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WILLIAMS COMPANIES INC Form 8-K March 20, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 19, 2002

The Williams Companies, Inc.
-----(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 1-4174 73-0569878
-----(State or other (Commission (I.R.S. Employer jurisdiction of File Number) Identification No.) incorporation)

One Williams Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74172
----(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

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

Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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Item 5. Other Events.

On March 19, 2002, The Williams Companies, Inc. (NYSE:WMB) announced it

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had closed a two-part debt transaction of \$1.5 billion. Williams sold the securities in a private placement as follows: \$850 million of 30-year notes with a interest rate of 8.75% and \$650 million of 10-year notes with a interest rate of 8.125%. Williams will use the proceeds to repay outstanding short-term debt, provide working capital and for general corporate purposes.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Williams files the following exhibit as part of this report:

Exhibit 99.1 Copy of Williams' press release dated March 19, 2002, publicly announcing the matters reported herein.

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

THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES, INC.

Date: March 20, 2002 /s/ Suzanne H. Costin

Name: Suzanne H. Costin Title: Corporate Secretary

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
99.1	Copy of Williams' press release dated March 19, 2002, publicly
	announcing the matters reported herein.