net income per unit calculation.....	11,359 (i)	27,197
	=====	=====
Diluted net income per limited partner unit.....	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.9
	=====	=====
Weighted average number of limited partner units outstanding used for diluted net income per unit calculation.....	11,407	27,230
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes.
F-3

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

PRO FORMA STATEMENT OF INCOME
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001
(IN THOUSANDS -- EXCEPT PER UNIT AMOUNTS)
(UNAUDITED)

	WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS CONSOLIDATED HISTORICAL	ADJUSTMENTS	PRO FORMA
	-----	-----	-----
Revenues:			
Williams Pipe Line system.....	\$362,545	\$ (1,017) (a) (48,237) (b) 3,000 (b)	\$316,299
Petroleum products terminals.....	71,510	--	71,510
Ammonia pipeline system.....	14,544	--	14,544
	-----	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	\$448,599	\$ (46,254)	\$402,345
Costs and expenses:			
Operating expenses.....	\$160,880	\$ (202) (a) (6,610) (c)	\$154,068
Product purchases.....	95,268	(39,127) (b)	56,141
Depreciation and amortization.....	35,767	(1,901) (a)	33,866
General and administrative expenses.....	47,365	(8,410) (d)	38,955
	-----	-----	-----
Total costs and expenses.....	\$339,280	\$ (56,250)	\$283,030
	-----	-----	-----
Operating profit.....	\$109,319	\$ 9,996	\$119,315
Interest expense.....	14,859	17,907 (e) (7,927) (e)	24,839
Interest income.....	(2,493)	2,493 (a)	-

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Other (income) expense.....	(431)	(229) (g)	(66)
	-----	-----	-----
Income before income taxes.....	\$ 97,384	\$ (2,248)	\$ 95,136
Provision for income taxes.....	29,512	(29,325) (f)	187
	-----	-----	-----
Net income.....	\$ 67,872	\$ 27,077	\$ 94,941
	=====	=====	=====
Net income allocated to period January 1 through February 10, 2001.....	\$ 304		\$ 304
Portion of net income applicable to partners' interests.....	21,443		94,641
Portion applicable to Williams Pipe Line.....	46,125		-
	-----		-----
Net income.....	\$ 67,872		\$ 94,941
	=====		=====
Portion of net income applicable to partners' interest.....	\$ 21,443		\$ 94,641
General partner's interest in net income.....	226 (h)		2,651
	-----		-----
Limited partners' interest in net income.....	21,217		\$ 91,990
	=====		=====
Basic net income per limited partner unit.....	\$ 1.87 (i)		\$ 3.33
	=====		=====
Weighted average number of limited partner units outstanding used for basic net income per unit calculation.....	11,359 (i)		27,191
	=====		=====
Diluted net income per limited partner unit.....	\$ 1.87		\$ 3.33
	=====		=====
Weighted average number of limited partner units outstanding used for diluted net income per unit calculation.....	11,370		27,201
	=====		=====

See accompanying notes.
F-4

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

PRO FORMA BALANCE SHEET
MARCH 31, 2002
(IN THOUSANDS)
(UNAUDITED)

	WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS CONSOLIDATED HISTORICAL	ADJUSTMEN
	-----	-----
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 8,150	\$ 700,000
		(7,080)
		(3,510)
		(674,400)
		284,560
		(1,350)
		(283,210)

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

		6,06
		(6,06)
Accounts receivable.....	30,121	(14,12)
Affiliate accounts receivable.....	2,369	4,27
		(97)
Inventories.....	16,075	(13,38)
Deferred taxes.....	1,690	(1,69)
Other current assets.....	4,993	(4,77)
	-----	-----
Total current assets.....	\$ 63,398	\$ (15,67)
Property, plant and equipment, at cost.....	1,347,215	(36,43)
Less: accumulated depreciation.....	383,482	(4,65)
	-----	-----
Net property, plant and equipment.....	\$ 963,733	\$ (31,77)
Goodwill.....	22,429	-
Other intangibles.....	2,622	-
Long-term affiliate accounts receivables.....	23,461	(19,00)
		3,21
Long-term receivable.....	11,890	-
Other noncurrent assets.....	6,998	(97)
		7,08
		(2,92)
	-----	-----
Total assets.....	\$1,094,531	\$ (60,05)
	=====	=====
	LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL	
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable.....	\$ 9,423	\$ 63
Affiliate accounts payable.....	18,141	-
Affiliate income taxes payable.....	11,183	(11,18)
Accrued affiliate payroll and benefits.....	2,483	-
Accrued taxes other than income.....	10,220	-
Accrued interest payable.....	169	-
Environmental liabilities.....	8,500	(1,36)
Deferred revenue.....	4,658	85
Short-term debt.....	--	700,00
		(283,21)
		(6,06)
Other current liabilities.....	7,687	-
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities.....	\$ 72,464	\$ 399,65
Long-term debt.....	148,000	-
Long-term affiliate note payable.....	108,392	(55,86)
		(13,38)
		(39,14)
Long-term affiliate payable.....	1,112	-
Other deferred liabilities.....	1,028	-
Deferred taxes.....	148,164	(148,16)
Environmental liabilities.....	8,260	(56)
Class B limited partner equity.....	--	304,40
		(98)
		(82)
		(37)
Partners' capital:		
General partner.....	\$ 381,874	\$ (21
		7,48
		39,14
		(9
		157,65
		(581,46)
		6,20
		(418,64)

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

		(8)
		(3)
		6,06
Limited partners.....	225,237	(2,43
		(2,02
		284,56
		(93

Total partners' capital.....	\$ 607,111	\$ (504,80

Total liabilities and partners' capital.....	\$1,094,531	\$ (60,05
		=====

See accompanying notes.

F-5

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO PRO FORMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 DECEMBER 31, 2001 AND MARCH 31, 2002
 (UNAUDITED)

The pro forma adjustments have been prepared as if the closing of the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company by Williams Energy Partners had taken place on January 1, 2002 and January 1, 2001, in the case of the pro forma statements of income for the three months ended March 31, 2002 and for the year ended December 31, 2001, respectively, and on March 31, 2002 in the case of the pro forma balance sheet. The adjustments are based upon currently available information and certain estimates and assumptions, and therefore the actual adjustments will differ from the pro forma adjustments. However, management believes that the assumptions provide a reasonable basis for presenting the significant effects of the transactions as contemplated and that the pro forma adjustments give appropriate effect to those assumptions and are properly applied in the pro forma financial information.

- (a) Reflects adjustments to revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity associated with the transfers by Williams Pipe Line Company prior to its acquisition by Williams Energy Partners. These included, principally, Williams Pipe Line Company's interest in and agreements related to Longhorn Partners Pipeline, a discontinued refinery site in Augusta, Kansas and the ATLAS 2000 software system.
- (b) Reflects an adjustment to eliminate revenues, product purchases and inventories associated with blending activities of Williams Pipe Line Company. As part of the Williams Pipe Line Company acquisition, The Williams Companies entered into a supplemental blending services agreement with Williams Energy Partners that provides for approximately \$3.0 million per year (\$750,000 pro-rata for the quarter) of revenue for 10 years for blending services performed on the Williams Pipe Line system. There will be no incremental costs to Williams Energy Partners associated with these revenues.
- (c) Represents an adjustment for environmental expenses and liabilities that have been indemnified by The Williams Companies. Williams Energy Partners has reflected the environmental liabilities of Williams Pipe Line Company in its balance sheet and has established a receivable due from The Williams Companies equal to such amount less a \$2.0 million deductible, which resulted in a capital contribution to Williams Energy Partners.
- (d) Reflects adjustments to general and administrative costs charged to

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Williams Energy Partners. The Williams Companies and Williams Energy Partners have agreed to limit the amount of general and administrative expenses to be charged to Williams Energy Partners related to Williams Pipe Line Company to \$30.0 million for the first year of operation (\$7.5 million pro-rata for the quarter). The \$30.0 million limitation on general and administrative expenses will increase each year after 2002 by the lesser of 2.5% or the percentage increase in the consumer price index.

- (e) Reflects adjustments to properly state interest expense at 4.4% for the \$700.0 million short-term loan incurred to finance the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company reduced by a partial repayment of \$289.3 million with the net proceeds from this equity offering. Also reflects the capital contribution by The Williams Companies related to the forgiveness of Williams Pipe Line Company's affiliate note payable. If interest rates vary by 1/8 of a percent, annual interest expense attributable to Williams Energy Partners' total debt outstanding will change by \$0.7 million.
- (f) Pro forma net income excludes federal and state income taxes for Williams Pipe Line Company as Williams Energy Partners is not subject to income taxes.
- (g) Reflects the elimination of minority interest as a result of changes in Williams Energy Partners' organization structure, completed on February 26, 2002. The organization changes included forming a wholly owned Delaware corporation named Williams GP Inc., contributing a small ownership interest in Williams OLP, L.P. by Williams Energy Partners to Williams GP Inc. and amending

F-6

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO PRO FORMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Williams OLP's partnership agreement such that Williams GP Inc. became Williams OLP's general partner. These organization changes also resulted in the general partner's combined 2% direct and indirect ownership interest in Williams Energy Partners converting to a direct 2% ownership in Williams Energy Partners.

- (h) The general partner's allocation of net income is based on its 2.0% interest in Williams Energy Partners plus the additional allocation of net income associated with its incentive distribution rights. The historical amount for the 2002 quarter is calculated based on the general partner's 2.0% ownership interest plus an additional 0.3% allocation of income associated with the general partner's incentive distribution rights based on Williams Energy Partners' annual distribution of \$2.36 unit for the fourth quarter of 2001. The historical amount for the year ended December 31, 2001 is calculated based on the general partner's 1.0% ownership interest in Williams Energy Partners before the organization changes discussed in note (g) above. The pro forma amounts are calculated based on the general partner's 2.0% ownership interest plus an additional 0.8% allocation of income associated with the general partner's incentive distribution rights at Williams Energy Partners' current annual distribution of \$2.45 unit. The amounts of income allocated to the general partner and the limited partners will be different if Williams Energy Partners changes the current cash distribution of \$2.45 per unit.
- (i) Net income per limited partner unit is calculated by dividing the limited partners' interest in net income by the weighted average number of limited partner units outstanding. The historical computation of net income per limited partner unit was derived from the 5,679,694 common units and

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

5,679,694 subordinated units that were outstanding during the three months ended March 31, 2002 and 2001. The pro forma limited partners' interest in net income includes income attributable to Williams Pipe Line Company, as adjusted to reflect the acquisition as if it had occurred at the beginning of the periods presented. The pro forma computation of net income per limited partner unit assumes that 13,679,694 common units, 7,830,924 Class B units and 5,679,694 subordinated units were outstanding at all times during the periods presented.

- (j) Represents the net cash proceeds of \$689.4 million from short-term borrowings of \$700.0 million, less debt placement fees of \$7.1 million and transaction costs of \$3.5 million. The debt placement fees will be fully expensed when the short-term loan is repaid. This nonrecurring expense is not reflected in the pro forma statements of income.
- (k) Represents Williams Pipe Line Company's long-term affiliate note payable and net deferred tax assets and liabilities that were retained by The Williams Companies, resulting in a capital contribution to Williams Energy Partners.
- (l) Represents the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company from The Williams Companies. Upon closing, The Williams Companies contributed all of its equity in Williams Pipe Line Company to Williams Energy Partners in return for \$304.4 million of Class B units and cash of \$674.4 million, net of a \$6.2 million contribution required to maintain its 2% general partner interest. Additionally, The Williams Companies retained accounts receivable and affiliate receivables attributable to Williams Pipe Line Company, which equaled \$15.0 million at March 31, 2002. Williams Energy Partners will use the \$15.0 million of incremental cash from the short-term loan for working capital requirements. The net equity adjustment of a negative \$418.6 million results from recording the assets and liabilities of Williams Pipe Line Company at the historical book value of The Williams Companies, as required by generally accepted accounting principles, while acquiring Williams Pipe Line Company at market value. Because the decision as to the redemption of the Class B units will be made by Williams Energy Partners' general partner, they are not included in partners' capital.

F-7

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO PRO FORMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

- (m) Represents the sale of 8,000,000 common units at a price of \$37.15 per unit less underwriting discounts and commissions of 4.25% and offering expenses of \$1.4 million. The net proceeds of \$283.2 million will be used to partially repay the short-term loan. Also, represents a partial write-off of the \$7.1 million of debt placement fees capitalized in note (j) above. The write-off is proportional to the partial repayment of the short-term loan to the total short-term loan, including the repayment described in note (n).
- (n) Represents a capital contribution by an affiliate of The Williams Companies in connection with this offering to maintain its 2% general partner interest. This \$6.1 million cash contribution will be used to partially repay the short-term loan.

F-8

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

The Board of Directors of Williams GP LLC,
General Partner of Williams Energy Partners L.P.

We have audited the accompanying restated consolidated balance sheets of Williams Energy Partners L.P. as of December 31, 2000 and 2001 and the related restated consolidated statements of income and partners' capital and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001. These financial statements are the responsibility of Williams Energy Partners L.P.'s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Williams Energy Partners L.P. at December 31, 2001 and 2000, and the combined results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Tulsa, Oklahoma
April 11, 2002

F-9

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS

RESTATED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (IN THOUSANDS -- EXCEPT PER UNIT AMOUNTS)

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			THREE MO MAR
	1999	2000	2001	2001
	(UNADJUSTED)			
Transportation and terminaling revenues:				
Third party.....	\$271,135	\$294,617	\$314,027	\$ 71,880
Affiliate.....	15,972	23,504	26,867	5,924
Product sales revenues:				
Third party.....	1,607	15,849	40,302	14,886
Affiliate.....	69,143	91,024	66,385	14,606
Affiliate construction and management fee revenues....	17,875	1,852	1,018	380
	\$375,732	\$426,846	\$448,599	\$107,676
Costs and expenses:				
Operating.....	\$121,599	\$144,899	\$160,880	\$ 37,355
Product purchases.....	59,230	94,141	95,268	27,844

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Affiliate construction expenses.....	15,464	1,025	--	--
Depreciation and amortization.....	25,670	31,746	35,767	9,041
General and administrative.....	47,062	51,206	47,365	10,578
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total costs and expenses.....	\$269,025	\$323,017	\$339,280	\$ 84,818
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Operating profit.....	\$106,707	\$103,829	\$109,319	\$ 22,858
Interest expense:				
Affiliate interest expense.....	19,167	27,009	9,770	4,151
Other interest expense.....	--	--	5,089	835
Interest income.....	(169)	(1,680)	(2,493)	(729)
Other income.....	(1,511)	(816)	(431)	(211)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income before income taxes.....	\$ 89,220	\$ 79,316	\$ 97,384	\$ 18,812
Provision for income taxes.....	34,121	30,414	29,512	5,759
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net income.....	\$ 55,099	\$ 48,902	\$ 67,872	\$ 13,053
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Allocation of net income:				
Portion applicable to the period January 1 through February 9, 2001.....			\$ 304	\$ 304
Portion applicable to partners' interests for the period January 1 through March 31, 2002 and February 10 through March 31, 2001.....			21,443	3,600
Portion applicable to Williams Pipe Line.....			46,125	9,149
			-----	-----
Net income.....			\$ 67,872	\$ 13,053
			=====	=====
Portion of net income applicable to partners' interest.....			\$ 21,443	\$ 3,600
General partner's interest in net income.....			226	72
			-----	-----
Limited partners' interest in net income.....			\$ 21,217	\$ 3,528
			=====	=====
Basic net income per limited partner unit.....			\$ 1.87	\$ 0.31
			=====	=====
Weighted average number of limited partner units outstanding used for basic net income per unit calculation.....			11,359	11,359
			=====	=====
Diluted net income per limited partner unit.....			\$ 1.87	\$ 0.31
			=====	=====
Weighted average number of limited partner units outstanding used for diluted net income per unit calculation.....			11,370	11,359
			=====	=====

See accompanying notes.

F-10

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

RESTATED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(IN THOUSANDS)

	DECEMBER 31,	
-----	-----	MARCH 31
2000	2001	2002

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

	-----	-----	-----
			(UNAUDITED)
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 10	\$ 13,837	\$ 8,15
Accounts receivable (less allowance for doubtful accounts -- \$227 at December 31, 2000, \$510 at December 31, 2001, and \$461 at March 31, 2002).....	19,340	18,157	30,12
Other accounts receivable.....	19,657	10,754	-
Affiliate accounts receivable.....	22,144	6,386	2,36
Inventory.....	8,283	21,057	16,07
Deferred income taxes -- affiliate.....	4,107	1,690	1,69
Other current assets.....	8,764	3,185	4,99
	-----	-----	-----
Total current assets.....	\$ 82,305	\$ 75,066	\$ 63,39
Property, plant and equipment, at cost.....	\$1,277,676	\$1,338,393	\$1,347,21
Less: accumulated depreciation.....	341,374	374,653	383,48
	-----	-----	-----
Net property, plant and equipment.....	\$ 936,302	\$ 963,740	\$ 963,73
Deferred equity offering costs.....	2,539	--	-
Goodwill (less amortization of \$145 at December 31, 2001 and \$327 at March 31, 2002).....	--	22,282	22,42
Other intangibles (less amortization of \$310 at December 31, 2001 and \$327 at March 31, 2002).....	--	2,639	2,62
Long-term affiliate receivables.....	16,837	21,296	23,46
Long-term receivables.....	262	8,809	11,89
Other noncurrent assets.....	11,914	10,727	6,99
	-----	-----	-----
Total assets.....	\$1,050,159	\$1,104,559	\$1,094,53
	=====	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND PARTNERS' CAPITAL			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable.....	\$ 10,180	\$ 12,636	\$ 9,42
Affiliate accounts payable.....	8,485	10,157	18,14
Affiliate income taxes payable.....	5,465	8,544	11,18
Accrued affiliate payroll and benefits.....	5,428	4,606	2,48
Accrued taxes other than income.....	10,308	9,948	10,22
Accrued interest payable.....	--	277	16
Accrued environmental liabilities.....	8,131	8,650	8,50
Deferred revenue.....	4,722	5,103	4,65
Accrued product purchases.....	3,436	2,711	-
Accrued casualty losses.....	3,626	927	-
Other current liabilities.....	4,696	4,865	7,68
Acquisition payable.....	--	8,853	-
	-----	-----	-----
Total current liabilities.....	\$ 64,477	\$ 77,277	\$ 72,46
Long-term debt.....	--	139,500	148,00
Long-term affiliate note payable.....	432,957	138,172	108,39
Long-term affiliate payable.....	--	1,262	1,11
Other deferred liabilities.....	1,230	1,127	1,02
Deferred income taxes -- affiliate.....	156,984	147,029	148,16
Environmental liabilities.....	6,008	8,260	8,26
Minority interest.....	--	2,250	-
Commitments and contingencies Partners' capital:			
Common unitholders (5,680 units outstanding at December 31, 2001 and March 31, 2002).....	69,856	101,452	102,23
Subordinated unitholders (5,680 units outstanding at December 31, 2001 and March 31, 2002).....	--	121,237	122,02
General partner.....	318,647	366,993	382,85
	-----	-----	-----

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Total partners' capital.....	388,503	589,682	607,111
	-----	-----	-----
Total liabilities and partners' capital.....	\$1,050,159	\$1,104,559	\$1,094,531
	=====	=====	=====

See accompanying notes.
F-11

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

RESTATED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(IN THOUSANDS)

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			
	1999	2000	2001	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Operating Activities:				
Net income.....	\$ 55,099	\$ 48,902	\$ 67,872	\$
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Depreciation and amortization.....	25,670	31,746	35,767	
Debt issuance costs amortization.....	--	--	253	
Minority interest expense.....	--	--	229	
Deferred compensation expense.....	--	--	2,048	
Deferred income taxes.....	22,383	2,229	6,438	
(Gain) loss on sale of assets.....	(163)	--	249	
Changes in components of operating assets and liabilities:				
Accounts receivable and other accounts receivable....	(5,671)	(9,726)	10,393	
Affiliate accounts receivable.....	11,317	(1,943)	15,758	
Inventories.....	12,774	2,494	(12,919)	
Accounts payable.....	5,271	(6,636)	2,456	
Affiliate accounts payable.....	(1,166)	(4,146)	1,175	
Accrued income taxes due affiliate.....	(16,666)	2,570	3,079	
Accrued affiliate payroll and benefits.....	(3,370)	(169)	(822)	
Accrued taxes other than income.....	(851)	1,756	(364)	
Accrued interest payable.....	--	--	277	
Current and noncurrent environmental liabilities.....	1,631	4,511	2,669	
Other current and noncurrent assets and liabilities.....	(21,786)	(16,532)	775	
Net cash provided by operating activities.....	\$ 84,472	\$ 55,056	\$135,333	\$
Investing Activities:				
Additions to property, plant & equipment.....	\$ (44,491)	\$ (43,346)	\$ (38,093)	\$
Purchases of businesses.....	(223,300)	(31,100)	(49,409)	
Advances on affiliate note receivable.....	(10,115)	--	--	
Proceeds from sale of assets.....	--	--	--	
Other.....	--	--	--	
Net cash used by investing activities.....	\$ (277,906)	\$ (74,446)	\$ (87,502)	\$
Financing Activities:				
Distributions paid.....	\$ --	\$ --	\$ (16,599)	\$
Borrowings under credit facility.....	--	--	139,500	
Capital contributions by affiliate.....	--	--	1,792	

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Sale of Common Units to public (less underwriters' commissions and payment of formation costs).....	--	--	89,362	
Debt placement costs.....	--	--	(909)	
Redemption of 600,000 Common Units from affiliate.....	--	--	(12,060)	
Payments on affiliate note payable.....	(38,639)	(12,679)	(235,090)	
Proceeds from affiliate note payable.....	232,074	32,069	--	
Cash advances from affiliate.....	--	--	--	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities.....	\$ 193,435	\$ 19,390	\$ (34,004)	\$
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Change in cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 1	\$ --	\$ 13,827	\$
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period.....	9	10	10	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period.....	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 13,837	\$
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Supplemental non-cash investing and financing transactions:				
Contributions by affiliate of predecessor company				
deferred income tax liability.....	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 13,976	\$
Contribution of long-term debt to partners' capital.....	--	--	59,695	
Purchase of Aux Sable pipeline.....	--	--	8,853	
Deferred equity offering costs.....	--	2,539	--	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total.....	\$ --	\$ 2,539	\$ 82,524	\$
	=====	=====	=====	=====

See accompanying notes.

F-12

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

RESTATED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PARTNERS' CAPITAL
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT UNIT AMOUNTS)

	NUMBER OF LIMITED PARTNER UNITS				GENERAL PARTNER
	COMMON	SUBORDINATED	COMMON	SUBORDINATED	
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balances as previously reported --					
January 1, 1999.....	--	--	\$ 60,085	\$ --	\$ --
Adjustments for Williams Pipe Line transaction.....	--	--	--	--	224,417
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balances as restated -- January 1, 1999.....	--	--	60,085	--	224,417
Net income.....	--	--	6,766	--	48,333
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance -- December 31, 1999.....	--	--	\$ 66,851	\$ --	\$272,750
Net income.....	--	--	3,005	--	45,897
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance -- December 31, 2000.....	--	--	\$ 69,856	\$ --	\$318,647
Issuance of units to public.....	4,600,000	--	89,362	--	--
Contribution of net assets of predecessor companies.....	1,679,694	5,679,694	(48,484)	118,762	2,326
Redemption of common units.....	(600,000)	--	(12,060)	--	--
Distributions.....	--	--	(8,134)	(8,134)	(331)
Portion of net income applicable					

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

to period January 1, 2001 through February 9, 2001.....	--	--	304	--	--
Portion of net income applicable to partnership interests.....	--	--	10,608	10,609	46,351
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance -- December 31, 2001.....	5,679,694	5,679,694	\$101,452	\$121,237	\$366,993
Net income (unaudited).....			4,134	4,134	12,858
Distributions (unaudited).....			(3,351)	(3,351)	(159)
Affiliate capital contributions (unaudited).....			491	491	20
Conversion of minority interest liability to equity (unaudited).....					2,250
Other (unaudited).....					(88)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance -- March 31, 2002 (unaudited).....	5,679,694	5,679,694	\$102,726	\$122,511	\$381,874
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

See accompanying notes.
F-13

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(INFORMATION PERTAINING TO MARCH 31, 2002 AND TO THE
THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2001 AND 2002 IS UNAUDITED)

1. ORGANIZATION AND PRESENTATION

Williams Energy Partners L.P. (the "Partnership") is a Delaware limited partnership that was formed in August 2000, to own, operate and acquire a diversified portfolio of complementary energy assets. At the time of the Partnership's initial public offering in February 2001, the Partnership owned: (a) selected petroleum products terminals previously owned by Williams Energy Ventures, Inc. and (b) an ammonia pipeline system previously owned by Williams Natural Gas Liquids, Inc. ("WNGL"). Prior to the closing of the Partnership's initial public offering in February 2001, Williams Energy Ventures, Inc. was owned by Williams Energy Services, LLC ("WES"). Both WES and WNGL are wholly owned subsidiaries of The Williams Companies, Inc. ("Williams"). Williams GP LLC ("General Partner"), a Delaware limited liability company wholly owned by WES and WNGL, was also formed in August 2000, to serve as general partner for the Partnership.

On February 9, 2001, the Partnership completed its initial public offering of 4,000,000 common units representing limited partner interests in the Partnership at a price of \$21.50 per unit. The proceeds of \$86.0 million were used to pay underwriting discounts and commissions of \$5.6 million and legal, professional fees and costs associated with the initial public offering of \$3.1 million, with the remainder used to reduce affiliate note balances with Williams.

As part of the initial public offering, the underwriters exercised their over-allotment option and purchased 600,000 common units, also at a price of \$21.50 per unit. The net proceeds of \$12.1 million, after underwriting discounts and commissions of \$0.8 million, from this over-allotment option were used to redeem 600,000 of the common units held by WES to reimburse it for capital expenditures related to the Partnership's assets. The Partnership maintained the historical costs of the net assets in connection with the initial public offering. Following the exercise of the underwriters over-allotment option, 40%

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

of the Partnership was owned by the public and 60%, including the General Partner's ownership, is owned by affiliates of the Partnership. The limited partners' liability in the Partnership is generally limited to their investment.

On February 26, 2002, the Partnership formed a wholly owned Delaware corporation named Williams GP Inc. ("GP Inc.") The Partnership then contributed a 0.001% limited partner interest in Williams OLP, L.P. ("OLP") to GP Inc. as a capital contribution. The OLP partnership agreement was then amended to convert GP Inc.'s OLP limited partner interest to a general partner interest and to convert the General Partner's existing interest to a limited partner interest. The General Partner then contributed its 1.0101% OLP limited partner interest to the Partnership in exchange for an additional 1.0% general partner interest in the Partnership.

On April 11, 2002, the Partnership acquired all of the membership interests of Williams Pipe Line Company, LLC ("Williams Pipe Line") for approximately \$1.0 billion. Because Williams Pipe Line was an affiliate of the Partnership at the time of the acquisition, the transaction was between entities under common control and, as such, has been accounted for similarly to a pooling of interest. Accordingly, the consolidated financial statements and notes of the Partnership have been restated to reflect the combined historical results of operations, financial position and cash flows of Williams Energy Partners and Williams Pipe Line Company throughout the periods presented. Williams Pipe Line's operations will be reported as a separate operating segment of the Partnership. The beginning equity balance of \$224.4 million and net income in the amount of \$48.3 million, \$45.9 million and \$46.1 million for the years ended December 31, 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively, related to Williams Pipe Line have been included in the General Partner's equity for all periods presented.

F-14

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

The historical results for Williams Pipe Line include income and expenses and assets and liabilities that were conveyed to and assumed by an affiliate of Williams Pipe Line prior to its acquisition by the Partnership. The assets principally include Williams Pipe Line's interest in and agreements related to Longhorn Partners Pipeline ("Longhorn"), a discontinued refinery site at Augusta, Kansas and the ATLAS 2000 software system. The liabilities principally include the environmental liabilities associated with the discontinued refinery site in Augusta, Kansas and the current and deferred income taxes and affiliate note payable. The current and deferred income taxes and the affiliate note payable were contributed to the Partnership in form of a capital contribution by an affiliate of Williams. The income and expenses associated with Longhorn will not be included in the future financial results of the Partnership. Also, as agreed between the Partnership and Williams, Williams Pipe Line's blending operations, other than an annual blending fee of approximately \$3.0 million, will not be included in the future financial results of the Partnership. In addition, general and administrative expenses related to the Williams Pipe Line system that the Partnership will reimburse to its General Partner will be limited to \$30.0 million per year, subject to an escalation provision.

2. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESSES

The Partnership owns and operates a petroleum products pipeline system, petroleum products terminals and an interstate ammonia pipeline system.

WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM

Williams Pipe Line is a petroleum products pipeline system that covers an

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

11-state area extending from Oklahoma through the Midwest to North Dakota and Illinois. The system includes a 6,700-mile pipeline and 39 terminals that provide transportation, storage and distribution services. The products transported on the Williams Pipe Line system are largely refined petroleum products, including gasoline, diesel fuels, LPGs and aviation fuels. Product originates on the system from direct connections to refineries and interconnections with other interstate pipelines for transportation and ultimate distribution to retail gasoline stations, truck stops, railroads, airlines and other end-users.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TERMINALS

The Partnership has 30 petroleum products terminals that are not part of the Williams Pipe Line system. Most of these terminals are strategically located along or near third party pipelines or petroleum refineries. The petroleum products terminals provide a variety of services such as distribution, storage, blending, inventory management and additive injection to a diverse customer group including governmental customers and end-users in the downstream refining, retail, commercial trading, industrial and petrochemical industries. Products stored in and distributed through the petroleum products terminal network include refined petroleum products, blendstocks and heavy oils and feedstocks. The terminal network consists of marine terminal facilities and inland terminals. The inland terminals are located primarily in the southeastern United States. Four marine terminal facilities are located along the Gulf Coast and one marine terminal facility is located in Connecticut near the New York harbor.

AMMONIA PIPELINE SYSTEM

The ammonia pipeline system consists of an ammonia pipeline and six company-owned terminals. Shipments on the pipeline primarily originate from ammonia production plants located in Borger, Texas and Enid and Verdigris, Oklahoma for transport to terminals throughout the Midwest for ultimate distribution to end-users in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and South Dakota. The ammonia transported through the system is used primarily as nitrogen fertilizer. Approximately 94% of the ammonia pipeline system's revenues are generated from transportation tariffs received from three

F-15

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

customers, who are obligated under "ship or pay" contracts to ship an aggregate minimum of 700,000 tons per year but have historically shipped an amount in excess of the required minimum. The current ammonia transportation contracts extend through June 2005.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The restated consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Partnership, Williams Pipe Line and their subsidiaries. The petroleum products terminal operations consist of 30 petroleum products terminal facilities and associated storage, located across 12 states primarily in the southeastern and Gulf Coast areas of the United States. For 11 of these petroleum products terminals, the Partnership owns varying undivided ownership interests. From inception, ownership of these assets has been structured as an ownership of an undivided interest in assets, not as an ownership interest in a partnership, limited liability company, joint venture or other form of entity. Marketing and invoicing are controlled separately by each owner, and each owner is responsible

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

for any loss, damage or injury that may occur to their own customers. As a result, the Partnership applies proportionate consolidation for its interests in these assets.

INTERIM FINANCIAL DATA

The interim financial data are unaudited; however in the opinion of management, the interim financial data includes all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of the results as of March 31, 2002 and for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2001 and 2002.

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

REGULATORY REPORTING

Williams Pipe Line is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), which prescribes certain accounting principles and practices for the annual Form 6 Report filed with the FERC that differ from those used in these financial statements. Such differences relate primarily to capitalization of interest, accounting for subsidiaries as equity investments and other adjustments and are not significant to the financial statements.

CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents include demand and time deposits and other marketable securities with maturities of three months or less when acquired.

INVENTORY VALUATION

Inventory is comprised primarily of refined products, natural gas liquids, and materials and supplies. Refined products and natural gas liquids inventories are stated at the lower of average cost or market. The average cost method is used for materials and supplies.

F-16

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged to operations in the period incurred. Depreciation of property, plant and equipment is provided on the straight-line basis. For petroleum products terminal and ammonia pipeline system assets, the costs of property, plant and equipment sold or retired and the related accumulated depreciation is removed from the accounts, and any associated gains or losses are recorded in the income statement, in the period of sale or disposition. For Williams Pipe Line, gains or losses from the ordinary sale or retirement of property, plant and equipment are credited or charged to accumulated depreciation under FERC accounting guidelines.

GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Goodwill, which represents the excess of cost over fair value of assets of businesses acquired, was amortized on a straight-line basis over a period of 20 years for those assets acquired prior to July 1, 2001. Beginning on January 1, 2002, goodwill is no longer amortized but must be evaluated periodically for impairment. Other intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over a period of up to 25 years.

IMPAIRMENT OF LONG-LIVED ASSETS

The Partnership evaluates its long-lived assets of identifiable business activities for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate, in management's judgment, that the carrying value of such assets may not be recoverable. The determination of whether an impairment has occurred is based on management's estimate of undiscounted future cash flows attributable to the assets as compared to the carrying value of the assets. If an impairment has occurred, the amount of the impairment recognized is determined by estimating the fair value for the assets and recording a provision for loss if the carrying value is greater than fair value.

For assets identified to be disposed of in the future, the carrying value of these assets is compared to the estimated fair value less the cost to sell to determine if an impairment is required. Until the assets are disposed of, an estimate of the fair value is redetermined when related events or circumstances change.

Judgments and assumptions are inherent in management's estimate of undiscounted future cash flows used to determine recoverability of an asset and the estimate of an asset's fair value used to calculate the amount of impairment to recognize. The use of alternate judgments and/or assumptions could result in the recognition of different levels of impairment charges in the financial statements.

CAPITALIZATION OF INTEREST

Interest is capitalized based on the approximate average interest rate on long-term debt. For FERC reporting, capitalization of interest is allowed only when specific borrowing is directly associated with a capital project.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

Transportation revenues are recognized when products are delivered to customers. Injection service fees associated with customer proprietary additives are recognized upon injection to the customer's product, which occurs at the time the product is delivered. Leased storage, terminalling and other related revenues are recognized upon provision of contract services. Other revenue, principally blending and fractionation revenue, is recognized upon sale of the product.

F-17

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

INCOME TAXES

Prior to February 9, 2001, the Partnership's operations were included in Williams' consolidated federal income tax return. The Partnership's income tax provisions were computed as though separate returns were filed. Deferred income taxes were computed using the liability method and were provided on all temporary differences between the financial basis and tax basis of the Partnership's assets and liabilities.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Effective with the closing of the Partnership's initial public offering on February 9, 2001 (See Note 1), the Partnership is not a taxable entity for federal and state income tax purposes. Accordingly, for the petroleum products and ammonia pipeline system operations after the initial public offering, no recognition has been given to income taxes for financial reporting purposes. The tax on Partnership net income is borne by the individual partners through the allocation of taxable income. Net income for financial statement purposes may differ significantly from taxable income of unitholders as a result of differences between the tax basis and financial reporting basis of assets and liabilities and the taxable income allocation requirements under the Partnership's partnership agreement. The aggregate difference in the basis of the Partnership's net assets for financial and tax reporting purposes cannot be readily determined because information regarding each partner's tax attributes in the Partnership is not available to the Partnership.

Williams Pipe Line was included in Williams' consolidated federal income tax return. Deferred income taxes were computed using the liability method and were provided on all temporary differences between the financial basis and the tax basis of Williams Pipe Line's assets and liabilities. Williams Pipe Line's federal provision was computed at existing statutory rates as though a separate federal tax return were filed. Williams Pipe Line paid its tax liability to Williams under its tax sharing agreement with Williams. No recognition will be given to income taxes associated with Williams Pipe Line for financial reporting purposes for periods subsequent to its acquisition by the Partnership.

EMPLOYEE STOCK-BASED AWARDS

Williams' employee stock-based awards are accounted for under provisions of Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees," and related interpretations. Williams' fixed plan common stock options do not result in compensation expense because the exercise price of the stock options equals the market price of the underlying stock on the date of grant.

The General Partner has issued incentive awards of restricted units, or phantom units, to Williams employees assigned to the Partnership. These awards are also accounted for under provisions of Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25. Since the exercise price of the unit awards is less than the market price of the underlying units on the date of grant, compensation expense is recognized by the General Partner and directly allocated to the Partnership.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental expenditures that relate to current or future revenues are expensed or capitalized based upon the nature of the expenditures. Expenditures that relate to an existing condition caused by past operations that do not contribute to current or future revenue generation are expensed. Environmental liabilities are recorded independently of any potential claim for recovery. Receivables are recognized in cases where the realization of reimbursements of remediation costs are considered probable. Accruals related to environmental matters are generally determined based on site-specific plans for remediation, taking into account prior remediation experience of the Partnership and Williams.

F-18

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

EARNINGS PER UNIT

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Basic earnings per unit are based on the average number of common and subordinated units outstanding. Diluted earnings per unit include any dilutive effect of restricted unit grants.

RECENT ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

In August 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets." This Statement supersedes SFAS No. 121, "Accounting for the Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and for Long-Lived Assets to be Disposed of" and amends Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 30, "Reporting the Results of Operations -- Reporting the Effects of Disposal of a Segment of a Business and Extraordinary, Unusual and Infrequently Occurring Events and Transactions." The Statement retains the basic framework of SFAS No. 121, resolves certain implementation issues of SFAS No. 121, extends applicability to discontinued operations and broadens the presentation of discontinued operations to include a component of an entity. The Statement is to be applied prospectively and is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001. The Statement is not expected to have any initial impact on the Partnership's results of operations or financial position.

In June 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 143, "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations." This Statement addresses financial accounting and reporting for obligations associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets and the associated asset retirement costs and amends FASB Statement No. 19, "Financial Accounting and Reporting by Oil and Gas Producing Companies." The Statement requires that the fair value of a liability for an asset retirement obligation be recognized in the period in which it is incurred if a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made and that the associated asset retirement costs be capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the long-lived asset. The Statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2002. The Partnership plans to adopt this standard in January 2003 and is evaluating its effect on the Partnership's results of operations and financial position.

In June 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141, "Business Combinations" and SFAS No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." SFAS No. 141 establishes accounting and reporting standards for business combinations and requires all business combinations to be accounted for by the purchase method. The Statement is effective for all business combinations for which the date of acquisition is July 1, 2001 or later. SFAS No. 142 addresses accounting and reporting standards for goodwill and other intangible assets. Under this Statement, goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives will no longer be amortized, but will be tested annually for impairment. The Statement becomes effective for all fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001. The Partnership will apply the new rules on accounting for goodwill and other intangible assets beginning January 1, 2002. Based on the amount of goodwill recorded as of December 31, 2001 application of the non-amortization provision of the Statement will result in a decrease to amortization expense in future years of approximately \$1.1 million.

In June 1998, the FASB issued SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." This was followed in June 2000 by the issuance of SFAS No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities," which amends SFAS No. 133. SFAS No. 133 and No. 138 establish accounting and reporting standards for derivative financial instruments. The standards require that all derivative financial instruments be recorded on the balance sheet at their fair value. Changes in fair value of derivatives will be recorded each period in earnings if the derivative is not a hedge. If a derivative qualifies for special hedge accounting, changes in the

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

fair value of the derivative will either be recognized in earnings as an offset against the change in fair value of the hedged assets, liabilities or firm commitments also recognized in earnings, or the changes in fair value will be deferred on the balance sheet until the hedged item is recognized in earnings. The ineffective portion of a derivative's

F-19

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

change in fair value will be recognized immediately in earnings. These standards were adopted on January 1, 2001. There was no impact to the Partnership's financial position, results of operations or cash flows from adopting these standards.

The FASB issued SFAS No. 140, "Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities." The Statement provides guidance for determining whether a transfer of financial assets should be accounted for as a sale or a secured borrowing and whether a liability has been extinguished. The Statement is effective for recognition and reclassification of collateral and for disclosures ending after December 15, 2000. The Statement became effective for transfers and servicing of financial assets and extinguishments of liabilities occurring after March 31, 2001. The initial application of SFAS No. 140 had no impact on the Partnership's results of operations and financial position.

4. ACQUISITIONS AND DIVESTITURE

ACQUISITIONS

Williams Pipe Line

On April 11, 2002, the Partnership acquired all of the membership interests of Williams Pipe Line from WES for approximately \$1.0 billion. The Partnership remitted to WES consideration in the amount of \$674.4 million and WES retained \$15.0 million of Williams Pipe Line's receivables. The \$310.6 million balance of the consideration consisted of \$304.4 million of Class B units representing limited partner interests in the Partnership issued to the General Partner and affiliates of WES and Williams' contribution to the Partnership by the General Partner of \$6.2 million to maintain its 2% general partner interest. The Partnership borrowed \$700.0 million from a group of financial institutions, paid WES \$674.4 million and used \$10.6 million of the funds to pay debt fees and other transaction costs. The Partnership retained \$15.0 million of the funds to meet working capital needs.

Williams Pipe Line primarily provides petroleum products transportation, storage and distribution services and will be reported as a separate business segment of the Partnership. Because of the Partnership's affiliate relationship with Williams Pipe Line, the transaction was between entities under common control and, as such, has been accounted for similarly to a pooling of interest. Accordingly, the consolidated financial statements and notes of the Partnership have been restated to reflect the historical results of operations, financial position and cash flows as if the companies had been combined throughout the periods presented.

The results of operations for the separate companies and the combined amounts presented in the Consolidated Income Statement follow:

YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31,

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

	1999	2000	2001
Revenues:			
Williams Energy Partners.....	\$ 44,388	\$ 72,492	\$ 86,054
Williams Pipe Line.....	331,344	354,354	362,545
Combined.....	\$375,732	\$426,846	\$448,599
Net Income:			
Williams Energy Partners.....	\$ 6,766	\$ 3,005	\$ 21,747
Williams Pipe Line.....	48,333	45,897	46,125
Combined.....	\$ 55,099	\$ 48,902	\$ 67,872

F-20

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Other Acquisitions

Petroleum products terminal facilities and partial ownership interests in several petroleum products terminals were acquired for cash during the periods presented and are described below. All acquisitions, except the Aux Sable transaction, were accounted for as purchases of businesses and the results of operations of the acquired petroleum products terminals are included with the combined results of operations from their acquisition dates.

On December 31, 2001, the Partnership purchased an 8.5-mile, 8-inch natural gas liquids pipeline in northeastern Illinois from Aux Sable Liquid Products L.P. ("Aux Sable") for \$8.9 million. The Partnership then entered into a long-term lease arrangement under which Aux Sable is the sole lessee of these assets. The Partnership has accounted for this transaction as a capital lease. The lease expires in December 2016 and has a purchase option after the first year. The minimum lease payments to be made by Aux Sable are \$19.2 million in total and \$1.3 million per year over each of the next five years. Aux Sable has the right to re-acquire the pipeline at the end of the lease for a de minimis amount. The fair value of the lease at December 31, 2001, approximates its carrying value.

In October 2001, the Partnership acquired the crude oil storage and distribution assets of Geonet Gathering, Inc. ("Geonet") located in Gibson, Louisiana. The Partnership acquired these assets with the intent to use the facility as a crude storage and distribution facility with an affiliate company as its primary customer. The purchase price was approximately \$21.1 million, consisting of \$20.3 million in cash and \$0.9 million in assumed liabilities. The purchase price and allocation to assets acquired and liabilities assumed was as follows (in thousands):

Purchase price:	
Cash paid, including transaction costs.....	\$20,261
Liabilities assumed.....	856
Total purchase price.....	\$21,117

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Allocation of purchase price:

Current assets.....	\$ 62
Property, plant and equipment.....	4,607
Goodwill.....	13,719
Intangible assets.....	2,729

Total allocation.....	\$21,117
	=====

Factors contributing to the recognition of goodwill are the market in which the facility is located and the opportunity to enter into a throughput agreement with an affiliate company. Of the amount allocated to intangible assets, \$2.0 million represents the value of the leases associated with this facility, which have amortization periods of up to 25 years. The remaining \$0.7 million allocated to intangible assets represents covenants not-to-compete and has an amortization period of five years. The total weighted average amortization period of intangible assets is approximately 16 years. Of the consideration paid for the facility, \$1.0 million is held in escrow, pending final evaluation of necessary repairs by the Partnership.

In June 2001, the Partnership purchased two petroleum products terminals located in Little Rock, Arkansas from TransMontaigne, Inc. ("TransMontaigne") at a cost of \$29.1 million, of which \$20.2 million was allocated to property, plant and equipment and \$8.9 million to goodwill and other intangibles. Goodwill resulting from this acquisition is being amortized over a 20-year period. The final purchase price allocation has not been determined pending assessment of the environmental liabilities assumed.

F-21

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

In April 2001, the Partnership purchased a 6-mile pipeline for \$0.3 million from Equilon Pipeline Company LLC, enabling connection of its existing Dallas, Texas area petroleum storage and distribution facility to Dallas Love Field. The acquisition was made in conjunction with an agreement for the Partnership to provide jet fuel delivery services into Dallas Love Field for Southwest Airlines. In December 2001, the Partnership completed construction of additional jet fuel storage tanks at its distribution facility in Dallas to support delivery of jet fuel to the airport. Total cost of the pipeline and construction of the additional jet fuel storage tanks totaled \$5.5 million.

In September 2000, a northeast petroleum products terminal facility in New Haven, Connecticut was acquired from Wyatt Energy, Incorporated ("Wyatt") and its affiliates for approximately \$30.8 million.

In March 2000, a 50% ownership interest in CITGO Petroleum Corporation's petroleum products terminal located in Southlake, Texas was acquired for approximately \$0.3 million.

In August 1999, three storage and distribution petroleum products terminals and Terminal Pipeline Company ("TPC"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Amerada Hess Corporation ("Hess"), were acquired from Hess for approximately \$212 million. The petroleum products terminals are located in Galena Park and Corpus Christi, Texas and Marrero, Louisiana. TPC owned a common carrier pipeline that began at a connection east of the Houston Ship Channel and terminated at the Galena Park terminal. The pipeline acquired from Hess was converted to private pipeline status during 2001.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

In February 1999, an additional 10% ownership interest in eight petroleum products terminals was acquired from Murphy Oil USA, Inc. for approximately \$3.4 million, which increased the Partnership's ownership interest to 78.9% from 68.9%. The petroleum products terminals, which are now operated by the Partnership, are located in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

In January 1999, 11 petroleum products terminals owned by Amoco Oil Company ("Amoco") were acquired. The petroleum products terminals, located in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and Tennessee, were acquired for approximately \$6.9 million. In addition, Amoco's 60% interest in a twelfth petroleum products terminal, located in Greensboro, North Carolina, was acquired for approximately \$1.0 million.

The following summarized unaudited pro forma financial information for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, reflects the historical results of Williams Energy Partners on a consolidated basis and assumes each other acquisition had occurred on January 1 of the year immediately preceding the year of the acquisition (in thousands):

	2000	2001
	-----	-----
Revenues:		
Williams Energy Partners.....	\$426,846	\$448,599
Acquired businesses.....	14,354	5,552
	-----	-----
Combined.....	\$441,200	\$454,151
	=====	=====
Net income:		
Williams Energy Partners.....	\$ 48,902	\$ 67,872
Acquired businesses.....	1,083	659
	-----	-----
Combined.....	\$ 49,985	\$ 68,531
	=====	=====
Basic net income per limited partner unit.....		\$ 1.95
		=====

The pro forma results include operating results prior to the acquisitions and adjustments to interest expense, depreciation expense and income taxes. The pro forma consolidated results do not purport to be

F-22

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

indicative of results that would have occurred had the acquisitions been in effect for the periods presented, nor do they purport to be indicative of results that will be obtained in the future.

Except where stated above, the purchase prices of the above acquisitions were allocated to various categories of property, plant and equipment and liabilities based upon the fair value of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed.

DIVESTITURE

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

In October 2001, the Meridian, Mississippi terminal, previously reported with the petroleum products terminals business segment, was sold for \$1.7 million. The Partnership recognized a gain of \$1.1 million associated with the sale of the terminal, which is included in other income.

5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment consists of the following (in thousands):

	DECEMBER 31,		MARCH 31, 2002	ESTIMATED DEPRECIABLE LIVES
	2000	2001		
			(UNAUDITED)	
Construction work-in-progress.....	\$ 20,084	\$ 19,193	\$ 10,331	
Land and right-of-way.....	29,848	30,033	32,549	
Carrier property.....	880,050	905,144	923,748	6-59 years
Buildings.....	8,533	8,957	8,698	30 years
Storage tanks.....	154,580	169,066	168,732	30 years
Pipeline and station equipment.....	47,982	58,157	58,242	30-67 years
Processing equipment.....	113,335	124,945	123,505	30 years
Other.....	21,264	22,898	21,410	10-30 years
	-----	-----	-----	
Total.....	\$1,277,676	\$1,338,393	\$1,347,215	
	=====	=====	=====	

Carrier property is defined as pipeline assets regulated by the FERC. Other includes \$18.6 million of capitalized interest at both December 31, 2001 and 2002 and \$19.0 million at March 31, 2002 (unaudited). Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999 was \$35.2 million, \$31.7 million and \$25.7 million, respectively, and \$9.0 million and \$15.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2002 and 2001 (unaudited), respectively.

6. MAJOR CUSTOMERS AND CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

Williams Energy Marketing & Trading, an affiliate customer, and Customer A are major customers of the Partnership. No other customer accounted for more than 10% of total revenues during 1999, 2000 or 2001. Williams Energy Marketing & Trading is a customer of the petroleum products terminals segment and the Williams Pipe Line system segment. The percentage of revenues derived by customer is provided below:

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	1999	2000	2001
	-----	-----	-----
Customer A.....	10%	10%	10%
Williams Energy Marketing & Trading.....	22%	26%	18%
	--	--	--
Total.....	32%	36%	28%
	==	==	==

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

The accounts receivable balance of Williams Energy Marketing & Trading accounted for 33%, 9% and 10% of total accounts receivable, including affiliate receivables at December 31, 2000 and 2001, and March 31, 2002 (unaudited), respectively.

Williams Pipe Line transports refined petroleum products for refiners and marketers in the petroleum industry. The major concentration of Williams Pipe Line's customers is located in the central United States. A prepayment process authorized by tariffs filed with the FERC is employed for all petroleum products shippers on Williams Pipe Line's system. Due to the prepayment process employed, credit losses to shippers have been limited. Sales to petroleum products terminal and ammonia pipeline customers are generally unsecured and the financial condition and creditworthiness of customers are routinely evaluated. The Partnership has the ability with many of its terminalling contracts to sell stored customer products to recover unpaid receivable balances, if necessary. Any issues impacting the petroleum refining and marketing and anhydrous ammonia industries could impact the Partnership's overall exposure to credit risk.

Williams Pipe Line's labor force of 601 employees is concentrated in the central United States. At December 31, 2001, 38% of the employees were represented by a union and covered by collective bargaining agreements that expired in February 2002. Williams Pipe Line's union employees ratified a new four-year collective bargaining agreement with WES in March 2002. The petroleum products terminals operation's labor force of 195 people are concentrated in the southeastern and Gulf Coast regions of the United States. Other than at the Galena Park, Texas marine terminal facility, none of the terminal operations employees are represented by labor unions. The employees at the Partnership's Galena Park marine terminal facility are currently represented by a union, but have indicated their unanimous desire to terminate their union affiliation. Nevertheless, the National Labor Relations Board has ordered the Partnership to bargain with the union as the exclusive collective bargaining representative of the employees at the facility. The Partnership is appealing this decision. If the Partnership's appeal is unsuccessful, the Partnership will bargain with the union as ordered by the National Labor Relations Board.

Demand for nitrogen fertilizer has typically followed a combination of weather patterns and growth in population, acres planted and fertilizer application rates. Because natural gas is the primary feedstock for the production of ammonia, the profitability of the Partnership's customers is impacted by natural gas prices. To the extent these customers are unable to pass on higher costs to their customers, they may reduce shipments through the pipeline.

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

All employees dedicated to, or otherwise supporting, the Partnership are employees of Williams. Williams Pipe Line maintains a separate non-contributory defined-benefit pension plan, which covers union employees ("union plan"). Substantially all remaining employees are covered by Williams' noncontributory defined benefit pension plans and health care plan that provides postretirement medical benefits to certain retired employees. Contributions for pension and postretirement medical benefits related to the Partnership's participation in the Williams' plans were \$1.7 million, \$1.2 million and \$1.5 million in 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively.

The following table presents the changes in benefit obligations and plan assets for pension benefits for the union plan for the years indicated. It also presents a reconciliation of the funded status of these

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

F-24

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

benefits to the amount recognized in the accompanying balance sheet at December 31 of each year indicated (in thousands):

	2000	2001
	-----	-----
Change in benefit obligation:		
Benefit obligation at beginning of year.....	\$17,125	\$19,021
Service cost.....	688	889
Interest cost.....	1,340	1,490
Actuarial loss.....	1,351	1,279
Benefits paid.....	(1,483)	(1,082)
	-----	-----
Benefit obligation at end of year.....	\$19,021	\$21,597
Change in plan assets:		
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year.....	\$23,341	\$21,422
Loss on plan assets.....	(436)	(1,640)
Benefits paid.....	(1,483)	(1,082)
	-----	-----
Fair value of plan assets at end of year.....	\$21,422	\$18,700
	-----	-----
Funded status.....	\$ 2,401	\$ (2,897)
Unrecognized net actuarial loss.....	298	5,399
Unrecognized prior service cost.....	473	420
Unrecognized transition asset.....	(126)	--
	-----	-----
Prepaid benefit cost.....	\$ 3,046	\$ 2,922
	=====	=====

Net pension benefit cost for the union plan consists of the following (in thousands):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	1999	2000	2001
	-----	-----	-----
Components of net periodic pension expense:			
Service cost.....	\$ 801	\$ 688	\$ 889
Interest cost.....	1,346	1,340	1,490
Expected return on plan assets.....	(1,903)	(2,075)	(2,182)
Amortization of transition asset.....	(135)	(135)	(126)
Amortization of prior service cost.....	53	53	53
Recognized net actuarial loss.....	88	--	--
	-----	-----	-----
Net periodic pension expense (income).....	\$ 250	\$ (129)	\$ 124
	=====	=====	=====

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

	2000 -----	2001 -----
Discount rate.....	7.50%	7.50%
Expected return on plan assets.....	10.00%	10.00%
Rate of compensation increase.....	5.00%	5.00%

Williams maintains various defined contribution plans in which employees supporting the Partnership are included. The Partnership's costs related to these plans were \$1.8 million, \$2.0 million and \$2.4 million in 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively.

F-25

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

8. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Partnership and Williams Pipe Line have entered into agreements with various Williams subsidiaries. Agreements with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading provide for sales of blended gasoline processed by Williams Pipe Line and sales of pipeline inventory overages, as well as lease storage capacity. The Partnership has several agreements with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading, which provide for: (i) the access to and utilization of the inland terminals, (ii) approximately 2.5 million barrels of storage and other ancillary services at the Partnership's marine terminal facilities and (iii) capacity utilization rights to substantially all of the capacity of the Gibson, Louisiana marine terminal facility. Williams Pipe Line has entered into agreements with Mid-America Pipeline and Williams Bio Energy, both of which are affiliates of Williams, to provide tank storage and pipeline system storage, respectively.

Historically, Williams Pipe Line also has been a party to an agreement with Williams Refining & Marketing for sales of blended gasoline. (See Note 1 -- Organization and Presentation for more information about income and expenses associated with Williams Pipe Line operations that will not be conducted by the Partnership). Also, both Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing ship products on the Williams Pipe Line system. Additionally, the Partnership has agreements with Williams Refining & Marketing for the access and utilization of the Partnership's inland terminal facilities. The following are revenues from various Williams subsidiaries (in thousands):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	1999 -----	2000 -----	2001 -----
Williams Energy Marketing & Trading.....	\$81,481	\$111,847	\$81,999
Williams Refining & Marketing.....	--	--	6,575
Williams Bio Energy.....	2,857	2,379	3,499
Mid-America Pipeline.....	282	282	285
Other.....	495	20	894
	-----	-----	-----
Total.....	\$85,115	\$114,528	\$93,252
	=====	=====	=====

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Williams Pipe Line has various other transactions with Williams and its subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business. Williams Pipe Line has also entered into agreements with Williams Energy Marketing & Trading to purchase product for blending activity, transmix for fractionation activity and product to settle shortages. Mid-America Pipeline also leases storage space to Williams Pipe Line. The following are costs and expenses from various affiliate companies to Williams Pipe Line and the Partnership (in thousands):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	1999	2000	2001
WES -- directly allocable expenses.....	\$25,253	\$27,303	\$18,970
Williams -- allocated general corporate expenses.....	5,045	15,380	18,123
Williams Energy Marketing & Trading -- product purchases.....	25,276	47,466	80,959
Mid-America Pipeline -- operating and maintenance.....	1,421	2,060	2,730

The above costs are reflected in the cost and expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of income. In management's estimation the direct and allocated expenses represent amounts that would have been incurred on a stand-alone basis.

In addition, Williams allocates interest expense charges to its affiliates based on their inter-company debt balances (see note 10). The Partnership entities also participate in employee benefit plans and long-term incentive plans sponsored by Williams (see notes 7 and 11).

F-26

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Williams allocates both direct and indirect general and administrative expenses to its subsidiaries. Direct expenses allocated by Williams are primarily salaries and benefits of employees and officers associated with the business activities of the subsidiary. Indirect expenses include legal, accounting, treasury, engineering, information technology and other corporate services. Williams allocates indirect expenses to its subsidiaries, including the general partner, based on a three-factor formula that considers operating margins, payroll costs and property, plant and equipment. The Partnership reimburses the General Partner and its affiliates for direct and indirect expenses incurred by or allocated to them on the Partnership's behalf.

In connection with its initial public offering, and with respect solely to the petroleum products terminal and ammonia pipeline assets held at the time of that offering, the Partnership and the General Partner agreed with Williams that the general and administrative expenses to be reimbursed to the General Partner by the Partnership would not exceed \$6.0 million for 2001, excluding expenses associated with the Partnership's long-term incentive plan, regardless of the amount of the direct and indirect general and administrative expenses actually incurred by or allocated to the General Partner. The reimbursement limitation will remain in place through 2011 and may increase by no more than the greater of 7.0% per year or the percentage increase in the consumer price index for that year. If the Partnership makes an acquisition, general and administrative expenses may also increase by the amount of these expenses included in the

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

valuation of the business acquired. As a result of the acquisitions made during 2001, the annual amount of general and administrative expense reimbursement limitation increased to \$6.3 million, excluding expenses associated with long-term incentive plan. Based on the 7.0% escalation, the Partnership's maximum reimbursement obligation for general and administrative expenses in 2002, for the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline system operations, is \$6.7 million before long-term incentive plan charges and adjustments for acquisitions.

As a result of the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line, general and administrative expenses that had previously been incurred by or allocated to Williams Pipe Line will be charged to the General Partner. In connection with the acquisition, the Partnership and the General Partner agreed with Williams that the general and administrative expenses to be reimbursed to the General Partner by the Partnership for charges related to the Williams Pipe Line system would be \$30.0 million for 2002, prorated for the actual period that the Partnership owns the Williams Pipe Line. In each year after 2002, these expenses may increase by the lesser of 2.5% per year or the percentage increase in the consumer price index for that year. The additional general and administrative costs incurred by the General Partner, but not charged to the Partnership, totaled \$10.4 million for the period February 10, 2001 through December 31, 2001, \$0.5 million for the period February 10, 2001 through March 31, 2001 (unaudited) and \$2.8 million for the period January 1, 2002 through March 31, 2002 (unaudited).

Williams Pipe Line had contributed \$0.9 million to Longhorn in exchange for a 0.3% ownership interest. Williams Pipe Line also had an agreement to construct a pipeline, terminals and stations and charge a fee for these services to Longhorn. Under this agreement, Williams Pipe Line paid for construction costs and was reimbursed by Longhorn. The agreement allowed Longhorn to defer payment of certain construction costs until it generated break-even cash flows and allowed Williams Pipe Line to charge interest on the outstanding receivable balance. Williams Pipe Line also had an agreement to manage the pipeline for Longhorn for an agreed-upon monthly fee. The total amount receivable from Longhorn at December 31, 2001 and 2000 was \$16.8 million and \$20.0 million (which includes \$3.1 million classified as current), respectively, and \$19.3 million at March 31, 2002 (unaudited). (See Note 1 -- Organization and Presentation for more information about income and expenses associated with Williams Pipe Line operations that will not be conducted by the Partnership).

F-27

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

9. INCOME TAXES

The provision for income taxes is as follows (in thousands):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,	
	1999	2000	2001	2001	2002
				(UNAUDITED)	
Current:					
Federal.....	\$10,466	\$24,779	\$19,405	\$3,786	\$5,807
State.....	1,272	3,406	3,669	566	874

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Deferred:					
Federal.....	19,379	1,743	5,597	1,248	987
State.....	3,004	486	841	159	148
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	\$34,121	\$30,414	\$29,512	\$5,759	\$7,816
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

Reconciliations from the provision for income taxes at the U.S. federal statutory rate to the effective tax rate for the provision for income taxes are as follows (in thousands):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,	
	1999	2000	2001	2001	2002
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(UNAUDITED)				
Income taxes at statutory rate.....	\$31,227	\$27,760	\$34,084	\$ 6,584	\$10,129
Less: income taxes at statutory rate on income applicable to partners interest.....	--	--	(7,504)	(1,245)	(2,977)
Increase resulting from:					
State taxes, net of federal income tax benefit.....	2,780	2,529	2,931	420	664
Other.....	114	125	1	--	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Provision for income taxes.....	\$34,121	\$30,414	\$29,512	\$ 5,759	\$ 7,816
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

F-28

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Significant components of deferred tax liabilities and assets as of December 31, 2000 and 2001 and March 31, 2002 (unaudited) are as follows (in thousands):

	DECEMBER 31,		MARCH 31, 2002
	2000	2001	
	-----	-----	-----
	(UNAUDITED)		
Deferred tax liabilities:			
Property, plant and equipment.....	\$182,662	\$147,775	\$148,910
Other.....	650	841	841
	-----	-----	-----
Total deferred tax liabilities.....	\$183,312	\$148,616	\$149,751
Deferred tax assets:			
Net operating loss carryforward.....	\$ 25,270	\$ --	\$ --
Other.....	7,154	5,266	5,266
	-----	-----	-----
Total deferred tax assets.....	\$ 32,424	\$ 5,266	\$ 5,266

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Valuation allowance.....	1,989	1,989	1,989
	-----	-----	-----
Net deferred tax assets.....	\$ 30,435	\$ 3,277	\$ 3,277
	-----	-----	-----
Net deferred tax liabilities.....	\$152,877	\$145,339	\$146,474
	=====	=====	=====

The Partnership recognized a pre-initial public offering federal net operating loss for income tax purposes of \$3.9 million and \$57.0 million for the years 2001 and 2000, respectively. The \$3.9 million federal net operating loss expires in 2021. The \$57.0 million federal net operating loss carryforward expires in 2020. Payments to Williams in lieu of income taxes were \$2.3 million in 1999.

As a result of the initial public offering and the concurrent transactions on February 9, 2001 (see Note 1), the net deferred tax liability on that date of approximately \$14.0 million was assumed by Williams, in exchange for an additional equity investment in the Partnership.

10. LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt and available borrowing capacity for the Partnership at December 31, 2001, were \$139.5 million and \$35.5 million, respectively, and \$148.0 million and \$27.0 million at March 31, 2002 (unaudited), respectively. At both March 31, 2002 (unaudited) and December 31, 2001, the OLP had a \$175.0 million bank credit facility. The credit facility was comprised of a \$90.0 million term loan facility and an \$85.0 million revolving credit facility, which includes a \$73.0 million acquisition sub-facility and a \$12.0 million working capital sub-facility. On February 9, 2001, the OLP borrowed \$90.0 million under the term loan facility and \$0.1 million under the acquisition sub-facility. The \$0.1 million borrowed under the acquisition sub-facility was repaid in July 2001. In June 2001, the OLP borrowed \$29.5 million under the acquisition facility to fund the purchase of two terminals in Little Rock, Arkansas from TransMontaigne. In October 2001, the OLP borrowed \$20.0 million to fund the acquisition of the Gibson, Louisiana terminal from Geonet. In January 2002, the OLP borrowed \$8.5 million to finance the acquisition of a pipeline from Aux Sable. The Partnership entered into a long-term lease arrangement with Aux Sable under which Aux Sable is the sole lessee of these assets. The transaction will be accounted for as a capital lease.

The credit facility's term extends through February 5, 2004, with all amounts due at that time. Borrowings under the credit facility carry an interest rate equal to the Eurodollar rate plus a spread from 1.0% to 1.5%, depending on the OLP's leverage ratio. Interest is also assessed on the unused portion of the credit facility at a rate from 0.2% to 0.4%, depending on the OLP's leverage ratio. The OLP's leverage ratio is defined as the ratio of consolidated total debt to consolidated earnings before interest, income

F-29

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

taxes, depreciation and amortization for the period of the four fiscal quarters ending on such date. Closing fees associated with the initiation of the credit facility were \$0.9 million, which are being amortized over the life of the facility. Average interest rates were 3.1% for the term loan facility and 3.3% for the acquisition subfacility at both December 31, 2001 and March 31, 2002 (unaudited). The fair value of the long-term debt approximates its carrying value, because of the floating interest rate applied to the debt facility.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Long-term affiliate debt for the Partnership consists of the following (in thousands):

	DECEMBER 31,		MARCH 31,
	2000	2001	2002
			(UNAUDITED)
WES affiliate note.....	\$386,731	\$138,172	\$108,392
Williams Pipe Line affiliate note.....	46,226	--	--
	-----	-----	-----
Total.....	\$432,957	\$138,172	\$108,392
	=====	=====	=====

Williams Pipe Line was a participant in an inter-company note between WES and Williams. Terms of the affiliate note required payment on demand; however, Williams had no plans or intentions to demand payment within the next 12 months at any time the note was outstanding. Under WES' cash management practices, Williams Pipe Line shared banking arrangements with other WES subsidiaries. Interest expense charges from Williams to WES were allocated to Williams Pipe Line based on WES subsidiaries inter-company balances. Interest rates varied with current market conditions (7.6% at December 31, 2000, 2.8% at December 31, 2001, and 2.6% at March 31, 2002 (unaudited)). (See Note 1 -- Organization and Presentation for more information about income and expenses associated with Williams Pipe Line operations that will not be conducted by the Partnership).

At December 31, 2000, Williams Pipe Line had an affiliate note payable to Williams. This note was repaid during 2001. Interest was calculated and paid monthly. Interest rates varied with current market conditions (7.6% at December 31, 2000).

Prior to February 9, 2001, the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline business segments of the Partnership were participants in Williams' cash management program. As of December 31, 2000, the affiliate note payable associated with these segments consisted of an unsecured promissory note agreement with Williams for advances from Williams. The advances were due on demand; however, in February 2001, a portion of the advances was refinanced with proceeds from the Partnership's initial public offering and borrowings under the OLP's credit facility (see Note 1). Williams contributed the remaining advances in exchange for equity of the Partnership. Therefore, the affiliate note payable was classified as noncurrent at December 31, 2000.

Prior to the initial public offering, affiliate interest income or expense charged or credited to the petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline operations was calculated at the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") plus a spread based on the outstanding balance of the note receivable or note payable with Williams. The spread was equivalent to the spread above LIBOR rates on Williams' revolving credit facility. The interest rate of the note with Williams was 7.6% at December 31, 2000. As the interest rate on the affiliate note payable was variable, the carrying value of the affiliate note payable at December 31, 2000 approximated its fair value.

During years ending December 31, 1999, 2000, and 2001, cash payments for interest, net of amounts capitalized, were \$13.7 million, \$11.3 million and \$9.3 million, respectively.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

11. LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLAN

In February 2001, the General Partner adopted the Partnership's Long-Term Incentive Plan for Williams' employees who perform services for the Partnership and directors of the General Partner. The Long-Term Incentive Plan consists of two components, restricted units, which are also referred to as phantom units, and unit options. The Long-Term Incentive Plan permits the grant of awards covering an aggregate of 700,000 common units. The Long-Term Incentive Plan is administered by the compensation committee of the General Partner's board of directors.

In April 2001, the General Partner issued grants of 92,500 phantom units to certain key employees associated with the Partnership's initial public offering in February 2001. These one-time initial public offering phantom units will vest over a 34-month period ending on February 9, 2004, and are subject to forfeiture if employment is terminated prior to vesting. These units are subject to early vesting if the Partnership achieves certain performance measures. The Partnership recognized \$0.7 million of compensation expense associated with these grants in 2001. The fair market value of the phantom units associated with this grant was \$2.7 million on the grant date. On February 14, 2002, one-half of these phantom units vested, resulting in additional compensation expense of \$1.0 million to the Partnership (see Note 15 -- Distributions).

In April 2001, the General Partner issued grants of 64,200 phantom units associated with the annual incentive compensation plan. The actual number of units that will be awarded under this grant will be determined by the Partnership on February 9, 2004. At that time, the Partnership will assess whether certain performance criteria have been met and determine the number of units that will be awarded, which could range from zero units up to a total of 128,400 units. These units are also subject to forfeiture if employment is terminated prior to February 9, 2004. These awards do not have an early vesting feature. The Partnership recognized \$1.3 million of deferred compensation expense associated with these awards in 2001. The fair market value of the phantom units associated with this grant was \$5.4 million on December 31, 2001 and \$5.0 million on March 31, 2002 (unaudited).

Certain employees of Williams dedicated to or otherwise supporting the Partnership receive stock-based compensation awards from Williams. Williams has several plans providing for common-stock-based awards to employees and to nonemployee directors. The plans permit the granting of various types of awards including, but not limited to, stock options, stock-appreciation rights, restricted stock and deferred stock. Awards may be granted for no consideration other than prior and future services or based on certain financial performance targets being achieved. The purchase price per share for stock options and the grant price for stock-appreciation rights may not be less than the market price of the underlying stock on the date of grant. Depending upon terms of the respective plans, stock options generally become exercisable in one-third increments each year from the date of the grant or after three or five years, subject to accelerated vesting if certain future Williams' stock prices or specific Williams' financial performance targets are achieved. Stock options expire 10 years after grant.

F-31

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

The following summary reflects activity for options to purchase shares of Williams common stock for 1999, 2000 and 2001 for those employees principally supporting the Partnership operations:

	1999		2000		2001	
	OPTIONS	WEIGHTED-AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE	OPTIONS	WEIGHTED-AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE	OPTIONS	WEIGHTED-AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE
Outstanding -- beginning of year.....	233,374	\$22.22	306,307	\$28.05	371,502	\$31.92
Granted.....	117,494	36.54	82,887	43.16	102,584	34.96
Forfeited.....	--	--	(109)	34.54	(3,000)	30.14
Exercised.....	(44,561)	19.87	(17,583)	17.76	(9,291)	22.59
Outstanding -- ending of year.....	306,307	28.05	371,502	31.91	461,795	32.80
Exercisable at end of year.....	263,470	27.00	328,774	31.59	316,483	31.85

The following summary provides information about outstanding and exercisable Williams' stock options, held by employees principally supporting the partnership's operations, at December 31, 2001:

RANGE OF EXERCISE PRICES	OPTIONS	WEIGHTED-AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE	WEIGHTED-AVERAGE REMAINING CONTRACTUAL LIFE
\$12.22 to \$17.31.....	38,599	\$15.19	4.5 years
\$20.83 to \$30.00.....	102,704	25.14	6.0 years
\$31.56 to \$46.06.....	320,492	37.36	8.1 years
Total.....	461,795	32.79	7.3 years

The estimated fair value at the date of grant of options for Williams' common stock granted in 1999, 2000 and 2001, using the Black-Scholes option pricing model, is as follows:

	1999	2000	2001
Weighted-average grant date fair value of options for Williams' common stock granted during the year.....	\$11.90	\$15.44	\$11.08
Assumptions:			
Dividend yield.....	1.5%	1.5%	1.9%
Volatility.....	28.0%	31.0%	34.5%

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Risk-free interest rate.....	5.6%	6.5%	4.8%
Expected life (years).....	5.0	5.0	5.0

Pro forma net income, assuming the Partnership had applied the fair-value method of SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation" in measuring compensation costs beginning with 1999 employee stock-based awards, are as follows (in thousands, except per unit amounts):

	1999		2000		2001	
	PRO FORMA	REPORTED	PRO FORMA	REPORTED	PRO FORMA	REPORTED
Net income.....	\$54,171	\$55,099	\$48,167	\$48,902	\$67,710	\$67,872
Net income per limited partner unit.....					\$ 1.86	\$ 1.87

F-32

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Pro forma amounts for 1999 include the remaining total compensation expense from Williams' awards made in 1998 and the total compensation expense from Williams' awards made in 1999 as a result of the accelerated vesting provisions. Since compensation expense from stock options is recognized over the future years' vesting period for pro forma disclosure purposes, and additional awards generally are made each year, pro forma amounts may not be representative of future years' amounts. Pro forma amounts for 2000 include the total compensation expense from the awards made in 2000, as these awards fully vested in 2000 as a result of the accelerated vesting provisions.

12. SEGMENT DISCLOSURES

Management evaluates performance based upon segment profit or loss from operations, which includes revenues from affiliate and external customers, operating expenses, depreciation and affiliate general and administrative expenses. The accounting policies of the segments are the same as those described in Note 3 -- Summary of Significant Accounting Policies. Affiliate revenues are accounted for as if the sales were to unaffiliated third parties.

The Partnership's reportable segments are strategic business units that offer different products and services. The segments are managed separately because each segment requires different marketing strategies and business knowledge.

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999			
WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM	PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TERMINALS	AMMONIA PIPELINE SYSTEM	TOTAL

(IN THOUSANDS)

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Revenues:				
Third party customers.....	\$235,273	\$ 25,330	\$12,139	\$272,742
Affiliate customers.....	96,071	6,919	--	102,990
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	\$331,344	\$ 32,249	\$12,139	\$375,732
Operating expenses.....	102,964	15,108	3,527	121,599
Product purchases.....	59,230	--	--	59,230
Affiliate construction expenses.....	15,464	--	--	15,464
Depreciation and amortization.....	21,060	3,969	641	25,670
Affiliate general and administrative expenses.....	41,604	3,915	1,543	47,062
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Segment profit.....	\$ 91,022	\$ 9,257	\$ 6,428	\$106,707
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total assets.....	\$690,600	\$261,425	\$21,914	\$973,939
Additions to long-lived assets.....	\$ 40,173	\$227,234	\$ 384	\$267,791

F-33

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

	WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM	PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TERMINALS	AMMONIA PIPELINE SYSTEM	TOTAL
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS)			
Revenues:				
Third party customers.....	\$255,389	\$ 43,367	\$11,710	\$ 310,466
Affiliate customers.....	98,965	17,415	--	116,380
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	\$354,354	\$ 60,782	\$11,710	\$ 426,846
Operating expenses.....	111,410	29,496	3,993	144,899
Product purchases.....	94,141	--	--	94,141
Affiliate construction expenses.....	1,025	--	--	1,025
Depreciation and amortization.....	22,413	8,688	645	31,746
General and administrative expenses.....	39,243	10,351	1,612	51,206
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Segment profit.....	\$ 86,122	\$ 12,247	\$ 5,460	\$ 103,829
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total assets.....	\$731,654	\$296,819	\$21,686	\$1,050,159
Additions to long-lived assets.....	\$ 32,697	\$ 41,348	\$ 401	\$ 74,446

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001

	WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM	PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TERMINALS	AMMONIA PIPELINE SYSTEM	TOTAL
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS)			
Revenues:				

Revenues:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Third party customers.....	\$284,174	\$ 55,611	\$14,544	\$ 354,329
Affiliate customers.....	78,371	15,899	--	94,270
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	\$362,545	\$ 71,510	\$14,544	\$ 448,599
Operating expenses.....	123,566	33,270	4,044	160,880
Product purchases.....	95,268	--	--	95,268
Depreciation and amortization.....	24,019	11,099	649	35,767
General and administrative expenses.....	38,410	7,641	1,314	47,365
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Segment profit.....	\$ 81,282	\$ 19,500	\$ 8,537	\$ 109,319
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total assets.....	\$705,115	\$368,409	\$31,035	\$1,104,559
Goodwill.....	\$ --	\$ 22,282	\$ --	\$ 22,282
Additions to long-lived assets.....	\$ 24,232	\$ 64,590	\$ 330	\$ 89,152

F-34

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Non-cash charges for incentive compensation costs, included in 2001 general and administrative expenses, were \$1.7 million for the petroleum products terminal operations and \$0.3 million for the ammonia pipeline operations.

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2001

	WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM	PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TERMINALS	AMMONIA PIPELINE SYSTEM	TOTAL
	(IN THOUSANDS -- UNAUDITED)			
Revenues:				
Third party customers.....	\$70,533	\$13,545	\$2,688	\$ 86,766
Affiliate customers.....	16,857	4,053	--	20,910
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total revenues.....	87,390	17,598	2,688	107,676
Operating expenses.....	29,235	7,177	943	37,355
Product purchases.....	27,844	--	--	27,844
Depreciation and amortization.....	5,935	2,944	162	9,041
Affiliate general and administrative expenses.....	8,295	2,016	267	10,578
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Segment profit.....	\$16,081	\$ 5,461	\$1,316	\$ 22,858
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2002

	WILLIAMS PIPE LINE SYSTEM	PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TERMINALS	AMMONIA PIPELINE SYSTEM	TOTAL
	(IN THOUSANDS -- UNAUDITED)			
Revenues:				
Third party customers.....	\$59,457	\$15,546	\$4,375	\$ 79,378

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Affiliate customers.....	18,969	4,301	--	23,27
Total revenues.....	78,426	19,847	4,375	102,64
Operating expenses.....	24,509	7,412	1,145	33,06
Product purchases.....	18,409	--	--	18,40
Depreciation and amortization.....	6,056	2,744	164	8,96
Affiliate general and administrative expenses.....	10,229	2,677	551	13,45
Segment profit.....	\$19,223	\$ 7,014	\$2,515	\$ 28,75

13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Partnership leases land, tanks and related terminal equipment at the Gibson terminal facility. Minimum future lease payments for these leases as of December 31, 2001, are \$0.1 million for each of the next five years and \$1.7 million thereafter. The lease payments can be canceled after 2006 and include provisions for renewal of the lease at five-year increments which can extend the lease for a total of 25 years.

WES has agreed to indemnify the Partnership against any covered environmental losses, up to \$15.0 million, relating to assets it contributed to the Partnership that arose prior to February 9, 2001, that become known within three years after February 9, 2001, and that exceed all amounts recovered or recoverable by the Partnership under contractual indemnities from third parties or under any applicable insurance policies. Covered environmental losses are those non-contingent terminal and ammonia system environmental losses, costs, damages and expenses suffered or incurred by the Partnership arising from

F-35

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

correction of violations of, or performance of remediation required by, environmental laws in effect at February 9, 2001, due to events and conditions associated with the operation of the assets and occurring before February 9, 2001.

In connection with the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line, WES agreed to indemnify the Partnership for any breach of a representation or warranty that results in losses and damages of up to \$110.0 million after the payment of a \$6.0 million deductible. With respect to any amount exceeding \$110.0 million, WES will be responsible for one-half of that amount up to \$140.0 million. In no event will WES' liability exceed \$125.0 million. These indemnification obligations will survive for one year, except that those relating to employees and employee benefits will survive for the applicable statute of limitations and those relating to real property, including title to WES' assets, will survive for ten years. This indemnity also provides that the Partnership will be indemnified for an unlimited amount of losses and damages related to tax liabilities. In addition, any losses and damages related to environmental liabilities that arose prior to the acquisition will be subject only to a \$2.0 million deductible.

Estimated liabilities for environmental remediation costs were \$14.1 million, \$16.9 million and \$16.8 million at December 31, 2000 and 2001 and March 31, 2002 (unaudited), respectively. Management estimates that expenditures associated with the accrued environmental remediation liabilities will be paid over the next two to five years. Receivables associated with these environmental liabilities of \$0.3 million, \$5.1 million and \$5.1 million at December 31, 2000 and 2001 and March 31, 2002 (unaudited), respectively, have been recognized as

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

recoverable from affiliates and third parties. These estimates, provided on an undiscounted basis, were determined based primarily on data provided by a third-party environmental evaluation service. These liabilities have been classified as current or non-current based on management's estimates regarding the timing of actual payments. (See Note 1 -- Organization and Presentation for more information about liabilities associated with Williams Pipe Line operations that were conveyed to and assumed by an affiliate of Williams prior to the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line by the Partnership).

In conjunction with the 1999 acquisition of the Gulf Coast marine terminals from Hess, Hess has disclosed to the Partnership all suits, actions, claims, arbitrations, administrative, governmental investigation or other legal proceedings pending or threatened, against or related to the assets acquired by the Partnership, which arise under environmental law. Hess agreed to indemnify the Partnership through July 30, 2014 against all known and required environmental remediation costs at the Corpus Christi and Galena Park, Texas marine terminal facilities from any matters related to pre-acquisition actions. In the event that any pre-acquisition releases of hazardous substances at the Partnership's Corpus Christi and Galena Park and Marrero, Louisiana marine terminal facilities are identified by the Partnership prior to July 30, 2004, the Partnership will be liable for the first \$2.5 million of environmental liabilities, Hess will be liable for the next \$12.5 million of losses, and the Partnership will assume responsibility for any losses in excess of \$15.0 million. Hess has indemnified the Partnership for a variety of pre-acquisition fines and claims that may be imposed or asserted against the Partnership under certain environmental laws. At December 31, 2001, December 31, 2000 and March 31, 2002 (unaudited), the Partnership had accrued \$0.6 million for costs that may not be recoverable under Hess' indemnification.

During 2001, the Partnership recorded an environmental liability of \$2.6 million at its New Haven, Connecticut facility, which was acquired in September 2000. This liability was based on third-party environmental engineering estimates completed as part of a Phase II environmental assessment, routinely required by the State of Connecticut to be conducted by the purchaser following the acquisition of a petroleum storage facility. The Partnership will complete a Phase III environmental assessment at this facility during the second or third quarter of 2002, and the environmental liability could change materially based on this more thorough analysis. The seller of these assets agreed to indemnify the Partnership for certain of these environmental liabilities. In addition, the Partnership purchased insurance for up to

F-36

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

\$25.0 million of environmental liabilities associated with these assets, which carries a deductible of \$0.3 million.

WNGL will indemnify the Partnership for right-of-way defects or failures in the Partnership's ammonia pipeline easements for 15 years after the initial public offering closing date. WES has also indemnified the Partnership for right-of-way defects or failures associated with the marine terminal facilities at Galena Park and Corpus Christi, Texas and Marrero, Louisiana for 15 years after the initial public offering closing date. In addition, WES has indemnified the Partnership for right-of-way defects or failures in Williams Pipe Line's easements for 10 years after the closing date of its acquisition by the Partnership up to a maximum of \$125.0 million with a deductible of \$6.0 million. This \$125.0 million amount will also be subject to indemnification claims made by the Partnership for breaches of other representations and warranties.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

The Partnership is party to various other claims, legal actions and complaints arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate resolution of all claims, legal actions and complaints after consideration of amounts accrued, insurance coverage or other indemnification arrangements will not have a material adverse effect upon the Partnership's future financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

14. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (UNAUDITED)

Summarized quarterly financial data is as follows (in thousands, except per unit amounts).

	FIRST QUARTER -----	SECOND QUARTER -----	THIRD QUARTER -----	FOURTH QUARTER -----
2000				
Revenues.....	\$ 94,819	\$104,532	\$ 99,900	\$127,595
Total costs and expenses.....	66,987	74,013	73,465	108,552
Net income.....	13,170	14,681	13,440	7,611
2001				
Revenues.....	\$107,676	\$108,890	\$118,201	\$113,832
Total costs and expenses.....	84,818	75,376	89,871	89,215
Net income.....	13,053	22,887	18,150	13,782
Basic and diluted net income per limited partner unit.....	0.31	0.64	0.49	0.42

Basic and diluted net income for the first quarter of 2001 is calculated on the Limited Partners' interest in net income applicable for the period after February 9, 2001, through the end of the quarter. Revenues and expenses in 2001 were impacted by the acquisition of two terminals from TransMontaigne in June 2001 and the Gibson terminal from Geonet in October 2001. See Note 4 -- Acquisitions. First quarter 2001 costs and expenses included \$0.9 million of casualty losses. Second quarter 2001 revenues were impacted by a \$1.0 million throughput deficiency billing to an ammonia pipeline customer. Operating expenses included a \$0.8 million reduction of environmental expense associated with insurance settlement and net income included a \$0.9 million gain on the sale of the Aurora, Ohio terminal. Fourth quarter 2001 net income included a gain of \$1.1 million on the sale of the Meridian, Mississippi terminal. Interest expense for 2001 reflects the payment and forgiveness of the predecessor company's affiliate debt and new borrowings by the Partnership. Net income was also impacted by incentive compensation costs of \$2.0 million during 2001.

Revenues and costs and expenses in 2000 were impacted by the Southlake terminal acquisition in March 2000 and the marine terminal acquisition from Wyatt in September 2000. A throughput revenue

F-37

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

deficiency billing related to the August 1999 acquisition of certain assets from Hess resulted in adjustments to revenues of \$0.7 million impacting the first and second quarters of 2000. Second quarter 2000 expenses included a \$0.5 million charge from the write-off of an unsuccessful business transaction and a \$0.5 million charge for legal costs. Third quarter 2000 costs and expenses included a \$1.5 million environmental accrual. Fourth quarter 2000 costs and expenses

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

included an increase in product purchases of \$25.0 million due to increased product prices, \$4.4 million of environmental charges, \$1.9 million for casualty losses and a \$1.0 million charge associated with a customer dispute settlement.

15. DISTRIBUTIONS

On May 15, 2001, the Partnership paid cash distributions of \$0.292 per unit on its outstanding common and subordinated units to unitholders of record at the close of business on May 1, 2001. This distribution represented the minimum quarterly distribution for the 50-day period following the initial public offering closing date, which included February 10, 2001 through March 31, 2001. The total distributions paid were \$3.4 million.

On August 14, 2001, the Partnership paid cash distributions of \$0.5625 per unit on its outstanding common and subordinated units to unitholders of record at the close of business on August 2, 2001. The total distributions paid were \$6.5 million.

On November 14, 2001, the Partnership paid cash distributions of \$0.5775 per unit on its outstanding common and subordinated units to unitholders of record at the close of business on November 1, 2001. The total distributions paid were \$6.7 million.

Total distributions paid during 2001 were as follows (in thousands except per unit amounts):

	AMOUNT PER UNIT	DISTRIBUTION AMOUNT
	-----	-----
Common Unitholders.....	\$1.43	\$ 8,134
Subordinated Unitholders.....	\$1.43	8,134
General Partner.....	\$1.43	331

Total.....		\$16,599
		=====

On February 14, 2002, the Partnership paid cash distributions of \$0.59 per unit on its outstanding common and subordinated units to unitholders of record at the close of business on February 1, 2002. The total distribution, including distributions paid to the general partner on its equivalent units, was \$6.9 million.

With the payment of the \$0.59 per unit distribution on February 14, 2002, the first early vesting performance measure of the one-time initial public offering grants to key employees was achieved, and 46,250 units associated with this grant vested on that date. The Partnership recognized additional compensation expense of \$1.0 million with the vesting of these units in February 2002.

The General Partner declared a cash distribution of \$0.6125 on April 22, 2002 to be paid on May 15, 2002 to unitholders of record at the close of business on May 2, 2002. The total distribution to be paid, including the general partner's incentive distributions will be \$7.2 million (unaudited).

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

16. NET INCOME PER UNIT

The following table provides details of the basic and diluted earnings per unit computations (in thousands, except per unit amounts):

	FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2001		
	INCOME (NUMERATOR)	UNITS (DENOMINATOR)	PER UNIT AMOUNT
	-----	-----	-----
Limited partners' interest in income applicable to the period after February 9, 2001.....	\$21,217		
Basic net income per common and subordinated unit.....	\$21,217	11,359	\$1.87
Effect of dilutive restricted unit grants.....	--	11	--
	-----	-----	-----
Diluted earnings per common and subordinated unit.....	\$21,217	11,370	\$1.87
	=====	=====	=====
	FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2002		
	INCOME (NUMERATOR)	UNITS (DENOMINATOR)	PER UNIT AMOUNT
	-----	-----	-----
Limited partners' interest in net income.....	\$ 8,265		
Basic net income per common and subordinated unit.....	\$ 8,265	11,359	\$0.73
Effect of dilutive restricted unit grants.....	--	48	(0.01)
	-----	-----	-----
Diluted net income per common and subordinated unit.....	\$ 8,265	11,407	\$0.72
	=====	=====	=====

Units reported as dilutive securities are related to restricted unit grants associated with the one-time initial public offering award (see Note 11).

17. PARTNERS' CAPITAL

Of the 5,679,694 common units outstanding at December 31, 2001, 4,600,000 are held by the public, with the remaining 1,079,694 held by affiliates of the Partnership. All of the 5,679,694 subordinated units are held by affiliates of the Partnership.

During the subordination period, as defined in the Partnership's partnership agreement, the Partnership can issue up to 2,839,847 additional common units without obtaining unitholder approval. In addition, the General Partner can issue an unlimited number of common units as follows:

- Upon conversion of the subordinated units;
- Under employee benefit plans;

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- Upon conversion of the general partner interest and incentive distribution rights as a result of a withdrawal of the General Partner;
- In the event of a combination or subdivision of common units;
- In connection with an acquisition or a capital improvement that increases cash flow from operations per unit on a pro forma basis; or
- If the proceeds of the issuance are used exclusively to repay up to \$40.0 million of the Partnership's indebtedness.

The subordination period will end when the Partnership meets certain financial tests provided for in the partnership agreement but it generally cannot end before December 31, 2005.

F-39

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

NOTES TO RESTATED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

The limited partners holding common units of the Partnership have the following rights, among others:

- Right to receive distributions of the Partnership's available cash within 45 days after the end of each quarter;
- Right to transfer common unit ownership to substitute limited partners;
- Right to receive an annual report, containing audited financial statements and a report on those financial statements by the Partnership's independent public accountants within 120 days after the close of the fiscal year end;
- Right to receive information reasonably required for tax reporting purposes within 90 days after the close of the calendar year;
- Right to vote according to the limited partners' percentage interest in the Partnership on any meeting that may be called by the General Partner. However, if any person or group other than the General Partner and its affiliates acquires beneficial ownership of 20% or more of any class of units, that group or person loses voting rights on all of its units; and
- Right to inspect the Partnership's books and records at the unitholders' own expense.

Net income, excluding amounts attributable to Williams Pipe Line, is allocated to the General Partner and limited partners based on their proportionate share of cash distributions for the period. Cash distributions to the General Partner and limited partners are made based on the following table:

ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION AMOUNT (PER UNIT)	PERCENTAGE OF DISTRIBUTIONS	
	UNITHOLDERS	GENERAL PARTNER
Up to \$2.31.....	98	2
Above \$2.31 up to \$2.62.....	85	15
Above \$2.62 up to \$3.15.....	75	25

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Above \$3.15.....

50

50

In the event of a liquidation, all property and cash in excess of that required to discharge all liabilities will be distributed to the partners in proportion to the positive balances in their respective tax-basis capital accounts.

18. REGISTRATION STATEMENT

In March 2002, the Partnership filed a shelf registration statement to register \$1.8 billion of common units representing limited partner interests and debt securities, including guarantees. The Partnership, exclusive of its investment in its wholly owned operating limited partnerships and subsidiaries, has no independent assets or operations. If a series of debt securities is guaranteed, such series will be guaranteed by all of the Partnership's subsidiaries on a full and unconditional and joint and several basis.

F-40

PROSPECTUS

\$1,800,000,000

WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P.

COMMON UNITS
DEBT SECURITIES

GUARANTEES OF DEBT SECURITIES OF WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L.P. BY:

- WILLIAMS GP INC.
- WILLIAMS OLP, L.P.
- WILLIAMS PIPE LINE COMPANY, LLC
- WILLIAMS NGL, LLC
- WILLIAMS PIPELINES HOLDINGS, L.P.
- WILLIAMS TERMINALS HOLDINGS, L.P.
- WILLIAMS AMMONIA PIPELINE, L.P.
- WILLIAMS FRACTIONATION HOLDINGS, L.P.

We may from time to time offer and sell common units and debt securities that may be fully and unconditionally guaranteed by our subsidiaries, Williams GP Inc., Williams OLP, L.P., Williams Pipe Line Company, LLC, Williams NGL, LLC, Williams Pipelines Holdings, L.P., Williams Terminals Holdings, L.P., Williams Ammonia Pipeline, L.P. and Williams Fractionation Holdings, L.P. This prospectus describes the general terms of these securities and the general manner in which we will offer the securities. The specific terms of any securities we offer will be included in a supplement to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will also describe the specific manner in which we will offer the securities.

The New York Stock Exchange has listed our common units under the symbol "WEG." Our address is One Williams Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74172, and our telephone number is (918) 573-2000.

LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS ARE INHERENTLY DIFFERENT FROM CORPORATIONS. YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE RISK FACTORS BEGINNING ON PAGE 2 OF THIS PROSPECTUS BEFORE YOU MAKE AN INVESTMENT IN OUR SECURITIES.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus is May 16, 2002.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS.....	1
ABOUT WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS.....	1
THE SUBSIDIARY GUARANTORS.....	1
RISK FACTORS.....	2
Risks Related to our Business.....	2
Risks Related to our Partnership Structure.....	5
Tax Risks to Common Unitholders.....	8
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION.....	10
FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND ASSOCIATED RISKS.....	11
USE OF PROCEEDS.....	12
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES.....	12
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES.....	13
General.....	13
Covenants.....	15
Events of Default, Remedies and Notice.....	15
Amendments and Waivers.....	17
Defeasance.....	19
No Personal Liability of General Partner.....	19
Subordination.....	20
Book Entry, Delivery and Form.....	21
The Trustee.....	22
Governing Law.....	22
DESCRIPTION OF OUR CLASS B UNITS.....	23
CASH DISTRIBUTIONS.....	24
Distributions of Available Cash.....	24
Operating Surplus, Capital Surplus and Adjusted Operating Surplus.....	24
Subordination Period.....	25
Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus During the Subordination Period.....	26
Distributions of Available Cash from Operating Surplus After the Subordination Period.....	27
Incentive Distribution Rights.....	27
Percentage Allocations of Available Cash from Operating Surplus.....	27
Distributions from Capital Surplus.....	28
Adjustment to the Minimum Quarterly Distribution and Target Distribution Levels.....	28
Distributions of Cash Upon Liquidation.....	29
MATERIAL TAX CONSEQUENCES.....	32
Partnership Status.....	32
Limited Partner Status.....	34
Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership.....	34
Tax Treatment of Operations.....	38
Disposition of Common Units.....	39
Uniformity of Units.....	41
Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors.....	42
Administrative Matters.....	42

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

State, Local and Other Tax Considerations.....	44
Tax Consequences of Ownership of Debt Securities.....	45
INVESTMENT IN US BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS.....	46
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION.....	47
LEGAL.....	47
EXPERTS.....	47

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference. We have not authorized anyone else to give you different information. We are not offering these securities in any state where they do not permit the offer. We will disclose any material changes in our affairs in an amendment to this prospectus, a prospectus supplement or a future filing with the SEC incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

(i)

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell up to \$1.8 billion in aggregate offering price of the common units or debt securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus generally describes us and the common units, debt securities and the guarantees of the debt securities. Each time we sell common units or debt securities with this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add to, update or change information in this prospectus. The information in this prospectus is accurate as of May 15, 2002. You should carefully read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement and the additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information."

ABOUT WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS

We were formed by The Williams Companies, Inc. in August 2000 to own, operate and acquire a diversified portfolio of complementary energy assets. We are principally engaged in the transportation, storage and distribution of refined petroleum products and ammonia. Williams GP LLC serves as our general partner and is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of The Williams Companies, Inc.

As used in this prospectus, "we," "us," "our" and "Williams Energy Partners" mean Williams Energy Partners L.P. and, where the context requires, include our operating subsidiaries.

THE SUBSIDIARY GUARANTORS

Williams GP Inc., Williams OLP, L.P., Williams Pipe Line Company, LLC, Williams NGL, LLC, Williams Pipelines Holdings, L.P., Williams Terminals Holdings, L.P., Williams Ammonia Pipeline, L.P. and Williams Fractionation Holdings, L.P. are our only subsidiaries as of the date of this prospectus. Williams GP Inc. and Williams Pipe Line Company, LLC are wholly owned subsidiaries of Williams Energy Partners L.P. Williams GP Inc. owns a 0.001% general partner interest and Williams Energy Partners, L.P. owns a 99.999% limited partner interest in Williams OLP, L.P. Williams OLP, L.P. owns all of the membership interests in Williams NGL LLC and a 99.999% limited partner interest in each of Williams Pipelines Holdings, L.P., Williams Terminals

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Holdings, L.P., Williams Ammonia Pipeline, L.P. and Williams Fractionation Holdings, L.P. Williams NGL, LLC owns a 0.001% general partner interest in each of these four partnerships. We sometimes refer to Williams GP Inc., Williams OLP, L.P., Williams NGL, LLC, Williams Pipelines Holdings, L.P., Williams Terminals Holdings, L.P., Williams Ammonia Pipeline, L.P. and Williams Fractionation Holdings, L.P. in this prospectus as the "Subsidiary Guarantors." The Subsidiary Guarantors may jointly and severally and unconditionally guarantee our payment obligations under any series of debt securities offered by this prospectus, as set forth in a related prospectus supplement.

1

RISK FACTORS

Limited partner interests are inherently different from capital stock of a corporation, although many of the business risks to which we are subject are similar to those that would be faced by a corporation engaged in a similar business. You should carefully consider the following risk factors together with all of the other information included in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference into this document in evaluating an investment in the common units.

If any of the following risks were actually to occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In that case, the trading price of our common units could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment.

RISKS RELATED TO OUR BUSINESS

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GENERATE SUFFICIENT CASH FROM OPERATIONS TO ALLOW US TO PAY THE MINIMUM QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTION FOLLOWING ESTABLISHMENT OF CASH RESERVES AND PAYMENT OF FEES AND EXPENSES, INCLUDING PAYMENTS TO OUR GENERAL PARTNER.

The amount of cash we can distribute on our common units principally depends upon the cash we generate from our operations. Because the cash we generate from operations will fluctuate from quarter to quarter, we may not be able to pay the minimum quarterly distribution for each quarter. Our ability to pay the minimum quarterly distribution each quarter depends primarily on cash flow, including cash flow from financial reserves and working capital borrowings, and not solely on profitability, which is affected by non-cash items. As a result, we may make cash distributions during periods when we record losses and may not make cash distributions during periods when we record net income.

POTENTIAL FUTURE ACQUISITIONS AND EXPANSIONS, IF ANY, MAY AFFECT OUR BUSINESS BY SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASING THE LEVEL OF OUR INDEBTEDNESS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND INCREASING OUR RISKS OF BEING UNABLE TO EFFECTIVELY INTEGRATE THESE NEW OPERATIONS.

From time to time, we evaluate and acquire assets and businesses that we believe complement our existing assets and businesses. Acquisitions may require substantial capital or the incurrence of substantial indebtedness. If we consummate any future acquisitions, our capitalization and results of operations may change significantly, and you will not have the opportunity to evaluate the economic, financial and other relevant information that we will consider in determining the application of these funds and other resources.

Acquisitions and business expansions involve numerous risks, including difficulties in the assimilation of the assets and operations of the acquired businesses, inefficiencies and difficulties that arise because of unfamiliarity with new assets and the businesses associated with them and new geographic areas

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

and the diversion of management's attention from other business concerns. Further, unexpected costs and challenges may arise whenever businesses with different operations or management are combined, and we may experience unanticipated delays in realizing the benefits of an acquisition. Following an acquisition, we may discover previously unknown liabilities associated with the acquired business for which we have no recourse under applicable indemnification provisions.

OUR FINANCIAL RESULTS DEPEND ON THE DEMAND FOR THE REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS THAT WE STORE AND DISTRIBUTE.

Any sustained decrease in demand for refined petroleum products in the markets served by our terminals could result in a significant reduction in the volume of products that we store at our marine terminal facilities and in the throughput in our inland terminals, and therefore reduce our cash flow and our ability to pay cash distributions to you. Factors that could lead to a decrease in market demand include:

- an increase in the market price of crude oil that leads to higher refined product prices, which may reduce demand for gasoline and other petroleum products. Market prices for refined petroleum

2

products are subject to wide fluctuation in response to changes in global and regional supply over which we have no control;

- a recession or other adverse economic condition that results in lower spending by consumers and businesses on transportation fuels such as gasoline, jet fuel and diesel;
- higher fuel taxes or other governmental or regulatory actions that increase the cost of gasoline;
- an increase in fuel economy, whether as a result of a shift by consumers to more fuel-efficient vehicles or technological advances by manufacturers; and
- the increased use of alternative fuel sources, such as fuel cells and solar, electric and battery-powered engines. Several state and federal initiatives mandate this increased use.

WHEN PRICES FOR THE FUTURE DELIVERY OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS THAT WE STORE IN OUR MARINE TERMINALS FALL BELOW CURRENT PRICES, CUSTOMERS ARE LESS LIKELY TO STORE THESE PRODUCTS, THEREBY REDUCING OUR STORAGE REVENUES.

This market condition is commonly referred to as "backwardation." When the petroleum product market is in backwardation, the demand for storage capacity at our marine terminal facilities may decrease. The forward pricing market for petroleum products moved to backwardation in the second quarter of 1999 and continued for a majority of 2000. This market condition contributed to reduced storage revenues in 1999 and 2000. In 2001, the forward pricing market remained backwardated during the first half of the year, reversing during the latter half of 2001. If this market becomes strongly backwardated for an extended period of time, it may affect our ability to pay cash distributions to you.

WE DEPEND ON PETROLEUM PRODUCT PIPELINES OWNED AND OPERATED BY OTHERS TO SUPPLY OUR TERMINALS.

Most of our inland and marine terminal facilities depend on connections with petroleum product pipelines owned and operated by third parties. Reduced

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

throughput on these pipelines because of testing, line repair, damage to pipelines, reduced operating pressures or other causes could result in our being unable to deliver products to our customers from our terminals or receive products for storage and could adversely affect our ability to pay cash distributions to you.

COLLECTIVELY, OUR AFFILIATES WILLIAMS ENERGY MARKETING & TRADING COMPANY AND WILLIAMS REFINING & MARKETING, L.L.C. ARE OUR LARGEST CUSTOMER, AND ANY REDUCTION IN THEIR USE OF OUR TERMINAL FACILITIES COULD REDUCE OUR ABILITY TO PAY CASH DISTRIBUTIONS TO YOU.

For the year ended December 31, 2001, our affiliates Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing collectively accounted for approximately 21.0 percent of our combined historical revenues. If Williams Energy Marketing & Trading and Williams Refining & Marketing were to decrease the throughput volume they allocate to our terminals for any reason, we could experience difficulty in replacing those lost volumes. Because our operating costs are primarily fixed, a reduction in throughput would result in not only a reduction of revenues, but also a decline in net income and cash flow of a similar magnitude, which would reduce our ability to pay cash distributions to you. Either Williams Energy Marketing & Trading or Williams Refining & Marketing could reduce the volume of throughput it allocates to us because of market conditions or because of factors that specifically affect Williams Energy Marketing & Trading or Williams Refining & Marketing, including a decrease in demand for products in the markets served by our terminals or a loss of customers in those markets.

OUR AMMONIA PIPELINE AND TERMINALS SYSTEM IS DEPENDENT ON THREE CUSTOMERS.

Three customers ship all of the ammonia on our pipeline and utilize the six terminals that we own and operate on the pipeline. We have contracts with Farmland Industries, Inc., Agrium U.S. Inc. and Terra Nitrogen, L.P. through June 2005 that obligate them to ship-or-pay for specified minimum quantities of ammonia. Two of these customers have credit ratings below investment grade. The loss of any one of these three customers or their failure or inability to pay us would adversely affect our ability to pay cash distributions to you.

3

HIGH NATURAL GAS PRICES CAN INCREASE AMMONIA PRODUCTION COSTS AND REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF AMMONIA TRANSPORTED THROUGH OUR AMMONIA PIPELINE AND TERMINALS SYSTEM.

The profitability of our customers that produce ammonia partially depends on the price of natural gas, which is the principal raw material used in the production of ammonia. From 1999 through the first half of 2001, natural gas prices were substantially higher than historical averages. As a result, our customers substantially curtailed their production of ammonia and shipped lower volumes of ammonia on our pipeline. Because of this, our ammonia business realized reduced revenues and cash flows in 1999, 2000 and the first six months of 2001. Our ammonia pipeline and terminals system revenues increased during the second half of 2001, when high natural gas prices returned to lower historical levels. An extended period of high natural gas prices may cause our customers to produce and ship lower volumes of ammonia, which could adversely affect our ability to pay cash distributions to you.

CHANGES IN OR CHALLENGES TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S POLICY REGARDING FARM SUBSIDIES COULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT THE DEMAND FOR AMMONIA AND RESULT IN DECREASED SHIPMENTS THROUGH OUR AMMONIA PIPELINE AND TERMINALS SYSTEM.

Our customers who ship ammonia through our pipeline primarily sell the ammonia to corn farmers in the Midwest. The recently enacted 2002 Farm Bill continues the Freedom to Farm Program that provides incentives to farmers to

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

grow corn that has resulted in large corn crops over the last few years. In addition, the bill provides for a target-price program and loan-price supports for corn farmers. This legislation extends to September 2007. If this legislation is revised, terminated or successfully attacked by foreign governments that allege it violates the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, it could reduce farmers' incentive to grow corn and reduce the demand for the ammonia used to fertilize corn crops. In addition, the federal government and state governments have been providing tax credits related to the production of ethanol, for which corn is the essential element. If these tax incentives are reduced or repealed, the demand for ammonia would be reduced and our customers might reduce the volumes transported through our pipeline.

OUR MARINE AND INLAND TERMINALS ENCOUNTER COMPETITION FROM OTHER TERMINAL COMPANIES AND OUR AMMONIA PIPELINE AND TERMINALS SYSTEM ENCOUNTERS COMPETITION FROM RAIL CARRIERS AND ANOTHER AMMONIA PIPELINE.

Our marine and inland terminals face competition from large, generally well-financed companies that own many terminals, as well as from small companies. Our marine and inland terminals also encounter competition from integrated refining and marketing companies that own their own terminal facilities. Our customers demand delivery of products on tight time schedules and in a number of geographic markets. If our quality of service declines or we cannot meet the demands of our customers, they may use our competitors.

We compete primarily with rail carriers for the transportation of ammonia. If our customers elect to transport ammonia by rail rather than pipeline, we may realize lower revenues and cash flows and our ability to pay cash distributions may be adversely affected. Our ammonia pipeline also competes with the Koch Pipeline Company LP ammonia pipeline in Iowa and Nebraska.

OUR BUSINESS IS SUBJECT TO FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND OPERATIONAL SAFETY ASPECTS OF OUR OPERATIONS.

Our marine and inland terminal facilities and ammonia pipeline and terminals system are subject to the risk of incurring substantial costs and liabilities under environmental and safety laws. These costs and liabilities arise under increasingly strict environmental and safety laws, including regulations and governmental enforcement policies, and as a result of claims for damages to property or persons arising from our operations. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may result in assessment of administrative, civil and criminal penalties, imposition of cleanup and site restoration costs and liens and, to a lesser extent, issuance of injunctions to limit or cease operations. If we were unable to recover these costs through increased revenues, our ability to pay cash distributions to you could be adversely affected.

4

We own a number of properties that have been used for many years to distribute or store petroleum products by third parties not under our control. In some cases, owners, tenants or users of these properties have disposed of or released hydrocarbons or solid wastes on or under these properties. In addition, some of our terminals are located on or near current or former refining and terminal operations, and there is a risk that contamination is present on these sites. The transportation of ammonia by our pipeline is hazardous and may result in environmental damage, including accidental releases that may cause death or injuries to humans and farm animals and damage to crops.

TERRORIST ATTACKS AIMED AT OUR FACILITIES COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR BUSINESS.

On September 11, 2001, the United States was the target of terrorist attacks of unprecedented scale. Since the September 11 attacks, the U.S.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

government has issued warnings that energy assets, specifically our nation's pipeline infrastructure, may be the future target of terrorist organizations. These developments have subjected our operations to increased risks. Any future terrorist attack on our facilities, those of our customers and, in some cases, those of other pipelines, could have a material adverse effect on our business.

OUR BUSINESS INVOLVES MANY HAZARDS AND OPERATIONAL RISKS, SOME OF WHICH MAY NOT BE COVERED BY INSURANCE.

Our operations are subject to the many hazards inherent in the transportation of refined petroleum products and ammonia, including ruptures, leaks and fires. These risks could result in substantial losses due to personal injury or loss of life, severe damage to and destruction of property and equipment and pollution or other environmental damage and may result in curtailment or suspension of our related operations. We are not fully insured against all risks incident to our business. In addition, as a result of market conditions, premiums and deductibles for some of our insurance policies have increased substantially and could escalate further. In some instances, insurance could become unavailable or available only for reduced amounts of coverage. For example, insurance carriers are now requiring broad exclusions for losses due to war risk and terrorist and sabotage acts. If a significant accident or event occurs that is not fully insured, it could adversely affect our financial position or results of operations.

RISKS RELATED TO OUR PARTNERSHIP STRUCTURE

WE ARE A HOLDING COMPANY AND DEPEND ENTIRELY ON OUR OPERATING SUBSIDIARIES' DISTRIBUTIONS TO SERVICE OUR DEBT OBLIGATIONS.

We are a holding company with no material operations. If we cannot receive cash distributions from our operating subsidiaries, we will not be able to meet our debt service obligations. Our operating subsidiaries may from time to time incur additional indebtedness under agreements that contain restrictions which could further limit each operating subsidiary's ability to make distributions to us.

The debt securities we issue and any guarantees issued by the subsidiary guarantors will be structurally subordinated to the claims of the creditors of any of our operating subsidiaries who are not guarantors of the debt securities. Holders of the debt securities will not be creditors of our operating subsidiaries who have not guaranteed the debt securities. The claims to the assets of these non-guarantor operating subsidiaries derive from our own ownership interests in those operating subsidiaries. Claims of our non-guarantor operating subsidiaries' creditors will generally have priority as to the assets of such operating subsidiaries over our own ownership interest claims and will therefore have priority over the holders of our debt, including the debt securities. Our non-guarantor operating subsidiaries' creditors may include:

- general creditors;
- trade creditors;
- secured creditors;

5

- taxing authorities; and
- creditors holding guarantees.

COST REIMBURSEMENTS DUE OUR GENERAL PARTNER MAY BE SUBSTANTIAL AND WILL REDUCE

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

OUR CASH AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION TO YOU.

Prior to making any distribution on the common units, we will reimburse the general partner and its affiliates, including officers and directors of our general partner, for expenses they incur on our behalf. The reimbursement of expenses could adversely affect our ability to pay cash distributions to you. Our general partner has sole discretion to determine the amount of these expenses, subject to an annual limit. In addition, our general partner and its affiliates may provide us other services for which we will be charged fees as determined by our general partner.

OUR GENERAL PARTNER AND ITS AFFILIATES MAY HAVE CONFLICTS WITH OUR PARTNERSHIP.

The directors and officers of our general partner and its affiliates have duties to manage the general partner in a manner that is beneficial to its members. At the same time, the general partner has duties to manage us in a manner that is beneficial to us. Therefore, the general partner's duties to us may conflict with the duties of its officers and directors to its members.

Such conflicts may include, among others, the following:

- decisions of our general partner regarding the amount and timing of cash expenditures, borrowings and issuances of additional limited partnership units or other securities can affect the amount of incentive compensation payments we make to our general partner;
- under our partnership agreement we reimburse the general partner for the costs of managing and operating us; and
- under our partnership agreement, it is not a breach of our general partner's fiduciary duties for affiliates of our general partner to engage in activities that compete with us.

UNITHOLDERS HAVE LIMITED VOTING RIGHTS AND CONTROL OF MANAGEMENT.

Our general partner manages and controls our activities and the activities of our operating partnerships. Unitholders have no right to elect the general partner or the directors of the general partner on an annual or other ongoing basis. However, if the general partner resigns or is removed, its successor may be elected by holders of a majority of the limited partnership units. Unitholders may remove the general partner only by a vote of the holders of at least 66 2/3% of the common units. As a result, unitholders will have limited influence on matters affecting our operations, and third parties may find it difficult to gain control of us or influence our actions.

OUR GENERAL PARTNER'S ABSOLUTE DISCRETION IN DETERMINING THE LEVEL OF CASH RESERVES MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR ABILITY TO MAKE CASH DISTRIBUTIONS TO OUR UNITHOLDERS.

Our partnership agreement requires our general partner to deduct from operating surplus cash reserves that in its reasonable discretion are necessary to fund our future operating expenditures. In addition, the partnership agreement permits our general partner to reduce available cash by establishing cash reserves for the proper conduct of our business, to comply with applicable law or agreements to which we are a party or to provide funds for future distributions to partners. These cash reserves will affect the amount of cash available for distribution to our unitholders.

WE MAY ISSUE ADDITIONAL COMMON UNITS WITHOUT YOUR APPROVAL, WHICH WOULD DILUTE

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

YOUR EXISTING OWNERSHIP INTERESTS.

During the subordination period, our general partner may cause us to issue up to 2,839,847 additional common units without your approval. Our general partner may also cause us to issue an unlimited number of additional common units, without your approval, in a number of circumstances, such as:

- the issuance of common units in connection with acquisitions that increase cash flow from operations per unit on a pro forma basis;
- the conversion of subordinated units into common units;
- the conversion of the general partner interest and the incentive distribution rights into common units as a result of the withdrawal of our general partner;
- issuances of common units under our long-term incentive plan; or
- issuances of common units to repay up to \$40.0 million in indebtedness.

The issuance of additional common units or other equity securities of equal or senior rank will have the following effects:

- your proportionate ownership interest in Williams Energy Partners will decrease;
- the amount of cash available for distribution on each unit may decrease;
- since a lower percentage of total outstanding units will be subordinated units, the risk that a shortfall in the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution will be borne by the common unitholders will increase;
- the relative voting strength of each previously outstanding unit may be diminished; and
- the market price of the common units may decline.

After the end of the subordination period, we may issue an unlimited number of limited partner interests of any type without the approval of the unitholders. Our partnership agreement does not give the unitholders the right to approve our issuance of equity securities ranking junior to the common units.

OUR GENERAL PARTNER HAS A LIMITED CALL RIGHT THAT MAY REQUIRE YOU TO SELL YOUR UNITS AT AN UNDESIRABLE TIME OR PRICE.

If at any time our general partner and its affiliates own 80% or more of the common units, our general partner will have the right, but not the obligation, which it may assign to any of its affiliates or to us, to acquire all, but not less than all, of the remaining common units held by unaffiliated persons at a price not less than their then current market price. As a result, you may be required to sell your common units at an undesirable time or price and may therefore not receive any return on your investment. You may also incur a tax liability upon a sale of your units.

YOU MAY NOT HAVE LIMITED LIABILITY IF A COURT FINDS THAT UNITHOLDER ACTIONS CONSTITUTE CONTROL OF OUR BUSINESS.

Under Delaware law, you could be held liable for our obligations to the same extent as a general partner if a court determined that the right of unitholders to remove our general partner or to take other action under the partnership agreement constituted participation in the "control" of our business.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

The general partner generally has unlimited liability for the obligations of the partnership, such as its debts and environmental liabilities, except for those contractual obligations of the partnership that are expressly made without recourse to the general partner.

7

In addition, Section 17-607 of the Delaware Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act provides that, under some circumstances, a unitholder may be liable to us for the amount of a distribution for a period of three years from the date of the distribution.

TAX RISKS TO COMMON UNITHOLDERS

You should read "Material Tax Consequences" for a more complete discussion of the expected federal income tax consequences related to owning and disposing of common units.

THE IRS COULD TREAT US AS A CORPORATION FOR TAX PURPOSES, WHICH WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE THE CASH AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION TO YOU.

The anticipated after-tax benefit of an investment in the common units depends largely on our being treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes. We have not requested, and do not plan to request, a ruling from the IRS on this or any other matter affecting us.

If we were classified as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, we would pay federal income tax on our income at the corporate tax rate, which is currently a maximum of 35%. Distributions to you would generally be taxed again to you as corporate distributions, and no income, gains, losses or deductions would flow through to you. Because a tax would be imposed upon us as a corporation, the cash available for distribution to you would be substantially reduced. Treatment of us as a corporation would result in a material reduction in the after-tax return to you, likely causing a substantial reduction in the value of the common units.

Current law may change so as to cause us to be taxed as a corporation for federal income tax purposes or otherwise subject us to entity-level taxation. The partnership agreement provides that, if a law is enacted or existing law is modified or interpreted in a manner that subjects us to taxation as a corporation or otherwise subjects us to entity-level taxation for federal, state or local income tax purposes, then the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will be decreased to reflect that impact on us.

A SUCCESSFUL IRS CONTEST OF THE FEDERAL INCOME TAX POSITIONS WE TAKE MAY ADVERSELY IMPACT THE MARKET FOR COMMON UNITS, AND THE COSTS OF ANY CONTESTS WILL BE BORNE BY OUR UNITHOLDERS AND OUR GENERAL PARTNER.

We have not requested a ruling from the IRS with respect to any matter affecting us. The IRS may adopt positions that differ from the conclusions of our counsel expressed in this prospectus or from the positions we take. It may be necessary to resort to administrative or court proceedings to sustain our counsel's conclusions or the positions we take. A court may not concur with our counsel's conclusions or the positions we take. Any contest with the IRS may materially and adversely impact the market for common units and the price at which they trade. In addition, the costs of any contest with the IRS, principally legal, accounting and related fees, will be borne indirectly by our unitholders and our general partner.

YOU MAY BE REQUIRED TO PAY TAXES EVEN IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ANY CASH

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

DISTRIBUTIONS.

You will be required to pay federal income taxes and, in some cases, state and local income taxes on your share of our taxable income even if you do not receive any cash distributions from us. You may not receive cash distributions from us equal to your share of our taxable income or even equal to the actual tax liability that results from your share of our taxable income.

TAX GAIN OR LOSS ON DISPOSITION OF COMMON UNITS COULD BE DIFFERENT THAN EXPECTED.

If you sell your common units, you will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized and your tax basis in those common units. Prior distributions in excess of the total net taxable income you were allocated for a common unit, which decreased your tax basis in that common unit, will, in effect, become taxable income to you if the common unit is sold at a price greater than your

8

tax basis in that common unit, even if the price you receive is less than your original cost. A substantial portion of the amount realized, whether or not representing gain, may be ordinary income to you. Should the IRS successfully contest some positions we take, you could recognize more gain on the sale of units than would be the case under those positions, without the benefit of decreased income in prior years. Also, if you sell your units, you may incur a tax liability in excess of the amount of cash you receive from the sale.

TAX-EXEMPT ENTITIES, REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES, AND FOREIGN PERSONS FACE UNIQUE TAX ISSUES FROM OWNING COMMON UNITS THAT MAY RESULT IN ADVERSE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM.

Investment in common units by tax-exempt entities, such as individual retirement accounts (known as IRAs), regulated investment companies (known as mutual funds) and foreign persons raises issues unique to them. For example, virtually all of our income allocated to organizations exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to them. Very little of our income will be qualifying income to a regulated investment company or mutual fund. Distributions to foreign persons will be reduced by withholding taxes at the highest effective U.S. federal income tax rate for individuals, and foreign persons will be required to file federal income tax returns and pay tax on their share of our taxable income.

WE ARE REGISTERED AS A TAX SHELTER. THIS MAY INCREASE THE RISK OF AN IRS AUDIT OF US OR A UNITHOLDER.

We are registered with the IRS as a "tax shelter." Our tax shelter registration number is 01036000014. The IRS requires that some types of entities, including some partnerships, register as "tax shelters" in response to the perception that they claim tax benefits that the IRS may believe to be unwarranted. As a result, we may be audited by the IRS and tax adjustments could be made. Any unitholder owning less than a 1% profits interest in us has very limited rights to participate in the income tax audit process. Further, any adjustments in our tax returns will lead to adjustments in our unitholders' tax returns and may lead to audits of unitholders' tax returns and adjustments of items unrelated to us. You will bear the cost of any expense incurred in connection with an examination of your personal tax return.

WE WILL TREAT EACH PURCHASER OF COMMON UNITS AS HAVING THE SAME TAX BENEFITS WITHOUT REGARD TO THE UNITS PURCHASED. THE IRS MAY CHALLENGE THIS TREATMENT,

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

WHICH COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE VALUE OF OUR COMMON UNITS.

Because we cannot match transferors and transferees of common units, we adopt depreciation and amortization positions that do not conform with all aspects of final Treasury regulations. A successful IRS challenge to those positions could adversely affect the amount of tax benefits available to you. It also could affect the timing of these tax benefits or the amount of gain from your sale of common units and could have a negative impact on the value of the common units or result in audit adjustments to your tax returns. Please read "Material Tax Consequences -- Uniformity of Units" for a further discussion of the effect of the depreciation and amortization positions we adopt.

YOU WILL LIKELY BE SUBJECT TO STATE AND LOCAL TAXES IN STATES WHERE YOU DO NOT LIVE AS A RESULT OF AN INVESTMENT IN OUR COMMON UNITS.

In addition to federal income taxes, you will likely be subject to other taxes, including state and local income taxes, unincorporated business taxes and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that are imposed by the various jurisdictions in which we do business or own property and in which you do not reside. You may be required to file state and local income tax returns and pay state and local income taxes in many or all of the jurisdictions in which we do business or own property. Further, you may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. It is your responsibility to file all United States federal, state and local tax returns. Our counsel has not rendered an opinion on the state or local tax consequences of an investment in the common units.

9

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Williams Energy Partners files annual, quarterly and other reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information on their public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You can also obtain information about us at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows Williams Energy Partners to "incorporate by reference" the information it has filed with the SEC. This means that Williams Energy Partners can disclose important information to you without actually including the specific information in this prospectus by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. Information that Williams Energy Partners files later with the SEC will automatically update and may replace information in this prospectus and information previously filed with the SEC. The documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 are incorporated by reference in this prospectus until the termination of each offering under this prospectus.

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001.
- Amended Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001.
- Current Report on Form 8-K filed January 3, 2002.
- Amended Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed January 14, 2002.
- Current Report on Form 8-K filed January 30, 2002.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- Current Report on Form 8-K filed March 8, 2002.
- Current Report on Form 8-K filed April 11, 2002.
- Current Report on Form 8-K filed April 19, 2002.
- Current Report on Form 8-K filed April 29, 2002.
- Current Report on Form 8-K filed May 3, 2002.
- Amended Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed May 9, 2002.
- Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed May 10, 2002.
- Current Report on Form 8-K filed May 15, 2002.
- The description of the limited partnership units contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A, initially filed February 2, 2001, and any subsequent amendment thereto filed for the purpose of updating such description.

You may request a copy of any document incorporated by reference in this prospectus, at no cost, by writing or calling us at the following address:

Investor Relations Department
Williams Energy Partners L.P.
One Williams Center
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74172
(918) 573-2000

10

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND ASSOCIATED RISKS

Some of the information included in this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the documents we incorporate by reference contain forward-looking statements. These statements use forward-looking words such as "may," "will," "anticipate," "believe," "expect," "project" or other similar words. These statements discuss goals, intentions and expectations as to future trends, plans, events, results of operations or financial condition or state other "forward-looking" information. When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risk factors and other cautionary statements in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and the documents we have incorporated by reference. These statements reflect Williams Energy Partners' current views with respect to future events and are subject to various risks, uncertainties and assumptions including, but not limited, to the following:

- Price trends and overall demand for natural gas liquids, refined petroleum products, natural gas, oil and ammonia in the United States; economic activity, weather, alternative energy sources, conservation and technological advances may affect price trends and demand;
- Changes in demand for refined petroleum products that we store and distribute;
- Changes in demand for storage in our petroleum product terminals;
- Changes in our tariff rates implemented by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the United States Surface Transportation Board;

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- Shut-downs or cutbacks at major refineries, petrochemical plants, ammonia production facilities or other businesses that use or supply our services;
- Changes in the throughput on petroleum product pipelines owned and operated by third parties and connected to our petroleum product terminals;
- Loss of Williams Energy Marketing & Trading Company and/or Williams Refining & Marketing, L.L.C. as customers;
- Loss of one or all of our three customers on our ammonia pipeline and terminals system;
- An increase in the price of natural gas, which increases ammonia production costs and reduces the amount of ammonia transported through our ammonia pipeline and terminals system;
- Changes in the federal government's policy regarding farm subsidies, which negatively impact the demand for ammonia and reduce the amount of ammonia transported through our ammonia pipeline and terminals system;
- An increase in the competition our petroleum products terminals and ammonia pipeline and terminals system encounter;
- The occurrence of an operational hazard or unforeseen interruption for which we are not adequately insured;
- Our ability to integrate any acquired operations into our existing operations;
- Our ability to successfully identify and close strategic acquisitions and make cost saving changes in operations;
- Changes in general economic conditions in the United States;
- Changes in laws and regulations to which we are subject, including tax, environmental and employment laws and regulations;
- The amount of our respective indebtedness, which could make us vulnerable to general adverse economic and industry conditions, limit our ability to borrow additional funds, place us at competitive disadvantages compared to our competitors that have less debt or have other adverse consequences;
- The condition of the capital markets and equity markets in the United States;
- The ability to raise capital in a cost-effective way;
- The cost and effects of legal and administrative claims and proceedings against us or our subsidiaries;
- The effect of changes in accounting policies;
- The ability to control costs; and
- The political and economic stability of the oil producing nations of the world.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds we receive from the sale of the securities to pay all or a portion of indebtedness outstanding at the time and to acquire assets as suitable opportunities arise.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated is as follows:

	TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31,				
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.....	6.77x	6.69x	5.32x	3.75x	7.20x

For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges:

- "fixed charges" represent interest expense (including amounts capitalized), amortization of debt costs and the portion of rental expense representing the interest factor; and
- "earnings" represent the aggregate of income from continuing operations (before adjustment for minority interest, extraordinary loss and equity earnings), fixed charges and distributions from equity investment, less capitalized interest.

12

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We will issue our debt securities under an indenture, among us, as issuer, the Trustee, and the subsidiary guarantors. The debt securities will be governed by the provisions of the Indenture and those made part of the Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. We, the Trustee and the Subsidiary Guarantors may enter into supplements to the Indenture from time to time. If we decide to issue subordinated debt securities, we will issue them under a separate Indenture containing subordination provisions.

This description is a summary of the material provisions of the debt securities and the Indentures. We urge you to read the forms of senior indenture and subordinated indenture filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part because those Indentures, and not this description, govern your rights as a holder of debt securities. References in this prospectus to an "Indenture" refer to the particular Indenture under which we issue a series of debt securities.

GENERAL

THE DEBT SECURITIES

Any series of debt securities that we issue:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- will be our general obligations;
- will be general obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantors if they are guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors; and
- may be subordinated to our Senior Indebtedness and that of the Subsidiary Guarantors.

The Indenture does not limit the total amount of debt securities that we may issue. We may issue debt securities under the Indenture from time to time in separate series, up to the aggregate amount authorized for each such series.

We will prepare a prospectus supplement and either an indenture supplement or a resolution of the board of directors of our general partner and accompanying officers' certificate relating to any series of debt securities that we offer, which will include specific terms relating to some or all of the following:

- the form and title of the debt securities;
- the total principal amount of the debt securities;
- the date or dates on which the debt securities may be issued;
- the portion of the principal amount which will be payable if the maturity of the debt securities is accelerated;
- any right we may have to defer payments of interest by extending the dates payments are due and whether interest on those deferred amounts will be payable;
- the dates on which the principal and premium, if any, of the debt securities will be payable;
- the interest rate which the debt securities will bear and the interest payment dates for the debt securities;
- any optional redemption provisions;
- any sinking fund or other provisions that would obligate us to repurchase or otherwise redeem the debt securities;
- whether the debt securities are entitled to the benefits of any guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors;
- whether the debt securities may be issued in amounts other than \$1,000 each or multiples thereof;

13

- any changes to or additional Events of Default or covenants;
- the subordination, if any, of the debt securities and any changes to the subordination provisions of the Indenture; and
- any other terms of the debt securities.

This description of debt securities will be deemed modified, amended or supplemented by any description of any series of debt securities set forth in a prospectus supplement related to that series.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

The prospectus supplement will also describe any material United States federal income tax consequences or other special considerations regarding the applicable series of debt securities, including those relating to:

- debt securities with respect to which payments of principal, premium or interest are determined with reference to an index or formula, including changes in prices of particular securities, currencies or commodities;
- debt securities with respect to which principal, premium or interest is payable in a foreign or composite currency;
- debt securities that are issued at a discount below their stated principal amount, bearing no interest or interest at a rate that at the time of issuance is below market rates; and
- variable rate debt securities that are exchangeable for fixed rate debt securities.

At our option, we may make interest payments by check mailed to the registered holders of debt securities or, if so stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, at the option of a holder by wire transfer to an account designated by the holder.

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, fully registered securities may be transferred or exchanged at the office of the Trustee at which its corporate trust business is principally administered in the United States, subject to the limitations provided in the Indenture, without the payment of any service charge, other than any applicable tax or governmental charge.

Any funds we pay to a paying agent for the payment of amounts due on any debt securities that remain unclaimed for two years will be returned to us, and the holders of the debt securities must look only to us for payment after that time.

THE SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEES

Our payment obligations under any series of debt securities may be jointly and severally, fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors. If a series of debt securities are so guaranteed, the Subsidiary Guarantors will execute a notation of guarantee as further evidence of their guarantee. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any guarantee by the Subsidiary Guarantors.

The obligations of each Subsidiary Guarantor under its guarantee of the debt securities will be limited to the maximum amount that will not result in the obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantor under the guarantee constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under Federal or state law, after giving effect to:

- all other contingent and fixed liabilities of the Subsidiary Guarantor; and
- any collections from or payments made by or on behalf of any other Subsidiary Guarantors in respect of the obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantor under its guarantee.

The guarantee of any Subsidiary Guarantor may be released under certain

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

circumstances. If no default has occurred and is continuing under the Indenture, and to the extent not otherwise prohibited by the Indenture, a Subsidiary Guarantor will be unconditionally released and discharged from the guarantee:

- automatically upon any sale, exchange or transfer, to any person that is not our affiliate, of all of our direct or indirect limited partnership or other equity interests in the Subsidiary Guarantor;
- automatically upon the merger of the Subsidiary Guarantor into us or any other Subsidiary Guarantor or the liquidation and dissolution of the Subsidiary Guarantor; or
- following delivery of a written notice by us to the Trustee, upon the release of all guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantor of any debt of ours for borrowed money (or a guarantee of such debt), except for any series of debt securities.

If a series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors and is designated as subordinate to our Senior Indebtedness, then the guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors will be subordinated to the Senior Indebtedness of the Subsidiary Guarantors to substantially the same extent as the series is subordinated to our Senior Indebtedness. See "-- Subordination."

COVENANTS

REPORTS

The Indenture contains the following covenant for the benefit of the holders of all series of debt securities:

So long as any debt securities are outstanding, we will:

- for as long as we are required to file information with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act, file with the Trustee, within 15 days after we are required to file with the SEC, copies of the annual report and of the information, documents and other reports which we are required to file with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act;
- if we are not required to file information with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act, file with the Trustee, within 15 days after we would have been required to file with the SEC, financial statements and a Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, both comparable to what we would have been required to file with the SEC had we been subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act; and
- if we are required to furnish annual or quarterly reports to our unitholders pursuant to the Exchange Act, we will file with the Trustee any annual report or other reports sent to our unitholders generally.

A series of debt securities may contain additional financial and other covenants applicable to us and our subsidiaries. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain a description of any such covenants that are added to the Indenture specifically for the benefit of holders of a particular series.

EVENTS OF DEFAULT, REMEDIES AND NOTICE

EVENTS OF DEFAULT

Each of the following events will be an "Event of Default" under the Indenture with respect to a series of debt securities:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- default in any payment of interest on any debt securities of that series when due that continues for 30 days;
- default in the payment of principal of or premium, if any, on any debt securities of that series when due at its stated maturity, upon redemption, upon required repurchase or otherwise;
- default in the payment of any sinking fund payment on any debt securities of that series when due;

15

- failure by us or, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors, by a Subsidiary Guarantor, to comply for 60 days after notice with the other agreements contained in the Indenture, any supplement to the Indenture or any board resolution authorizing the issuance of that series;
- certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of us or, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors, of the Subsidiary Guarantors; or
- if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors:
 - any of the guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors ceases to be in full force and effect, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture;
 - any of the guarantees by the Subsidiary Guarantors is declared null and void in a judicial proceeding; or
 - any Subsidiary Guarantor denies or disaffirms its obligations under the Indenture or its guarantee.

EXERCISE OF REMEDIES

If an Event of Default, other than an Event of Default described in the fifth bullet point above, occurs and is continuing, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may declare the entire principal of, premium, if any, and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately.

A default under the fourth bullet point above will not constitute an Event of Default until the Trustee or the holders of 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series notify us and, if the series of debt securities is guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors, the Subsidiary Guarantors, of the default and such default is not cured within 60 days after receipt of notice.

If an Event of Default described in the fifth bullet point above occurs and is continuing, the principal of, premium, if any, and accrued and unpaid interest on all outstanding debt securities of all series will become immediately due and payable without any declaration of acceleration or other act on the part of the Trustee or any holders.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series may:

- waive all past defaults, except with respect to nonpayment of principal, premium or interest; and

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- rescind any declaration of acceleration by the Trustee or the holders with respect to the debt securities of that series,

but only if:

- rescinding the declaration of acceleration would not conflict with any judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction; and
- all existing Events of Default have been cured or waived, other than the nonpayment of principal, premium or interest on the debt securities of that series that have become due solely by the declaration of acceleration.

If an Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Trustee will be under no obligation, except as otherwise provided in the Indenture, to exercise any of the rights or powers under the Indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders unless such holders have offered to the Trustee reasonable indemnity or security against any costs, liability or expense. No holder may pursue any remedy with respect to the Indenture or the debt securities of any series, except to enforce the right to receive payment of principal, premium or interest when due, unless:

- such holder has previously given the Trustee notice that an Event of Default with respect to that series is continuing;

16

- holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have requested that the Trustee pursue the remedy;
- such holders have offered the Trustee reasonable indemnity or security against any cost, liability or expense;
- the Trustee has not complied with such request within 60 days after the receipt of the request and the offer of indemnity or security; and
- the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have not given the Trustee a direction that, in the opinion of the Trustee, is inconsistent with such request within such 60-day period.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of a series have the right, subject to certain restrictions, to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Trustee or of exercising any right or power conferred on the Trustee with respect to that series of debt securities. The Trustee, however, may refuse to follow any direction that:

- conflicts with law;
- is inconsistent with any provision of the Indenture;
- the Trustee determines is unduly prejudicial to the rights of any other holder;
- would involve the Trustee in personal liability.

NOTICE OF EVENT OF DEFAULT

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Within 30 days after the occurrence of an Event of Default, we are required to give written notice to the Trustee and indicate the status of the default and what action we are taking or propose to take to cure the default. In addition, we are required to deliver to the Trustee, within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, a compliance certificate indicating that we have complied with all covenants contained in the Indenture or whether any default or Event of Default has occurred during the previous year.

If an Event of Default occurs and is continuing and is known to the Trustee, the Trustee must mail to each holder a notice of the Event of Default by the later of 90 days after the Event of Default occurs or 30 days after the Trustee knows of the Event of Default. Except in the case of a default in the payment of principal, premium or interest with respect to any debt securities, the Trustee may withhold such notice, but only if and so long as the board of directors, the executive committee or a committee of directors or responsible officers of the Trustee in good faith determines that withholding such notice is in the interests of the holders.

AMENDMENTS AND WAIVERS

We may amend the Indenture without the consent of any holder of debt securities to:

- cure any ambiguity, omission, defect or inconsistency;
 - convey, transfer, assign, mortgage or pledge any property to or with the Trustee;
 - provide for the assumption by a successor of our obligations under the Indenture;
 - add Subsidiary Guarantors with respect to the debt securities;
 - change or eliminate any restriction on the payment of principal of, or premium, if any, on, any debt securities;
 - secure the debt securities;
 - add covenants for the benefit of the holders or surrender any right or power conferred upon us or any Subsidiary Guarantor;
- 17
- make any change that does not adversely affect the rights of any holder;
 - add or appoint a successor or separate Trustee; or
 - comply with any requirement of the SEC in connection with the qualification of the Indenture under the Trust Indenture Act.

In addition, we may amend the Indenture if the holders of a majority in principal amount of all debt securities of each series that would be affected then outstanding under the Indenture consent to it. We may not, however, without the consent of each holder of outstanding debt securities of each series that would be affected, amend the Indenture to:

- reduce the percentage in principal amount of debt securities of any series whose holders must consent to an amendment;
- reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest on any debt securities;

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- reduce the principal of or extend the stated maturity of any debt securities;
- reduce the premium payable upon the redemption of any debt securities or change the time at which any debt securities may or shall be redeemed;
- make any debt securities payable in other than U.S. dollars;
- impair the right of any holder to receive payment of premium, principal or interest with respect to such holder's debt securities on or after the applicable due date;
- impair the right of any holder to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment with respect to such holder's debt securities;
- release any security that has been granted in respect of the debt securities;
- make any change in the amendment provisions which require each holder's consent;
- make any change in the waiver provisions; or
- release a Subsidiary Guarantor or modify such Subsidiary Guarantor's guarantee in any manner adverse to the holders.

The consent of the holders is not necessary under the Indenture to approve the particular form of any proposed amendment. It is sufficient if such consent approves the substance of the proposed amendment. After an amendment under the Indenture becomes effective, we are required to mail to all holders a notice briefly describing the amendment. The failure to give, or any defect in, such notice, however, will not impair or affect the validity of the amendment.

The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each affected series, on behalf of all such holders, and subject to certain rights of the Trustee, may waive:

- compliance by us or a Subsidiary Guarantor with certain restrictive provisions of the Indenture; and
- any past default under the Indenture, subject to certain rights of the Trustee under the Indenture;

except that such majority of holders may not waive a default:

- in the payment of principal, premium or interest; or
- in respect of a provision that under the Indenture cannot be amended without the consent of all holders of the series of debt securities that is affected.

18

DEFEASANCE

At any time, we may terminate, with respect to debt securities of a particular series, all our obligations under such series of debt securities and the Indenture, which we call a "legal defeasance." If we decide to make a legal defeasance, however, we may not terminate our obligations:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- relating to the defeasance trust;
- to register the transfer or exchange of the debt securities;
- to replace mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen debt securities; or
- to maintain a registrar and paying agent in respect of the debt securities.

If we exercise our legal defeasance option, any subsidiary guarantee will terminate with respect to that series of debt securities.

At any time we may also effect a "covenant defeasance," which means we have elected to terminate our obligations under:

- covenants applicable to a series of debt securities and described in the prospectus supplement applicable to such series, other than as described in such prospectus supplement;
- the bankruptcy provisions with respect to the Subsidiary Guarantors, if any; and
- the guarantee provision described under "Events of Default" above with respect to a series of debt securities.

We may exercise our legal defeasance option notwithstanding our prior exercise of our covenant defeasance option. If we exercise our legal defeasance option, payment of the affected series of debt securities may not be accelerated because of an Event of Default with respect to that series. If we exercise our covenant defeasance option, payment of the affected series of debt securities may not be accelerated because of an Event of Default specified in the fourth, fifth (with respect only to a Subsidiary Guarantor (if any)) or sixth bullet points under "-- Events of Default" above or an Event of Default that is added specifically for such series and described in a prospectus supplement.

In order to exercise either defeasance option, we must:

- irrevocably deposit in trust with the Trustee money or certain U.S. government obligations for the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the series of debt securities to redemption or maturity, as the case may be;
- comply with certain other conditions, including that no default has occurred and is continuing after the deposit in trust; and
- deliver to the Trustee of an opinion of counsel to the effect that holders of the series of debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for Federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance and will be subject to Federal income tax on the same amount and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such deposit and defeasance had not occurred. In the case of legal defeasance only, such opinion of counsel must be based on a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service or other change in applicable Federal income tax law.

NO PERSONAL LIABILITY OF GENERAL PARTNER

Williams GP LLC, our general partner, and its directors, officers, employees, incorporators and stockholders, as such, will not be liable for:

- any of our obligations or the obligations of the Subsidiary Guarantors under the debt securities, the Indentures or the guarantees; or

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- any claim based on, in respect of, or by reason of, such obligations or their creation.

19

By accepting a debt security, each holder will be deemed to have waived and released all such liability. This waiver and release are part of the consideration for our issuance of the debt securities. This waiver may not be effective, however, to waive liabilities under the federal securities laws and it is the view of the SEC that such a waiver is against public policy.

SUBORDINATION

Debt securities of a series may be subordinated to our "Senior Indebtedness," which we define generally to include any obligation created or assumed by us (or, if the series is guaranteed, the Subsidiary Guarantors) for the repayment of borrowed money and any guarantee therefor, whether outstanding or hereafter issued, unless, by the terms of the instrument creating or evidencing such obligation, it is provided that such obligation is subordinate or not superior in right of payment to the debt securities (or, if the series is guaranteed, the guarantee of the Subsidiary Guarantors), or to other obligations which are pari passu with or subordinated to the debt securities (or, if the series is guaranteed, the guarantee of the Subsidiary Guarantors). Subordinated debt securities will be subordinate in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the Indenture and the prospectus supplement relating to such series, to the prior payment of all of our indebtedness and that of any Subsidiary Guarantor that is designated as "Senior Indebtedness" with respect to the series.

The holders of Senior Indebtedness of ours or, if applicable, a Subsidiary Guarantor, will receive payment in full of the Senior Indebtedness before holders of subordinated debt securities will receive any payment of principal, premium or interest with respect to the subordinated debt securities:

- upon any payment or distribution of our assets or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, the Subsidiary Guarantors' assets, to creditors;
- upon a liquidation or dissolution of us or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, the Subsidiary Guarantors; or
- in a bankruptcy, receivership or similar proceeding relating to us or, if applicable to any series of outstanding debt securities, to the Subsidiary Guarantors.

Until the Senior Indebtedness is paid in full, any distribution to which holders of subordinated debt securities would otherwise be entitled will be made to the holders of Senior Indebtedness, except that the holders of subordinated debt securities may receive units representing limited partner interests and any debt securities that are subordinated to Senior Indebtedness to at least the same extent as the subordinated debt securities.

If we do not pay any principal, premium or interest with respect to Senior Indebtedness within any applicable grace period (including at maturity), or any other default on Senior Indebtedness occurs and the maturity of the Senior Indebtedness is accelerated in accordance with its terms, we may not:

- make any payments of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to subordinated debt securities;
- make any deposit for the purpose of defeasance of the subordinated debt

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

securities; or

- repurchase, redeem or otherwise retire any subordinated debt securities, except that in the case of subordinated debt securities that provide for a mandatory sinking fund, we may deliver subordinated debt securities to the Trustee in satisfaction of our sinking fund obligation,

unless, in either case,

- the default has been cured or waived and any declaration of acceleration has been rescinded;
- the Senior Indebtedness has been paid in full in cash; or
- we and the Trustee receive written notice approving the payment from the representatives of each issue of "Designated Senior Indebtedness."

20

Generally, "Designated Senior Indebtedness" will include:

- any specified issue of Senior Indebtedness of at least \$100 million; and
- any other Senior Indebtedness that we may designate in respect of any series of subordinated debt securities.

During the continuance of any default, other than a default described in the immediately preceding paragraph, that may cause the maturity of any Designated Senior Indebtedness to be accelerated immediately without further notice, other than any notice required to effect such acceleration, or the expiration of any applicable grace periods, we may not pay the subordinated debt securities for a period called the "Payment Blockage Period." A Payment Blockage Period will commence on the receipt by us and the Trustee of written notice of the default, called a "Blockage Notice," from the representative of any Designated Senior Indebtedness specifying an election to effect a Payment Blockage Period and will end 179 days thereafter.

The Payment Blockage Period may be terminated before its expiration:

- by written notice from the person or persons who gave the Blockage Notice;
- by repayment in full in cash of the Designated Senior Indebtedness with respect to which the Blockage Notice was given; or
- if the default giving rise to the Payment Blockage Period is no longer continuing.

Unless the holders of the Designated Senior Indebtedness have accelerated the maturity of the Designated Senior Indebtedness, we may resume payments on the subordinated debt securities after the expiration of the Payment Blockage Period.

Generally, not more than one Blockage Notice may be given in any period of 360 consecutive days. The total number of days during which any one or more Payment Blockage Periods are in effect, however, may not exceed an aggregate of 179 days during any period of 360 consecutive days.

After all Senior Indebtedness is paid in full and until the subordinated debt securities are paid in full, holders of the subordinated debt securities shall be subrogated to the rights of holders of Senior Indebtedness to receive

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

distributions applicable to Senior Indebtedness.

As a result of the subordination provisions described above, in the event of insolvency, the holders of Senior Indebtedness, as well as certain of our general creditors, may recover more, ratably, than the holders of the subordinated debt securities.

BOOK ENTRY, DELIVERY AND FORM

We may issue debt securities of a series in the form of one or more global certificates deposited with a depository. We expect that The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or "DTC," will act as depository. If we issue debt securities of a series in book-entry form, we will issue one or more global certificates that will be deposited with or on behalf of DTC and will not issue physical certificates to each holder. A global security may not be transferred unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for a certificated security, except that DTC, its nominees and their successors may transfer a global security as a whole to one another.

DTC will keep a computerized record of its participants, such as a broker, whose clients have purchased the debt securities. The participants will then keep records of their clients who purchased the debt securities. Beneficial interests in global securities will be shown on, and transfers of beneficial interests in global securities will be made only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants.

DTC advises us that it is:

- a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law;
- a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law;

21

- a member of the United States Federal Reserve System;
- a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code; and
- a "clearing agency" registered under the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

DTC is owned by a number of its participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., The American Stock Exchange, Inc. and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. The rules that apply to DTC and its participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

DTC holds securities that its participants deposit with DTC. DTC also records the settlement among participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through computerized records for participants' accounts. This eliminates the need to exchange certificates. Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations.

We will wire principal, premium, if any, and interest payments due on the global securities to DTC's nominee. We, the Trustee and any paying agent will treat DTC's nominee as the owner of the global securities for all purposes. Accordingly, we, the Trustee and any paying agent will have no direct responsibility or liability to pay amounts due on the global securities to owners of beneficial interests in the global securities.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

It is DTC's current practice, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest, to credit participants' accounts on the payment date according to their respective holdings of beneficial interests in the global securities as shown on DTC's records. In addition, it is DTC's current practice to assign any consenting or voting rights to participants, whose accounts are credited with debt securities on a record date, by using an omnibus proxy.

Payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the global securities, as well as voting by participants, will be governed by the customary practices between the participants and the owners of beneficial interests, as is the case with debt securities held for the account of customers registered in "street name." Payments to holders of beneficial interests are the responsibility of the participants and not of DTC, the Trustee or us.

Beneficial interests in global securities will be exchangeable for certificated securities with the same terms in authorized denominations only if:

- DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under applicable law and a successor depository is not appointed by us within 90 days; or
- we determine not to require all of the debt securities of a series to be represented by a global security and notify the Trustee of our decision.

THE TRUSTEE

We may appoint a separate trustee for any series of debt securities. We use the term "Trustee" to refer to the trustee appointed with respect to any such series of debt securities. We may maintain banking and other commercial relationships with the Trustee and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business, and the Trustee may own debt securities.

GOVERNING LAW

The Indenture and the debt securities will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

22

DESCRIPTION OF OUR CLASS B UNITS

We issued Class B units to our general partner, in connection with the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company. Our general partner, as the holder of the Class B units, has the same rights as the holders of our common units with respect to distributions, voting and allocations of income, gain, loss and deductions. However, during the period in which any portion of the short-term loan we used to finance the acquisition of Williams Pipe Line Company is outstanding, our general partner will not receive distributions, of any kind with respect to the Class B units. Upon our repayment in full of the short-term loan:

- Our general partner will be entitled to receive a distribution of available cash with respect to its Class B units equal to the distributions of available cash that were paid or declared payable to the common units during the term of the short-term loan; and
- We, at our option, may redeem the Class B units for cash based on the 15-day average closing price of the common units prior to the redemption date.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

In addition, after one year from the date of issuance of the Class B units, upon the request of our general partner and the approval of the holders of a majority of the common units voting at a meeting of unitholders, the Class B units will convert into common units. If the approval of the conversion by the common unitholders is not obtained within 120 days of our general partner's request, our general partner will be entitled to receive distributions with respect to its Class B units, on a per unit basis, equal to 115% of the amount of distributions paid on a common unit. You should read our historical financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations incorporated by reference in this prospectus for additional information regarding the terms of our short-term loan.

23

CASH DISTRIBUTIONS

DISTRIBUTIONS OF AVAILABLE CASH

General. Within approximately 45 days after the end of each quarter, we will distribute all of our available cash to unitholders of record on the applicable record date.

Definition of Available Cash. Available cash generally means, for each fiscal quarter, all cash on hand at the end of the quarter:

- less the amount of cash that the general partner determines in its reasonable discretion is necessary or appropriate to:
 - provide for the proper conduct of our business;
 - comply with applicable law, any of our debt instruments, or other agreements; or
 - provide funds for distributions to our unitholders and to our general partner for any one or more of the next four quarters;
- plus all cash on hand on the date of determination of available cash for the quarter resulting from working capital borrowings made after the end of the quarter. Working capital borrowings are generally borrowings that are made under our credit facility and in all cases are used solely for working capital purposes or to pay distributions to partners.

Intent to Distribute the Minimum Quarterly Distribution. We intend to distribute to holders of common units and subordinated units on a quarterly basis at least the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.525 per quarter or \$2.10 per year to the extent we have sufficient cash from our operations after the establishment of cash reserves and the payment of fees and expenses, including payments to our general partner. However, there is no guarantee that we will pay the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units in any quarter, and we will be prohibited from making any distributions to unitholders if it would cause an event of default, or an event of default is existing, under our credit facility.

OPERATING SURPLUS, CAPITAL SURPLUS AND ADJUSTED OPERATING SURPLUS

General. All cash distributed to unitholders will be characterized either as operating surplus or capital surplus. We distribute available cash from operating surplus differently than available cash from capital surplus.

Definition of Operating Surplus. For any period, operating surplus generally means:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- our cash balance on the closing date of our initial public offering; plus
- \$15.0 million; plus
- all of our cash receipts since the closing of our initial public offering, excluding cash from borrowings that are not working capital borrowings, sales of equity and debt securities and sales or other dispositions of assets outside the ordinary course of business; plus
- working capital borrowings made after the end of a quarter but before the date of determination of operating surplus for the quarter; less
- all of our operating expenditures since the closing of our initial public offering, including the repayment of working capital borrowings, but not the repayment of other borrowings, and including maintenance capital expenditures; less
- the amount of cash reserves that the general partner deems necessary or advisable to provide funds for future operating expenditures.

24

Definition of Capital Surplus. Capital surplus will generally be generated only by:

- borrowings other than working capital borrowings;
- sales of debt and equity securities; and
- sales or other disposition of assets for cash, other than inventory, accounts receivable and other current assets sold in the ordinary course of business or as part of normal retirements or replacements of assets.

Characterization of Cash Distributions. We will treat all available cash distributed as coming from operating surplus until the sum of all available cash distributed since we began operations equals the operating surplus as of the most recent date of determination of available cash. We will treat any amount distributed in excess of operating surplus, regardless of its source, as capital surplus. We do not anticipate that we will make any distributions from capital surplus.

Definition of Adjusted Operating Surplus. Adjusted operating surplus is intended to reflect the cash generated from operations during a particular period and therefore excludes net increases in working capital borrowings and net drawdowns of reserves of cash generated in prior periods.

Adjusted operating surplus for any period generally means:

- operating surplus generated with respect to that period; less
- any net increase in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; less
- any net reduction in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period not relating to an operating expenditure made with respect to that period; plus
- any net decrease in working capital borrowings with respect to that period; plus

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- any net increase in cash reserves for operating expenditures with respect to that period required by any debt instrument for the repayment of principal, interest or premium.

SUBORDINATION PERIOD

General. During the subordination period, the common units will have the right to receive distributions of available cash from operating surplus in an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.525 per unit, plus any arrearages in the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units from prior quarters, before any distributions of available cash from operating surplus may be made on the subordinated units. The purpose of the subordinated units is to increase the likelihood that during the subordination period there will be available cash to be distributed on the common units.

Definition of Subordination Period. The subordination period will extend until the first day of any quarter beginning after December 31, 2005 that each of the following tests are met:

- distributions of available cash from operating surplus on each of the outstanding common units and subordinated units equaled or exceeded the minimum quarterly distribution for each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date;
- the adjusted operating surplus generated during each of the three immediately preceding non-overlapping four-quarter periods equaled or exceeded the sum of the minimum quarterly distributions on all of the outstanding common units and subordinated units during those periods on a fully diluted basis and the related distribution on the 2% general partner interest during those periods; and
- there are no arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units.

Early Conversion of Subordinated Units. Before the end of the subordination period, 50% of the subordinated units, or up to 2,839,847 subordinated units, may convert into common units on a one-for-one

25

basis on the first day after the record date established for the distribution for any quarter ending on or after:

- December 31, 2003 with respect to 25% of the subordinated units; and
- December 31, 2004 with respect to 25% of the subordinated units.

The early conversions will occur if at the end of the applicable quarter each of the following three tests are met:

- distributions of available cash from operating surplus on each of the outstanding common units and subordinated units equaled or exceeded the minimum quarterly distribution for each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date;
- the adjusted operating surplus generated during each of the three consecutive, non-overlapping four-quarter periods immediately preceding that date equaled or exceeded the sum of the minimum quarterly distributions on all of the outstanding common units and subordinated units during those periods on a fully diluted basis and the related distribution on the 2% general partner interest during those periods; and

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- there are no arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units.

However, the early conversion of the second 25% of the subordinated units may not occur until at least one year following the early conversion of the first 25% of the subordinated units.

Effect of Expiration of the Subordination Period. Upon expiration of the subordination period, each outstanding subordinated unit will convert into one common unit and will then participate pro rata with the other common units in distributions of available cash. In addition, if the unitholders remove our general partner other than for cause and units held by the general partner and its affiliates are not voted in favor of this removal:

- the subordination period will end and each subordinated unit will immediately convert into one common unit;
- any existing arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units will be extinguished; and
- the general partner will have the right to convert its general partner interest and its incentive distribution rights into common units or to receive cash in exchange for those interests.

DISTRIBUTIONS OF AVAILABLE CASH FROM OPERATING SURPLUS DURING THE SUBORDINATION PERIOD

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter during the subordination period in the following manner:

- First, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner until we distribute for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter;
- Second, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner until we distribute for each outstanding common unit an amount equal to any arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units for any prior quarters during the subordination period;
- Third, 98% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner until we distribute for each subordinated unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and
- Thereafter, in the manner described in "-- Incentive Distribution Rights" below.

26

DISTRIBUTIONS OF AVAILABLE CASH FROM OPERATING SURPLUS AFTER THE SUBORDINATION PERIOD

We will make distributions of available cash from operating surplus for any quarter after the subordination period in the following manner:

- First, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner until we distribute for each outstanding unit an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution for that quarter; and
- Thereafter, in the manner described in "-- Incentive Distribution Rights"

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

below.

INCENTIVE DISTRIBUTION RIGHTS

Incentive distribution rights represent the right to receive an increasing percentage of quarterly distributions of available cash from operating surplus after the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels have been achieved. Our general partner currently holds the incentive distribution rights, but may transfer these rights separately from its general partner interest, subject to restrictions in the partnership agreement.

If for any quarter:

- we have distributed available cash from operating surplus to the common and subordinated unitholders in an amount equal to the minimum quarterly distribution; and
- we have distributed available cash from operating surplus on outstanding common units in an amount necessary to eliminate any cumulative arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution;

then, we will distribute any additional available cash from operating surplus for that quarter among the unitholders and the general partner in the following manner:

- First, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.578 per unit for that quarter (the "first target distribution");
- Second, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.656 per unit for that quarter (the "second target distribution");
- Third, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to the general partner, until each unitholder receives a total of \$0.788 per unit for that quarter (the "third target distribution"); and
- Thereafter, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to the general partner.

In each case, the amount of the target distribution set forth above is exclusive of any distributions to common unitholders to eliminate any cumulative arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution.

PERCENTAGE ALLOCATIONS OF AVAILABLE CASH FROM OPERATING SURPLUS

The following table illustrates the percentage allocations of the additional available cash from operating surplus between the unitholders and our general partner up to the various target distribution levels. The amounts set forth under "Marginal Percentage Interest in Distributions" are the percentage interests of our general partner and the unitholders in any available cash from operating surplus we distribute up to and including the corresponding amount in the column "Total Quarterly Distribution Target Amount," until available cash from operating surplus we distribute reaches the next target distribution level, if any. The percentage interests shown for the unitholders and the general partner for the

minimum quarterly distribution are also applicable to quarterly distribution amounts that are less than the minimum quarterly distribution.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

	TOTAL QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTION TARGET AMOUNT	MARGINAL PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN DISTRIBUTIONS	
		UNITHOLDERS	GENERAL PARTNER
Minimum Quarterly Distribution....	\$0.525	98%	2%
First Target Distribution.....	up to \$0.578	98%	2%
Second Target Distribution.....	above \$0.578 up to \$0.656	85%	15%
Third Target Distribution.....	above \$0.656 up to \$0.788	75%	25%
Thereafter.....	above \$0.788	50%	50%

DISTRIBUTIONS FROM CAPITAL SURPLUS

How Distributions from Capital Surplus Will Be Made. We will make distributions of available cash from capital surplus in the following manner:

- First, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until we distribute for each common unit, an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to the initial public offering price;
- Second, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until we distribute for each common unit that was issued in the offering, an amount of available cash from capital surplus equal to any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units; and
- Thereafter, we will make all distributions of available cash from capital surplus as if they were from operating surplus.

Effect of a Distribution from Capital Surplus. The partnership agreement treats a distribution of capital surplus as the repayment of the unit price from our initial public offering, which is a return of capital. The initial public offering price less any distributions of capital surplus per unit is referred to as the unrecovered initial unit price. Each time a distribution of capital surplus is made, the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels will be reduced in the same proportion as the corresponding reduction in the unrecovered initial unit price. Because distributions of capital surplus will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution, after any of these distributions are made, it may be easier for the general partner to receive incentive distributions and for the subordinated units to convert into common units. However, any distribution of capital surplus before the unrecovered initial unit price is reduced to zero cannot be applied to the payment of the minimum quarterly distribution or any arrearages.

Once we distribute capital surplus on a unit issued in this offering in an amount equal to the initial unit price, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels to zero and we will make all future distributions from operating surplus, with 50% being paid to the holders of units, 48% to the holders of the incentive distribution rights and 2% to the general partner.

ADJUSTMENT TO THE MINIMUM QUARTERLY DISTRIBUTION AND TARGET DISTRIBUTION LEVELS

In addition to adjusting the minimum quarterly distribution and target distribution levels to reflect a distribution of capital surplus, if we combine our units into fewer units or subdivide our units into a greater number of units, we will proportionately adjust:

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- the minimum quarterly distribution;
- target distribution levels;
- unrecovered initial unit price;

28

- the number of common units issuable during the subordination period without a unitholder vote; and
- the number of common units into which a subordinated unit is convertible.

For example, if a two-for-one split of the common units should occur, the minimum quarterly distribution, the target distribution levels and the unrecovered initial unit price would each be reduced to 50% of its initial level. We will not make any adjustment by reason of the issuance of additional units for cash or property.

In addition, if legislation is enacted or if existing law is modified or interpreted in a manner that causes us to become taxable as a corporation or otherwise subject to taxation as an entity for federal, state or local income tax purposes, we will reduce the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels by multiplying the same by one minus the sum of the highest marginal federal corporate income tax rate that could apply and any increase in the effective overall state and local income tax rates. For example, if we became subject to a maximum marginal federal, and effective state and local income tax rate of 38%, then the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distributions levels would each be reduced to 62% of their previous levels.

DISTRIBUTIONS OF CASH UPON LIQUIDATION

If we dissolve in accordance with the partnership agreement, we will sell or otherwise dispose of our assets in a process called a liquidation. We will first apply the proceeds of liquidation to the payment of our creditors. We will distribute any remaining proceeds to the unitholders and the general partner, in accordance with their capital account balances, as adjusted to reflect any gain or loss upon the sale or other disposition of our assets in liquidation.

The allocations of gain and loss upon liquidation are intended, to the extent possible, to entitle the holders of outstanding common units to a preference over the holders of outstanding subordinated units upon the liquidation of Williams Energy Partners, to the extent required to permit common unitholders to receive their unrecovered initial unit price plus the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which liquidation occurs plus any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on the common units. However, there may not be sufficient gain upon liquidation of Williams Energy Partners to enable the holder of common units to fully recover all of these amounts, even though there may be cash available for distribution to the holders of subordinated units. Any further net gain recognized upon liquidation will be allocated in a manner that takes into account the incentive distribution rights of the general partner.

Manner of Adjustments for Gain. The manner of the adjustment is set forth in the partnership agreement. If our liquidation occurs before the end of the subordination period, we will allocate any gain to the partners in the following manner:

- First, to the general partner and the holders of units who have negative balances in their capital accounts to the extent of and in proportion to

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

those negative balances;

- Second, 98% to the common unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until the capital account for each common unit is equal to the sum of:

- (1) the unrecovered initial unit price for that common unit; plus

- (2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs; plus

- (3) any unpaid arrearages in payment of the minimum quarterly distribution on that common unit;

29

- Third, 98% to the subordinated unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, until the capital account for each subordinated unit is equal to the sum of:

- (1) the unrecovered initial unit price on that subordinated unit; and

- (2) the amount of the minimum quarterly distribution for the quarter during which our liquidation occurs;

- Fourth, 98% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, pro rata, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the first target distribution per unit over the minimum quarterly distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less

- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the minimum quarterly distribution per unit that we distributed 98% to the units, pro rata, and 2% to the general partner, pro rata, for each quarter of our existence;

- Fifth, 85% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to the general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the second target distribution per unit over the first target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less

- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the first target distribution per unit that we distributed 85% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 15% to the general partner for each quarter of our existence;

- Sixth, 75% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to the general partner, until we allocate under this paragraph an amount per unit equal to:

- (1) the sum of the excess of the third target distribution per unit over the second target distribution per unit for each quarter of our existence; less

- (2) the cumulative amount per unit of any distributions of available cash from operating surplus in excess of the second target distribution per unit that we distributed 75% to the unitholders, pro rata, and 25% to the general partner for each quarter of our existence;

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- Thereafter, 50% to all unitholders, pro rata, and 50% to the general partner.

If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that clause (3) of the second bullet point above and all of the third above bullet point will no longer be applicable.

Manner of Adjustments for Losses. Upon our liquidation, we will generally allocate any loss to the general partner and the unitholders in the following manner:

- First, 98% to holders of subordinated units in proportion to the positive balances in their capital accounts and 2% to the general partner until the capital accounts of the holders of the subordinated units have been reduced to zero;
- Second, 98% to the holders of common units in proportion to the positive balances in their capital accounts and 2% to the general partner until the capital accounts of the common unitholders have been reduced to zero; and
- Thereafter, 100% to the general partner.

If the liquidation occurs after the end of the subordination period, the distinction between common units and subordinated units will disappear, so that all of the first bullet point above will no longer be applicable.

30

Adjustments to Capital Accounts. We will make adjustments to capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units. In doing so, we will allocate any unrealized and, for tax purposes, unrecognized gain or loss resulting from the adjustments to the unitholders and the general partner in the same manner as we allocate gain or loss upon liquidation. In the event that we make positive adjustments to the capital accounts upon the issuance of additional units, we will allocate any later negative adjustments to the capital accounts resulting from the issuance of additional units or upon our liquidation in a manner which results, to the extent possible, in the general partner's capital account balances equaling the amount which they would have been if no earlier positive adjustments to the capital accounts had been made.

31

MATERIAL TAX CONSEQUENCES

This section is a summary of all the material tax consequences that may be relevant to prospective unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States and, unless otherwise noted in the following discussion, is the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., special counsel to the general partner and us, insofar as it relates to matters of United States federal income tax law and legal conclusions with respect to those matters. This section is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, existing and proposed regulations and current administrative rulings and court decisions, all of which are subject to change. Later changes in these authorities may cause the tax consequences to vary substantially from the consequences described below. Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this section to "us" or "we" are references to Williams Energy Partners and the operating partnership.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

No attempt has been made in this section to comment on all federal income tax matters affecting us or the unitholders. Moreover, the discussion focuses on unitholders who are individual citizens or residents of the United States and has only limited application to corporations, estates, trusts, nonresident aliens or other unitholders subject to specialized tax treatment, such as tax-exempt institutions, foreign persons, individual retirement accounts (IRAs), real estate investment trusts (REITs) or mutual funds. Accordingly, we recommend that each prospective unitholder consult, and depend on, his own tax advisor in analyzing the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences particular to him of the ownership or disposition of common units.

All statements as to matters of law and legal conclusions, but not as to factual matters, contained in this section, unless otherwise noted, are the opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. and some are based on the accuracy of the representations we make.

No ruling has been or will be requested from the IRS regarding any matter affecting us or prospective unitholders. An opinion of counsel represents only that counsel's best legal judgment and does not bind the IRS or the courts. Accordingly, the opinions and statements made here may not be sustained by a court if contested by the IRS. Any contest of this sort with the IRS may materially and adversely impact the market for the common units and the prices at which common units trade. In addition, the costs of any contest with the IRS will be borne directly or indirectly by the unitholders and the general partner. Furthermore, the tax treatment of us, or of an investment in us, may be significantly modified by future legislative or administrative changes or court decisions. Any modifications may or may not be retroactively applied.

For the reasons described below, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion with respect to the following specific federal income tax issues:

(1) the treatment of a unitholder whose common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units (please read "-- Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership -- Treatment of Short Sales");

(2) whether our monthly convention for allocating taxable income and losses is permitted by existing Treasury regulations (please read "-- Disposition of Common Units -- Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees"); and

(3) whether our method for depreciating Section 743 adjustments is sustainable (please read "-- Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership -- Section 754 Election").

PARTNERSHIP STATUS

A partnership is not a taxable entity and incurs no federal income tax liability. Instead, each partner of a partnership is required to take into account his share of items of income, gain, loss and deduction of the partnership in computing his federal income tax liability, regardless of whether cash distributions are made to him by the partnership. Distributions by a partnership to a partner are generally not taxable unless the amount of cash distributed is in excess of the partner's adjusted basis in his partnership interest.

No ruling has been or will be sought from the IRS and the IRS has made no determination as to our status or the status of the operating partnership as partnerships for federal income tax purposes or whether our operations generate "qualifying income" under Section 7704 of the Code. Instead, we will rely on the

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. that, based upon the Internal Revenue Code, its regulations, published revenue rulings and court decisions and the representations described below, Williams Energy Partners and the operating partnership are and will be classified as partnerships for federal income tax purposes.

In rendering its opinion, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has relied on factual representations made by us and the general partner. The representations made by us and our general partner upon which counsel has relied are:

(a) Neither we nor the operating partnership has elected or will elect to be treated as a corporation; and

(b) For each taxable year, more than 90% of our gross income has been and will be income that our counsel has opined or will opine is "qualifying income" within the meaning of Section 7704(d) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code provides that publicly-traded partnerships will, as a general rule, be taxed as corporations. However, an exception, referred to as the "Qualifying Income Exception," exists with respect to publicly-traded partnerships of which 90% or more of the gross income for every taxable year consists of "qualifying income." Qualifying income includes income and gains derived from the transportation, storage and processing of crude oil, natural gas and products thereof and fertilizer. Other types of qualifying income include interest other than from a financial business, dividends, gains from the sale of real property and gains from the sale or other disposition of assets held for the production of income that otherwise constitutes qualifying income. We estimate that less than 7% of our current income is not qualifying income; however, this estimate could change from time to time. Based upon and subject to this estimate, the factual representations made by us and the general partner and a review of the applicable legal authorities, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is of the opinion that at least 90% of our current gross income constitutes qualifying income.

If we fail to meet the Qualifying Income Exception, other than a failure which is determined by the IRS to be inadvertent and which is cured within a reasonable time after discovery, we will be treated as if we had transferred all of our assets, subject to liabilities, to a newly formed corporation, on the first day of the year in which we fail to meet the Qualifying Income Exception, in return for stock in that corporation, and then distributed that stock to the unitholders in liquidation of their interests in us. This contribution and liquidation should be tax-free to unitholders and us so long as we, at that time, do not have liabilities in excess of the tax basis of our assets. Thereafter, we would be treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes.

If we were taxable as a corporation in any taxable year, either as a result of a failure to meet the Qualifying Income Exception or otherwise, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction would be reflected only on our separate tax returns rather than being passed through to the unitholders, and our net income would be taxed to us at corporate rates. In addition, any distribution made to a unitholder would be treated as either taxable dividend income, to the extent of Williams Energy Partners' current or accumulated earnings and profits, or, in the absence of earnings and profits, a nontaxable return of capital, to the extent of the unitholder's tax basis in his common units, or taxable capital gain, after the unitholder's tax basis in his common units is reduced to zero. Accordingly, taxation as a corporation would result in a material reduction in a unitholder's cash flow and after-tax return and thus would likely result in a substantial reduction of the value of the units.

The remainder of this section is based on Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.'s opinion that we and the operating partnership will be classified as partnerships for

federal income tax purposes.

33

LIMITED PARTNER STATUS

Unitholders who have become limited partners of Williams Energy Partners will be treated as partners of Williams Energy Partners for federal income tax purposes. Also:

(a) assignees who have executed and delivered transfer applications, and are awaiting admission as limited partners, and

(b) unitholders whose common units are held in street name or by a nominee and who have the right to direct the nominee in the exercise of all substantive rights attendant to the ownership of their common units,

will be treated as partners of Williams Energy Partners for federal income tax purposes. As there is no direct authority addressing assignees of common units who are entitled to execute and deliver transfer applications and become entitled to direct the exercise of attendant rights, but who fail to execute and deliver transfer applications, counsel's opinion does not extend to these persons. Furthermore, a purchaser or other transferee of common units who does not execute and deliver a transfer application may not receive some federal income tax information or reports furnished to record holders of common units unless the common units are held in a nominee or street name account and the nominee or broker has executed and delivered a transfer application for those common units.

A beneficial owner of common units whose units have been transferred to a short seller to complete a short sale would appear to lose his status as a partner with respect to those units for federal income tax purposes. Please read "-- Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership -- Treatment of Short Sales."

Income, gain, deductions or losses would not appear to be reportable by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes, and any cash distributions received by a unitholder who is not a partner for federal income tax purposes would therefore be fully taxable as ordinary income. These holders should consult their own tax advisors with respect to their status as partners in Williams Energy Partners for federal income tax purposes.

TAX CONSEQUENCES OF UNIT OWNERSHIP

Flow-through of Taxable Income. We will not pay any federal income tax. Instead, each unitholder will be required to report on his income tax return his share of our income, gains, losses and deductions without regard to whether corresponding cash distributions are received by him. Consequently, we may allocate income to a unitholder even if he has not received a cash distribution. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his allocable share of our income, gains, losses and deductions for our taxable year ending with or within his taxable year.

Treatment of Distributions. Distributions by us to a unitholder generally will not be taxable to the unitholder for federal income tax purposes to the extent of his tax basis in his common units immediately before the distribution. Our cash distributions in excess of a unitholder's tax basis generally will be considered to be gain from the sale or exchange of the common units, taxable in accordance with the rules described under "-- Disposition of Common Units" below. Any reduction in a unitholder's share of our liabilities for which no partner, including the general partner, bears the economic risk of loss, known as "nonrecourse liabilities," will be treated as a distribution of cash to that

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

unitholder. To the extent our distributions cause a unitholder's "at risk" amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year, he must recapture any losses deducted in previous years. Please read "-- Limitations on Deductibility of Losses."

A decrease in a unitholder's percentage interest in us because of our issuance of additional common units will decrease his share of our nonrecourse liabilities, and thus will result in a corresponding deemed distribution of cash. A non-pro rata distribution of money or property may result in ordinary income to a unitholder, regardless of his tax basis in his common units, if the distribution reduces the unitholder's share of our "unrealized receivables," including depreciation recapture, and/or substantially appreciated "inventory items," both as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, and collectively, "Section 751 Assets."

34

To that extent, he will be treated as having been distributed his proportionate share of the Section 751 Assets and having exchanged those assets with us in return for the non-pro rata portion of the actual distribution made to him. This latter deemed exchange will generally result in the unitholder's realization of ordinary income. That income will equal the excess of (1) the non-pro rata portion of that distribution over (2) the unitholder's tax basis for the share of Section 751 Assets deemed relinquished in the exchange.

Basis of Common Units. A unitholder's initial tax basis for his common units will be the amount he paid for the common units plus his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be increased by his share of our income and by any increases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. That basis will be decreased, but not below zero, by distributions from us, by the unitholder's share of our losses, by any decreases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities and by his share of our expenditures that are not deductible in computing taxable income and are not required to be capitalized. A limited partner will have no share of our debt which is recourse to the general partner, but will have a share, generally based on his share of profits, of our nonrecourse liabilities. Please read "-- Disposition of Common Units -- Recognition of Gain or Loss."

Limitations on Deductibility of Losses. The deduction by a unitholder of his share of our losses will be limited to the tax basis in his units and, in the case of an individual unitholder or a corporate unitholder, if more than 50% of the value of the corporate unitholder's stock is owned directly or indirectly by five or fewer individuals or some tax-exempt organizations, to the amount for which the unitholder is considered to be "at risk" with respect to our activities, if that is less than his tax basis. A unitholder must recapture losses deducted in previous years to the extent that distributions cause his at risk amount to be less than zero at the end of any taxable year. Losses disallowed to a unitholder or recaptured as a result of these limitations will carry forward and will be allowable to the extent that his tax basis or at risk amount, whichever is the limiting factor, is subsequently increased. Upon the taxable disposition of a unit, any gain recognized by a unitholder can be offset by losses that were previously suspended by the at risk limitation but may not be offset by losses suspended by the basis limitation. Any excess loss above that gain previously suspended by the at risk or basis limitations is no longer utilizable.

In general, a unitholder will be at risk to the extent of the tax basis of his units, excluding any portion of that basis attributable to his share of our nonrecourse liabilities, reduced by any amount of money he borrows to acquire or hold his units, if the lender of those borrowed funds owns an interest in us, is related to the unitholder or can look only to the units for repayment. A

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

unitholder's at risk amount will increase or decrease as the tax basis of the unitholder's units increases or decreases, other than tax basis increases or decreases attributable to increases or decreases in his share of our nonrecourse liabilities.

The passive loss limitations generally provide that individuals, estates, trusts and some closely-held corporations and personal service corporations can deduct losses from passive activities, which are generally activities in which the taxpayer does not materially participate, only to the extent of the taxpayer's income from those passive activities. The passive loss limitations are applied separately with respect to each publicly-traded partnership. Consequently, any losses we generate will only be available to offset our passive income generated in the future and will not be available to offset income from other passive activities or investments, including our investments or investments in other publicly-traded partnerships, or salary or active business income. Passive losses that are not deductible because they exceed a unitholder's share of income we generate may be deducted in full when he disposes of his entire investment in us in a fully taxable transaction with an unrelated party. The passive activity loss rules are applied after other applicable limitations on deductions, including the at risk rules and the basis limitation.

A unitholder's share of our net income may be offset by any suspended passive losses, but it may not be offset by any other current or carryover losses from other passive activities, including those attributable to other publicly-traded partnerships.

Limitations on Interest Deductions. The deductibility of a non-corporate taxpayer's "investment interest expense" is generally limited to the amount of that taxpayer's "net investment income." The IRS has indicated that net passive income from a publicly-traded partnership constitutes investment income for

35

purposes of the limitations on the deductibility of investment interest. In addition, the unitholder's share of our portfolio income will be treated as investment income. Investment interest expense includes:

- interest on indebtedness properly allocable to property held for investment;
- our interest expense attributed to portfolio income; and
- the portion of interest expense incurred to purchase or carry an interest in a passive activity to the extent attributable to portfolio income.

The computation of a unitholder's investment interest expense will take into account interest on any margin account borrowing or other loan incurred to purchase or carry a unit. Net investment income includes gross income from property held for investment and amounts treated as portfolio income under the passive loss rules, less deductible expenses, other than interest, directly connected with the production of investment income, but generally does not include gains attributable to the disposition of property held for investment.

Entity-Level Collections. If we are required or elect under applicable law to pay any federal, state or local income tax on behalf of any unitholder or the general partner or any former unitholder, we are authorized to pay those taxes from our funds. That payment, if made, will be treated as a distribution of cash to the partner on whose behalf the payment was made. If the payment is made on behalf of a person whose identity cannot be determined, we are authorized to treat the payment as a distribution to all current unitholders. We are

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

authorized to amend the partnership agreement in the manner necessary to maintain uniformity of intrinsic tax characteristics of units and to adjust later distributions, so that after giving effect to these distributions, the priority and characterization of distributions otherwise applicable under the partnership agreement is maintained as nearly as is practicable. Payments by us as described above could give rise to an overpayment of tax on behalf of an individual partner in which event the partner would be required to file a claim in order to obtain a credit or refund.

Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction. In general, if we have a net profit, our items of income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated among the general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us. At any time that distributions are made to the common units in excess of distributions to the subordinated units, or incentive distributions are made to the general partner, gross income will be allocated to the recipients to the extent of these distributions. If we have a net loss for the entire year, that loss will be allocated first to the general partner and the unitholders in accordance with their percentage interests in us to the extent of their positive capital accounts and, second, to the general partner.

Specified items of our income, gain, loss and deduction will be allocated to account for the difference between the tax basis and fair market value of our assets at the time of an offering, referred to in this discussion as "Contributed Property." The effect of these allocations to a unitholder purchasing common units in our offering will be essentially the same as if the tax basis of our assets were equal to their fair market value at the time of the offering. In addition, items of recapture income will be allocated to the extent possible to the partner who was allocated the deduction giving rise to the treatment of that gain as recapture income in order to minimize the recognition of ordinary income by some unitholders. Finally, although we do not expect that our operations will result in the creation of negative capital accounts, if negative capital accounts nevertheless result, items of our income and gain will be allocated in an amount and manner to eliminate the negative balance as quickly as possible.

An allocation of items of our income, gain, loss or deduction, other than an allocation required by the Internal Revenue Code to eliminate the difference between a partner's "book" capital account, credited with the fair market value of Contributed Property, and "tax" capital account, credited with the tax basis of Contributed Property, referred to in this discussion as the "Book-Tax Disparity", will generally be given effect for federal income tax purposes in determining a partner's share of an item of income, gain, loss or deduction only if the allocation has substantial economic effect. In any other case, a partner's share of an item will be determined on the basis of his interest in us, which will be determined by taking into account all the facts and circumstances, including his relative contributions to us, the interests of all the partners in

36

profits and losses, the interest of all the partners in cash flow and other nonliquidating distributions and rights of all the partners to distributions of capital upon liquidation.

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is of the opinion that, with the exception of the issues described in "-- Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership -- Section 754 Election" and "-- Disposition of Common Units -- Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees," allocations under our partnership agreement will be given effect for federal income tax purposes in determining a partner's share of an item of income, gain, loss or deduction.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

Treatment of Short Sales. A unitholder whose units are loaned to a "short seller" to cover a short sale of units may be considered as having disposed of those units. If so, he would no longer be a partner for those units during the period of the loan and may recognize gain or loss from the disposition. As a result, during this period:

- any of our income, gain, loss or deduction with respect to those units would not be reportable by the unitholder;
- any cash distributions received by the unitholder as to those units would be fully taxable; and
- all of these distributions would appear to be ordinary income.

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion regarding the treatment of a unitholder where common units are loaned to a short seller to cover a short sale of common units; therefore, unitholders desiring to assure their status as partners and avoid the risk of gain recognition from a loan to a short seller should modify any applicable brokerage account agreements to prohibit their brokers from borrowing their units. The IRS has announced that it is actively studying issues relating to the tax treatment of short sales of partnership interests. Please also read "-- Disposition of Common Units -- Recognition of Gain or Loss."

Alternative Minimum Tax. Each unitholder will be required to take into account his distributive share of any items of our income, gain, loss or deduction for purposes of the alternative minimum tax. The current minimum tax rate for noncorporate taxpayers is 26% on the first \$175,000 of alternative minimum taxable income in excess of the exemption amount and 28% on any additional alternative minimum taxable income. Prospective unitholders should consult with their tax advisors as to the impact of an investment in units on their liability for the alternative minimum tax.

Tax Rates. In general, the highest effective United States federal income tax rate for individuals for 2002 is 38.6% and the maximum United States federal income tax rate for net capital gains of an individual for 2002 is 20% if the asset disposed of was held for more than 12 months at the time of disposition.

Section 754 Election. We have made the election permitted by Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code. That election is irrevocable without the consent of the IRS. The election will generally permit us to adjust a common unit purchaser's tax basis in our assets ("inside basis") under Section 743(b) of the Internal Revenue Code to reflect his purchase price. This election does not apply to a person who purchases common units directly from us. The Section 743(b) adjustment belongs to the purchaser and not to other partners. For purposes of this discussion, a partner's inside basis in our assets will be considered to have two components: (1) his share of our tax basis in our assets ("common basis") and (2) his Section 743(b) adjustment to that basis.

Treasury regulations under Section 743 of the Internal Revenue Code require, if the remedial allocation method is adopted (which we have adopted), a portion of the Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to recovery property to be depreciated over the remaining cost recovery period for the Section 704(c) built-in gain. Under Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to property subject to depreciation under Section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code rather than cost recovery deductions under Section 168 is generally required to be depreciated using either the straight-line method or the 150% declining balance method. Under our partnership agreement, the general partner is authorized to take a position to preserve the uniformity of units even if that position

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

is not consistent with these Treasury regulations. Please read "-- Tax Treatment of Operations -- Uniformity of Units."

Although Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is unable to opine as to the validity of this approach because there is no clear authority on this issue, we intend to depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the common basis of the property, or treat that portion as non-amortizable to the extent attributable to property the common basis of which is not amortizable. This method is consistent with the regulations under Section 743 but is arguably inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6), which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets. To the extent this Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may take a depreciation or amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation or amortization, whether attributable to common basis or a Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our assets. This kind of aggregate approach may result in lower annual depreciation or amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders. Please read "-- Tax Treatment of Operations -- Uniformity of Units."

A Section 754 election is advantageous if the transferee's tax basis in his units is higher than the units' share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately prior to the transfer. In that case, as a result of the election, the transferee would have, among other items, a greater amount of depreciation and depletion deductions and his share of any gain on a sale of our assets would be less. Conversely, a Section 754 election is disadvantageous if the transferee's tax basis in his units is lower than those units' share of the aggregate tax basis of our assets immediately prior to the transfer. Thus, the fair market value of the units may be affected either favorably or unfavorably by the election.

The calculations involved in the Section 754 election are complex and will be made on the basis of assumptions as to the value of our assets and other matters. For example, the allocation of the Section 743(b) adjustment among our assets must be made in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code. The IRS could seek to reallocate some or all of any Section 743(b) adjustment we allocated to our tangible assets to goodwill instead. Goodwill, as an intangible asset, is generally amortizable over a longer period of time or under a less accelerated method than our tangible assets. We cannot assure you that the determinations we make will not be successfully challenged by the IRS and that the deductions resulting from them will not be reduced or disallowed altogether. Should the IRS require a different basis adjustment to be made, and should, in our opinion, the expense of compliance exceed the benefit of the election, we may seek permission from the IRS to revoke our Section 754 election. If permission is granted, a subsequent purchaser of units may be allocated more income than he would have been allocated had the election not been revoked.

TAX TREATMENT OF OPERATIONS

Accounting Method and Taxable Year. We use the year ending December 31 as our taxable year and the accrual method of accounting for federal income tax purposes. Each unitholder will be required to include in income his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our taxable year ending within or with his taxable year. In addition, a unitholder who has a taxable year ending on a date

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

other than December 31 and who disposes of all of his units following the close of our taxable year but before the close of his taxable year must include his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction in income for his taxable year, with the result that he will be required to include in income for his taxable year his share of more than one year of our income, gain, loss and deduction. Please read "-- Disposition of Common Units -- Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees."

38

Tax Basis, Depreciation and Amortization. The tax basis of our assets will be used for purposes of computing depreciation and cost recovery deductions and, ultimately, gain or loss on the disposition of these assets. The federal income tax burden associated with the difference between the fair market value of our assets and their tax basis immediately prior to an offering will be borne by the general partner, its affiliates and our other unitholders as of that time. Please read "-- Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction."

To the extent allowable, we may elect to use the depreciation and cost recovery methods that will result in the largest deductions being taken in the early years after assets are placed in service. We are not entitled to any amortization deductions with respect to any goodwill conveyed to us on formation. Property we subsequently acquire or construct may be depreciated using accelerated methods permitted by the Internal Revenue Code.

If we dispose of depreciable property by sale, foreclosure, or otherwise, all or a portion of any gain, determined by reference to the amount of depreciation previously deducted and the nature of the property, may be subject to the recapture rules and taxed as ordinary income rather than capital gain. Similarly, a partner who has taken cost recovery or depreciation deductions with respect to property we own will likely be required to recapture some or all of those deductions as ordinary income upon a sale of his interest in us. Please read "-- Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership -- Allocation of Income, Gain, Loss and Deduction" and "-- Disposition of Common Units -- Recognition of Gain or Loss."

The costs incurred in selling our units (called "syndication expenses") must be capitalized and cannot be deducted currently, ratably or upon our termination. There are uncertainties regarding the classification of costs as organization expenses, which we may amortize, and as syndication expenses, which we may not amortize. The underwriting discounts and commissions we incur will be treated as syndication expenses.

Valuation and Tax Basis of Our Properties. The federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of units will depend in part on our estimates of the relative fair market values, and the initial tax bases, of our assets. Although we may from time to time consult with professional appraisers regarding valuation matters, we will make many of the relative fair market value estimates ourselves. These estimates of basis are subject to challenge and will not be binding on the IRS or the courts. If the estimates of fair market value or basis are later found to be incorrect, the character and amount of items of income, gain, loss or deductions previously reported by unitholders might change, and unitholders might be required to adjust their tax liability for prior years and incur interest and penalties with respect to those adjustments.

DISPOSITION OF COMMON UNITS

Recognition of Gain or Loss. Gain or loss will be recognized on a sale of units equal to the difference between the amount realized and the unitholder's tax basis for the units sold. A unitholder's amount realized will be measured by

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

the sum of the cash or the fair market value of other property he receives plus his share of our nonrecourse liabilities. Because the amount realized includes a unitholder's share of our nonrecourse liabilities, the gain recognized on the sale of units could result in a tax liability in excess of any cash received from the sale.

Prior distributions from us in excess of cumulative net taxable income for a common unit that decreased a unitholder's tax basis in that common unit will, in effect, become taxable income if the common unit is sold at a price greater than the unitholder's tax basis in that common unit, even if the price received is less than his original cost.

Except as noted below, gain or loss recognized by a unitholder, other than a "dealer" in units, on the sale or exchange of a unit held for more than one year will generally be taxable as capital gain or loss. Capital gain recognized by an individual on the sale of units held more than 12 months will generally be taxed at a maximum rate of 20%. A portion of this gain or loss, which will likely be substantial, however, will be separately computed and taxed as ordinary income or loss under Section 751 of the Internal Revenue Code to the extent attributable to assets giving rise to depreciation recapture or other "unrealized

39

receivables" or to "inventory items" we own. The term "unrealized receivables" includes potential recapture items, including depreciation recapture. Ordinary income attributable to unrealized receivables, inventory items and depreciation recapture may exceed net taxable gain realized upon the sale of a unit and may be recognized even if there is a net taxable loss realized on the sale of a unit. Thus, a unitholder may recognize both ordinary income and a capital loss upon a sale of units. Net capital loss may offset capital gains and no more than \$3,000 of ordinary income, in the case of individuals, and may only be used to offset capital gain in the case of corporations.

The IRS has ruled that a partner who acquires interests in a partnership in separate transactions must combine those interests and maintain a single adjusted tax basis for all those interests. Upon a sale or other disposition of less than all of those interests, a portion of that tax basis must be allocated to the interests sold using an "equitable apportionment" method. Treasury regulations allow a selling unitholder who can identify common units transferred with an ascertainable holding period to elect to use the actual holding period of the common units transferred. Thus, according to the ruling, a common unitholder will be unable to select high or low basis common units to sell as would be the case with corporate stock, but, according to the regulations, may designate specific common units sold for purposes of determining the holding period of units transferred. A unitholder electing to use the actual holding period of common units transferred must consistently use that identification method for all subsequent sales or exchanges of common units. A unitholder considering the purchase of additional units or a sale of common units purchased in separate transactions should consult his tax advisor as to the possible consequences of this ruling and application of the Treasury regulations.

Specific provisions of the Internal Revenue Code affect the taxation of some financial products and securities, including partnership interests, by treating a taxpayer as having sold an "appreciated" partnership interest, one in which gain would be recognized if it were sold, assigned or terminated at its fair market value, if the taxpayer or related persons enter(s) into:

- a short sale;
- an offsetting notional principal contract; or

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- a futures or forward contract with respect to the partnership interest or substantially identical property.

Moreover, if a taxpayer has previously entered into a short sale, an offsetting notional principal contract or a futures or forward contract with respect to the partnership interest, the taxpayer will be treated as having sold that position if the taxpayer or a related person then acquires the partnership interest or substantially identical property. The Secretary of Treasury is also authorized to issue regulations that treat a taxpayer that enters into transactions or positions that have substantially the same effect as the preceding transactions as having constructively sold the financial position.

Allocations Between Transferors and Transferees. In general, our taxable income and losses will be determined annually, will be prorated on a monthly basis and will be subsequently apportioned among the unitholders in proportion to the number of units owned by each of them as of the opening of the applicable exchange on the first business day of the month (the "Allocation Date"). However, gain or loss realized on a sale or other disposition of our assets other than in the ordinary course of business will be allocated among the unitholders on the Allocation Date in the month in which that gain or loss is recognized. As a result, a unitholder transferring units may be allocated income, gain, loss and deduction realized after the date of transfer.

The use of this method may not be permitted under existing Treasury regulations. Accordingly, Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. is unable to opine on the validity of this method of allocating income and deductions between unitholders. If this method is not allowed under the Treasury regulations, or only applies to transfers of less than all of the unitholder's interest, our taxable income or losses might be reallocated among the unitholders. We are authorized to revise our method of allocation between unitholders to conform to a method permitted under future Treasury regulations.

40

A unitholder who owns units at any time during a quarter and who disposes of them prior to the record date set for a cash distribution for that quarter will be allocated items of our income, gain, loss and deductions attributable to that quarter but will not be entitled to receive that cash distribution.

Notification Requirements. A purchaser of units from another unitholder is required to notify us in writing of that purchase within 30 days after the purchase. We are required to notify the IRS of that transaction and to furnish specified information to the transferor and transferee. However, these reporting requirements do not apply to a sale by an individual who is a citizen of the United States and who effects the sale or exchange through a broker.

Constructive Termination. We will be considered to have been terminated for tax purposes if there is a sale or exchange of 50% or more of the total interests in our capital and profits within a 12-month period. A constructive termination results in the closing of our taxable year for all unitholders. In the case of a unitholder reporting on a taxable year other than a fiscal year ending December 31, the closing of our taxable year may result in more than 12 months of our taxable income or loss being includable in his taxable income for the year of termination. We would be required to make new tax elections after a termination, including a new election under Section 754 of the Internal Revenue Code, and a termination would result in a deferral of our deductions for depreciation. A termination could also result in penalties if we were unable to determine that the termination had occurred. Moreover, a termination might either accelerate the application of, or subject us to, any tax legislation enacted before the termination.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

UNIFORMITY OF UNITS

Because we cannot match transferors and transferees of units, we must maintain uniformity of the economic and tax characteristics of the units to a purchaser of these units. In the absence of uniformity, we may be unable to completely comply with a number of federal income tax requirements, both statutory and regulatory. A lack of uniformity can result from a literal application of Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6). Any non-uniformity could have a negative impact on the value of the units. Please read "-- Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership -- Section 754 Election."

We intend to depreciate the portion of a Section 743(b) adjustment attributable to unrealized appreciation in the value of Contributed Property, to the extent of any unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, using a rate of depreciation or amortization derived from the depreciation or amortization method and useful life applied to the common basis of that property, or treat that portion as nonamortizable, to the extent attributable to property the common basis of which is not amortizable, consistent with the regulations under Section 743, even though that position may be inconsistent with Treasury Regulation Section 1.167(c)-1(a)(6) which is not expected to directly apply to a material portion of our assets. Please read "-- Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership -- Section 754 Election." To the extent that the Section 743(b) adjustment is attributable to appreciation in value in excess of the unamortized Book-Tax Disparity, we will apply the rules described in the Treasury regulations and legislative history. If we determine that this position cannot reasonably be taken, we may adopt a depreciation and amortization position under which all purchasers acquiring units in the same month would receive depreciation and amortization deductions, whether attributable to a common basis or Section 743(b) adjustment, based upon the same applicable rate as if they had purchased a direct interest in our property. If this position is adopted, it may result in lower annual depreciation and amortization deductions than would otherwise be allowable to some unitholders and risk the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions not taken in the year that these deductions are otherwise allowable. This position will not be adopted if we determine that the loss of depreciation and amortization deductions will have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. If we choose not to utilize this aggregate method, we may use any other reasonable depreciation and amortization method to preserve the uniformity of the intrinsic tax characteristics of any units that would not have a material adverse effect on the unitholders. The IRS may challenge any method of depreciating the Section 743(b) adjustment described in this paragraph. If this challenge were sustained, the uniformity of units might be affected, and the gain from the sale of units might be increased without the benefit of additional deductions. Please read "-- Disposition of Common Units -- Recognition of Gain or Loss."

41

TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER INVESTORS

Ownership of units by employee benefit plans, other tax-exempt organizations, non-resident aliens, foreign corporations, other foreign persons and regulated investment companies raises issues unique to those investors and, as described below, may have substantially adverse tax consequences to them.

Employee benefit plans and most other organizations exempt from federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, are subject to federal income tax on unrelated business taxable income. Virtually all of our income allocated to a unitholder which is a tax-exempt organization will be unrelated business taxable income and will be taxable to them.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

A regulated investment company or "mutual fund" is required to derive 90% or more of its gross income from interest, dividends and gains from the sale of stocks or securities or foreign currency or specified related sources. It is not anticipated that any significant amount of our gross income will include that type of income.

Non-resident aliens and foreign corporations, trusts or estates that own units will be considered to be engaged in business in the United States because of the ownership of units. As a consequence they will be required to file federal tax returns to report their share of our income, gain, loss or deduction and pay federal income tax at regular rates on their share of our net income or gain. And, under rules applicable to publicly traded partnerships, we will withhold tax, at the highest effective rate applicable to individuals, from cash distributions made quarterly to foreign unitholders. Each foreign unitholder must obtain a taxpayer identification number from the IRS and submit that number to our transfer agent on a Form W-8 or applicable substitute form in order to obtain credit for these withholding taxes.

In addition, because a foreign corporation that owns units will be treated as engaged in a United States trade or business, that corporation may be subject to the United States branch profits tax at a rate of 30%, in addition to regular federal income tax, on its share of our income and gain, as adjusted for changes in the foreign corporation's "U.S. net equity," which are effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business. That tax may be reduced or eliminated by an income tax treaty between the United States and the country in which the foreign corporate unitholder is a "qualified resident." In addition, this type of unitholder is subject to special information reporting requirements under Section 6038C of the Internal Revenue Code.

Under a ruling of the IRS, a foreign unitholder who sells or otherwise disposes of a unit will be subject to federal income tax on gain realized on the sale or disposition of that unit to the extent that this gain is effectively connected with a United States trade or business of the foreign unitholder. Apart from the ruling, a foreign unitholder will not be taxed or subject to withholding upon the sale or disposition of a unit if he has owned less than 5% in value of the units during the five-year period ending on the date of the disposition and if the units are regularly traded on an established securities market at the time of the sale or disposition.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Information Returns and Audit Procedures. We intend to furnish to each unitholder, within 90 days after the close of each calendar year, specific tax information, including a Schedule K-1, which describes his share of our income, gain, loss and deduction for our preceding taxable year. In preparing this information, which will not be reviewed by counsel, we will take various accounting and reporting positions, some of which have been mentioned earlier, to determine his share of income, gain, loss and deduction. We cannot assure you that those positions will yield a result that conforms to the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, regulations or administrative interpretations of the IRS. Neither we nor counsel can assure prospective unitholders that the IRS will not successfully contend in court that those positions are impermissible. Any challenge by the IRS could negatively affect the value of the units.

The IRS may audit our federal income tax information returns. Adjustments resulting from an IRS audit may require each unitholder to adjust a prior year's tax liability, and possibly may result in an audit

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

of his own return. Any audit of a unitholder's return could result in adjustments not related to our returns as well as those related to our returns.

Partnerships generally are treated as separate entities for purposes of federal tax audits, judicial review of administrative adjustments by the IRS and tax settlement proceedings. The tax treatment of partnership items of income, gain, loss and deduction are determined in a partnership proceeding rather than in separate proceedings with the partners. The Internal Revenue Code requires that one partner be designated as the "Tax Matters Partner" for these purposes. The partnership agreement names Williams GP LLC as our Tax Matters Partner.

The Tax Matters Partner will make some elections on our behalf and on behalf of unitholders. In addition, the Tax Matters Partner can extend the statute of limitations for assessment of tax deficiencies against unitholders for items in our returns. The Tax Matters Partner may bind a unitholder with less than a 1% profits interest in us to a settlement with the IRS unless that unitholder elects, by filing a statement with the IRS, not to give that authority to the Tax Matters Partner. The Tax Matters Partner may seek judicial review, by which all the unitholders are bound, of a final partnership administrative adjustment and, if the Tax Matters Partner fails to seek judicial review, judicial review may be sought by any unitholder having at least a 1% interest in profits or by any group of unitholders having in the aggregate at least a 5% interest in profits. However, only one action for judicial review will go forward, and each unitholder with an interest in the outcome may participate.

A unitholder must file a statement with the IRS identifying the treatment of any item on his federal income tax return that is not consistent with the treatment of the item on our return. Intentional or negligent disregard of this consistency requirement may subject a unitholder to substantial penalties.

Nominee Reporting. Persons who hold an interest in us as a nominee for another person are required to furnish to us:

- (a) the name, address and taxpayer identification number of the beneficial owner and the nominee;
- (b) whether the beneficial owner is
 - (1) a person that is not a United States person,
 - (2) a foreign government, an international organization or any wholly owned agency or instrumentality of either of the foregoing, or
 - (3) a tax-exempt entity;
- (c) the amount and description of units held, acquired or transferred for the beneficial owner; and
- (d) specific information including the dates of acquisitions and transfers, means of acquisitions and transfers, and acquisition cost for purchases, as well as the amount of net proceeds from sales.

Brokers and financial institutions are required to furnish additional information, including whether they are United States persons and specific information on units they acquire, hold or transfer for their own account. A penalty of \$50 per failure, up to a maximum of \$100,000 per calendar year, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code for failure to report that information to us. The nominee is required to supply the beneficial owner of the units with the information furnished to us.

Registration as a Tax Shelter. The Internal Revenue Code requires that

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

"tax shelters" be registered with the Secretary of the Treasury. The temporary Treasury regulations interpreting the tax shelter registration provisions of the Internal Revenue Code are extremely broad. It is arguable that we are not subject to the registration requirement on the basis that we will not constitute a tax shelter. However, we have registered as a tax shelter with the Secretary of Treasury in the absence of assurance that we will not be subject to tax shelter registration and in light of the substantial penalties which might be imposed if registration is required and not undertaken. Our tax shelter registration number is 01036000014.

43

Issuance of this registration number does not indicate that investment in us or the claimed tax benefits have been reviewed, examined or approved by the IRS.

A unitholder who sells or otherwise transfers a unit in a later transaction must furnish the registration number to the transferee. The penalty for failure of the transferor of a unit to furnish the registration number to the transferee is \$100 for each failure. The unitholders must disclose our tax shelter registration number on Form 8271 to be attached to the tax return on which any deduction, loss or other benefit we generate is claimed or on which any of our income is included. A unitholder who fails to disclose the tax shelter registration number on his return, without reasonable cause for that failure, will be subject to a \$250 penalty for each failure. Any penalties discussed are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Accuracy-related Penalties. An additional tax equal to 20% of the amount of any portion of an underpayment of tax that is attributable to one or more specified causes, including negligence or disregard of rules or regulations, substantial understatements of income tax and substantial valuation misstatements, is imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. No penalty will be imposed, however, for any portion of an underpayment if it is shown that there was a reasonable cause for that portion and that the taxpayer acted in good faith regarding that portion.

A substantial understatement of income tax in any taxable year exists if the amount of the understatement exceeds the greater of 10% of the tax required to be shown on the return for the taxable year or \$5,000 (\$10,000 for most corporations). The amount of any understatement subject to penalty generally is reduced if any portion is attributable to a position adopted on the return:

- (1) for which there is, or was, "substantial authority," or
- (2) as to which there is a reasonable basis and the pertinent facts of that position are disclosed on the return.

More stringent rules apply to "tax shelters," a term that in this context does not appear to include us. If any item of income, gain, loss or deduction included in the distributive shares of unitholders might result in that kind of an "understatement" of income for which no "substantial authority" exists, we must disclose the pertinent facts on our return. In addition, we will make a reasonable effort to furnish sufficient information for unitholders to make adequate disclosure on their returns to avoid liability for this penalty.

A substantial valuation misstatement exists if the value of any property, or the adjusted basis of any property, claimed on a tax return is 200% or more of the amount determined to be the correct amount of the valuation or adjusted basis. No penalty is imposed unless the portion of the underpayment attributable to a substantial valuation misstatement exceeds \$5,000 (\$10,000 for most corporations). If the valuation claimed on a return is 400% or more than the

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

correct valuation, the penalty imposed increases to 40%.

STATE, LOCAL AND OTHER TAX CONSIDERATIONS

In addition to federal income taxes, you will be subject to other taxes, including state and local income taxes, unincorporated business taxes, and estate, inheritance or intangible taxes that may be imposed by the various jurisdictions in which we do business or own property or in which you are a resident. We currently do business or own property in 18 states, most of which impose income taxes. We may also own property or do business in other states in the future. Although an analysis of those various taxes is not presented here, each prospective unitholder should consider their potential impact on his investment in us. You may not be required to file a return and pay taxes in some states because your income from that state falls below the filing and payment requirement. You will be required, however, to file state income tax returns and to pay state income taxes in many of the states in which we do business or own property, and you may be subject to penalties for failure to comply with those requirements. In some states, tax losses may not produce a tax benefit in the year incurred and also may not be available to offset income in subsequent taxable years. Some of the states may require us, or we may elect, to withhold a percentage of income from amounts to be distributed to a unitholder who is not a resident of the state. Withholding, the amount of which may be greater or less than a particular unitholder's income tax liability to the state, generally does not relieve a nonresident unitholder from the obligation to file an income tax

44

return. Amounts withheld may be treated as if distributed to unitholders for purposes of determining the amounts distributed by us. Please read "-- Tax Consequences of Unit Ownership -- Entity-Level Collections." Based on current law and our estimate of our future operations, the general partner anticipates that any amounts required to be withheld will not be material.

It is the responsibility of each unitholder to investigate the legal and tax consequences, under the laws of pertinent states and localities, of his investment in us. Accordingly, each prospective unitholder should consult, and must depend upon, his own tax counsel or other advisor with regard to those matters. Further, it is the responsibility of each unitholder to file all state and local, as well as United States federal tax returns, that may be required of him. Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. has not rendered an opinion on the state or local tax consequences of an investment in us.

TAX CONSEQUENCES OF OWNERSHIP OF DEBT SECURITIES

A description of the material federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of debt securities will be set forth on the prospectus supplement relating to the offering of debt securities.

45

INVESTMENT IN US BY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

An investment in us by an employee benefit plan is subject to certain additional considerations because the investments of such plans are subject to the fiduciary responsibility and prohibited transaction provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), and restrictions imposed by Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code. As used herein, the term "employee benefit plan" includes, but is not limited to, qualified pension, profit-sharing and stock bonus plans, Keogh plans, simplified employee pension plans and tax deferred annuities or IRAs established or

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

maintained by an employer or employee organization. Among other things, consideration should be given to (a) whether such investment is prudent under Section 404(a)(1)(B) of ERISA; (b) whether in making such investment, such plan will satisfy the diversification requirement of Section 404(a)(1)(C) of ERISA; and (c) whether such investment will result in recognition of unrelated business taxable income by such plan and, if so, the potential after-tax investment return. Please read "Tax Considerations -- Tax-Exempt Organizations and Other Investors." The person with investment discretion with respect to the assets of an employee benefit plan (a "fiduciary") should determine whether an investment in us is authorized by the appropriate governing instrument and is a proper investment for such plan.

Section 406 of ERISA and Section 4975 of the Internal Revenue Code (which also applies to IRAs that are not considered part of an employee benefit plan) prohibit an employee benefit plan from engaging in certain transactions involving "plan assets" with parties that are "parties in interest" under ERISA or "disqualified persons" under the Internal Revenue Code with respect to the plan.

In addition to considering whether the purchase of limited partnership units is a prohibited transaction, a fiduciary of an employee benefit plan should consider whether such plan will, by investing in us, be deemed to own an undivided interest in our assets, with the result that our general partner also would be a fiduciary of such plan and our operations would be subject to the regulatory restrictions of ERISA, including its prohibited transaction rules, as well as the prohibited transaction rules of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Department of Labor regulations provide guidance with respect to whether the assets of an entity in which employee benefit plans acquire equity interests would be deemed "plan assets" under certain circumstances. Pursuant to these regulations, an entity's assets would not be considered to be "plan assets" if, among other things, (a) the equity interest acquired by employee benefit plans are publicly offered securities -- i.e., the equity interests are widely held by 100 or more investors independent of the issuer and each other, freely transferable and registered pursuant to certain provisions of the federal securities laws, (b) the entity is an "Operating Partnership"-- i.e., it is primarily engaged in the production or sale of a product or service other than the investment of capital either directly or through a majority owned subsidiary or subsidiaries, or (c) there is no significant investment by benefit plan investors, which is defined to mean that less than 25% of the value of each class of equity interest (disregarding certain interests held by our general partner, its affiliates and certain other persons) is held by the employee benefit plans referred to above, IRAs and other employee benefit plans not subject to ERISA (such as governmental plans). Our assets should not be considered "plan assets" under these regulations because it is expected that the investment will satisfy the requirements in (a) and (b) above and may also satisfy the requirements in (c).

Plan fiduciaries contemplating a purchase of limited partnership units should consult with their own counsel regarding the consequences under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code in light of the serious penalties imposed on persons who engage in prohibited transactions or other violations.

46

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities being offered hereby:

- directly to purchasers;

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

- through agents;
- through underwriters; and
- through dealers.

We, or agents designated by us, may directly solicit, from time to time, offers to purchase the securities. Any such agent may be deemed to be an underwriter as that term is defined in the Securities Act of 1933. We will name the agents involved in the offer or sale of the securities and describe any commissions payable by us to these agents in the prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, these agents will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of their appointment. The agents may be entitled under agreements which may be entered into with us to indemnification by us against specific civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933. The agents may also be our customers or may engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

If we utilize any underwriters in the sale of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, we will enter into an underwriting agreement with those underwriters at the time of sale to them. We will set forth the names of these underwriters and the terms of the transaction in the prospectus supplement, which will be used by the underwriters to make resales of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered to the public. We may indemnify the underwriters under the relevant underwriting agreement to indemnification by us against specific liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. The underwriters may also be our customers or may engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

If we utilize a dealer in the sale of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, we will sell those securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell those securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale. We may indemnify the dealers against specific liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. The dealers may also be our customers or may engage in transactions with, or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

The place and time of delivery for the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered are set forth in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

LEGAL

Certain legal matters in connection with the securities will be passed upon by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., Houston, Texas, as our counsel. Any underwriter will be advised about other issues relating to any offering by its own legal counsel.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Williams Energy Partners L.P. for the year ended December 31, 2001 appearing in Williams Energy Partners L.P.'s Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed May 9, 2002 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, as set forth in their reports thereon included therein and incorporated herein by reference. These consolidated financial statements and consolidated balance sheet are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

Edgar Filing: WILLIAMS ENERGY PARTNERS L P - Form 424B2

8,000,000 COMMON UNITS
REPRESENTING LIMITED PARTNER INTERESTS

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
MAY 23, 2002

Joint Book-Running Managers

LEHMAN BROTHERS

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY

BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC

MERRILL LYNCH & CO.

UBS WARBURG

A.G. EDWARDS & SONS, INC.

JPMORGAN

RAYMOND JAMES

RBC CAPITAL MARKETS

WACHOVIA SECURITIES

LOGO