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

# FORM 8-K

#### **CURRENT REPORT**

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

May 1, 2016

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

# **ENERGY TRANSFER EQUITY, L.P.**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-32740

(Commission File Number)

30-0108820

(IRS Employer Identification Number)

8111 Westchester Drive, Suite 600, Dallas, Texas 75225 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(214) 981-0700

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the followin
provisions:
x Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- $\square$  Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- □ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

#### Item 1.01. Entry Into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On September 28, 2015, The Williams Companies, Inc. ("Williams"), Energy Transfer Equity, L.P. ("Energy Transfer" or the "Partnership"), Energy Transfer Corp LP ("ETC"), Energy Transfer Corp GP, LLC ("ETC GP"), LE GP, LLC ("LE") and Energy Transfer Equity GP, LLC ("ETE GP" and, together with Energy Transfer, ETC, ETC GP and LE, the "ETE Parties"), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Merger Agreement"), providing that Williams will be merged with and into ETC (the "Merger"), with ETC surviving the Merger. Energy Transfer formed ETC as a limited partnership that will elect to be treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

On May 1, 2016, Williams and the ETE Entities entered into Amendment No. 1 to the Merger Agreement (the "Amendment"), pursuant to which the form of election (the "Form of Election"), through which Williams stockholders will elect their preferred form of merger consideration, will be mailed to Williams stockholders on the same date as the proxy statement / prospectus related to the Williams' stockholder meeting to consider and vote upon the Merger. In addition, the Amendment changes the deadline for receipt of the Form of Election by the exchange agent from 30 days prior to the closing of the Merger to the earlier of (i) 20 business days after the mailing of the Form of Election to Williams stockholders and (ii) three business days prior to the anticipated closing date of the Merger.

The proxy statement / prospectus may not be mailed prior to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") completing its review of the proxy statement / prospectus and declaring effective the Registration Statement on Form S-4. In this regard, the SEC sent a letter to Energy Transfer and Williams on April 25, 2016 that contained a request for additional or clarifying disclosure to be included in the proxy statement / prospectus with respect to several matters. Energy Transfer and Williams are continuing to jointly develop appropriate revisions to the proxy statement / prospectus to address these requests prior to the resubmission to the SEC for its further review. In light of this ongoing SEC review process and the desire of Energy Transfer and Williams to mail the Form of Election and the proxy statement / prospectus to Williams stockholders at the same time, Energy Transfer and Williams agreed, pursuant to the Amendment, to eliminate the standalone requirement for Energy Transfer to mail the Form of Election so that the Form of Election and the proxy statement / prospectus will be mailed together and provide for a reduction of the time period between the election deadline and the anticipated closing date.

Other than as expressly modified pursuant the Amendment, the Merger Agreement, which was filed as Exhibit 2.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") by Energy Transfer on September 29, 2015, remains in full force and effect as originally executed on September 28, 2015. The foregoing description of the Amendment and the transactions contemplated thereby does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, the full text of the Amendment, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference in this Item 1.01.

As previously disclosed on the Partnership's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 19, 2016, if the closing of the Merger were to have occurred as of the date of the last amendment to ETC's Registration Statement on Form S-4 filed with the SEC on April 18, 2016, Latham & Watkins LLP would have been unable to deliver to ETC and Williams its tax opinion to the effect that the contribution of Williams' assets and liabilities to the Partnership and the Partnership's issuance of Class E units to ETC should qualify as an exchange to which Section 721(a) of the Internal Revenue Code applies (the "721 Opinion"). The receipt by ETC and Williams of the 721 Opinion is one of the conditions to the closing of the Merger and the Partnership believes that there is a substantial risk that the condition will not be satisfied.

### Forward-looking Statements

This Current Report on Form 8-K may contain forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the potential merger of the Partnership and Williams, the expected future performance of the combined company (including expected results of operations and financial guidance), and the combined company's future financial condition, operating results, strategy and plans. Forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of the words "anticipates," "expects," "intends," "plans," "should," "could," "would," "may," "will," "believes," "estimates," "potential," "target," "opportunity," "designed," "create," "predict," "project," "seek," "ongoing," "increases" or "continue" and variations or similar expressions. These statements are based upon the current expectations and beliefs of management and are subject to numerous assumptions, risks and uncertainties that change over time and could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. These assumptions, risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, assumptions, risks and uncertainties discussed in the most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for each of the Partnership, Energy Transfer Partners, L.P. ("ETP"), Sunoco Logistics Partners L.P. ("SXL"), Sunoco LP ("SUN"), Williams and Williams Partners LP ("WPZ") filed with the SEC and assumptions, risks and uncertainties relating to the proposed transaction, as detailed from time to time in the Partnership's, ETP's, SXL's, SUN's, Williams' and WPZ's filings with the SEC, which factors are incorporated herein by reference. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements we make in this Current Report are set forth in other reports or documents that the Partnership, ETP, SXL, SUN, Williams and WPZ file from

time to time with the SEC include, but are not limited to: (1) the ultimate outcome of any business combination transaction between the Partnership, ETC and Williams; (2) the ultimate outcome and results of integrating the operations of the Partnership and Williams, the ultimate outcome of the Partnership's operating strategy applied to Williams and the ultimate ability to realize cost savings and synergies; (3) the effects of the business combination transaction of the Partnership, ETC and Williams, including the combined company's future financial condition, operating results, strategy and plans; (4) the ability to obtain required regulatory approvals and meet other closing conditions to the transaction, including approval under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, and Williams stockholder approval, on a timely basis or at all; (5) the reaction of the companies' stockholders, customers, employees and counterparties to the proposed transaction; (6) diversion of management time on transaction-related issues; (7) unpredictable economic conditions in the United States and other markets, including fluctuations in the market price of the Partnership's common units and ETC common shares; (8) the ability to obtain the intended tax treatment in connection with the issuance of ETC common shares to Williams stockholders; (9) the ability to maintain the Partnership's, ETP's, SXL's, SUN's, Williams' and WPZ's current credit ratings; and (10) the outcome and impact of the lawsuits filed by Williams against the Partnership and its management. All forward-looking statements attributable to the Partnership or any person acting on the Partnership's behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any of these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this Current Report or to reflect actual outcomes.

#### **Additional Information**

This Current Report does not constitute an offer to buy or solicitation of an offer to sell any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended. This Current Report relates to the entry by the Partnership and Williams into definitive agreements for a combination of the two companies. In furtherance of this proposal and subject to future developments, the Partnership, ETC and Williams may file one or more registration statements, proxy statements or other documents with the SEC. This Current Report is not a substitute for any proxy statement, registration statement, prospectus or other document the Partnership, ETC or Williams may file with the SEC in connection with the proposed transaction. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS OF THE PARTNERSHIP AND WILLIAMS ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT(S), REGISTRATION STATEMENT, PROSPECTUS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY IN THEIR ENTIRETY IF AND WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE AS THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED BUSINESS COMBINATION TRANSACTION. Any definitive proxy statement(s) (if and when available) will be mailed to stockholders of Williams. Investors and security holders will be able to obtain free copies of these documents (if and when available) and other documents filed with the SEC by the Partnership, ETC and Williams through the web site maintained by the SEC at http://www.sec.gov. Copies of the documents filed by the Partnership and ETC with the SEC will be available free of charge on the Partnership's website at www.energytransfer.com or by contacting Investor Relations at 214-981-0700 and copies of the documents filed by Williams with the SEC will be available on Williams' website at investor.

The Partnership and its directors, executive officers and other members of management and employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed transaction. Information regarding the directors and officers of the Partnership's general partner is contained in the Partnership's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on February 29, 2016 (as it may be amended from time to time). Additional information regarding the interests of such potential participants will be included in the proxy statement / prospectus and other relevant documents filed with the SEC if and when they become available. Investors should read the proxy statement / prospectus carefully when it becomes available before making any voting or investment decisions. You may obtain free copies of these documents from the Partnership using the sources indicated above.

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

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

# **Exhibit No. Description**

Amendment No 1. to Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of May 1, 2016, by and among The Williams Companies, Inc., Energy Transfer Corp LP, Energy Transfer Corp GP, LLC, Energy Transfer Equity, L.P., LE GP, LLC and Energy Transfer Equity GP, LLC

# **SIGNATURES**

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

**Energy Transfer Equity, L.P.** 

By: LE GP, LLC, its general partner

By: <u>/s/ John W. McReynolds</u> Name: John W. McReynolds

Title: President

Date: May 2, 2016

#### **EXHIBIT INDEX**

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(d) Exhibits.

# **Exhibit No. Description**

Amendment No 1. to Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of May 1, 2016, by and among The Williams Companies, Inc., Energy Transfer Corp LP, Energy Transfer Corp GP, LLC, Energy Transfer Equity, L.P., LE GP, LLC and Energy Transfer Equity GP, LLC

# AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER

This Amendment No. 1 (this "Amendment") to the Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of September 28, 2015 (the "Merger Agreement"), among ENERGY TRANSFER CORP LP, a Delaware limited partnership ("TopCo"), ENERGY TRANSFER CORP GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the general partner of TopCo (f/k/a ETE Corp GP, LLC) ("TopCo GP"), ENERGY TRANSFER EQUITY, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Parent"), LE GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and the general partner of Parent ("Parent GP"), ENERGY TRANSFER EQUITY GP, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("ETE GP"), and THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES, INC., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), is entered into as of this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2016, among TopCo, TopCo GP, Parent, Parent GP, ETE GP and the Company.

WHEREAS the parties hereto wish to amend the Merger Agreement in the manner set forth in this Amendment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7.03 of the Merger Agreement, the Merger Agreement may be amended by an instrument in writing signed on behalf of each of TopCo, TopCo GP, Parent, Parent GP, ETE GP and the Company.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto agree as follows:

SECTION 1. <u>Definitions</u>. Capitalized terms used in this Amendment but not defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Merger Agreement.

## SECTION 2. Amendments to the Merger Agreement.

(a) The first sentence of Section 2.03(c) of the Merger Agreement is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

"TopCo shall mail or cause to be mailed or delivered, as applicable, the Form of Election to record holders of Company Common Stock as of the record date for the Company Stockholders' Meeting on the same date (the "Mailing Date") that the Proxy Statement is mailed by the Company to its stockholders."

(b) The third sentence of Section 2.03(d) of the Merger Agreement is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

"As used herein, unless otherwise jointly agreed in advance by the Company and TopCo, "Election Deadline" means 5:00 p.m. local time (in the city in which the principal office of the Exchange Agent is located) on the date that is the earlier of (a) the twentieth (20th) business day after the Mailing Date and (b) three (3) business days prior to the anticipated Closing Date."

SECTION 3. <u>Limited Amendment</u>. Except as specifically amended hereby, the Merger Agreement shall continue in full force and effect in accordance with the provisions thereof as in existence on the date hereof without any further modification thereto. From and

after the date hereof, any reference to the "Merger Agreement" shall mean the Merger Agreement as amended hereby.

SECTION 4. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Amendment may be executed in one or more counterparts (including by facsimile or by attachment to electronic mail in portable document format (.pdf)), all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement and shall become effective when one or more counterparts have been signed by each of the parties hereto and delivered to the other parties hereto.

SECTION 5. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Amendment shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the internal laws and judicial decisions of the State of Delaware applicable to agreements executed and performed entirely within such state, regardless of the laws that might otherwise govern under applicable principles of conflicts of laws thereof.

SECTION 6. Specific Enforcement; Consent to Jurisdiction. (a) The parties hereto agree that irreparable damage would occur and that the parties would not have any adequate remedy at law in the event that any provision of this Amendment were not performed in accordance with its specific terms or were otherwise breached and that monetary damages, even if available, would not be an adequate remedy therefor and that the right of specific enforcement is an integral part of the Transactions and without that right, neither the Company nor Parent would have entered into the Merger Agreement or this Amendment. It is accordingly agreed that, the Company and Parent shall be entitled to an injunction or injunctions to prevent breaches of this Amendment and to enforce specifically the performance of the terms and provisions of this Amendment without proof of actual damages. The parties hereto further agree not to assert that a remedy of specific enforcement by the Company or Parent is unenforceable, invalid, contrary to Law or inequitable for any reason, and not to assert that a remedy of monetary damages would provide an adequate remedy or that the Company or Parent otherwise have an adequate remedy at law. The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that either the Company or Parent seeking an order or injunction to prevent breaches of this Amendment and to enforce specifically the terms and provisions of this Amendment in accordance with this Section 6 shall not be required to provide any bond or other security in connection with any such order or injunction.

(b) Each of the parties hereto irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware (or if such court declines to accept jurisdiction over a particular matter, any state or Federal court within the state of Delaware) for the purposes of any suit, action or other proceeding arising out of or relating to this Amendment and the rights and obligations hereunder or for the recognition and enforcement of any judgment in respect of this Amendment and the rights and obligations arising hereunder. Each of the parties hereto hereby irrevocably submits with regard to any such action or proceeding for itself and in respect of its property, generally and unconditionally, to the personal jurisdiction of the aforesaid courts and agrees that it will not bring any actions relating to this Amendment in any court other than the aforesaid courts. Each of the parties hereto irrevocably and unconditionally waives, and agrees not to assert, by way of motion, as a defense, counterclaim or otherwise, in any action or proceeding with respect to this Amendment, (x) any claim that it is not personally subject to the jurisdiction of the above named courts for any reason other than the failure to serve in

accordance with this Section 6, (y) any claim that it or its property is exempt or immune from jurisdiction of any such court or from any legal process commenced in such courts (whether through service of notice, attachment prior to judgment, attachment in aid of execution of judgment, execution of judgment or otherwise) and (z) to the fullest extent permitted by the applicable Law, any claim that (1) the suit, action or proceeding in such court is brought in an inconvenient forum, (2) the venue of such suit, action or proceeding is improper, or (3) this Amendment, or the subject matter hereof, may not be enforced in or by such courts. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable Law, each of the parties hereto hereby consents to the service of process in accordance with Section 8.02 of the Merger Agreement; provided, however, that nothing herein shall affect the right of any party to serve legal process in any other manner permitted by Law.

SECTION 7. WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL. EACH PARTY ACKNOWLEDGES AND AGREES THAT ANY CONTROVERSY WHICH MAY ARISE UNDER THIS AMENDMENT IS LIKELY TO INVOLVE COMPLICATED AND DIFFICULT ISSUES, AND THEREFORE IT HEREBY IRREVOCABLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY LITIGATION DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AMENDMENT, THE MERGER AGREEMENT AND ANY OF THE AGREEMENTS DELIVERED IN CONNECTION HEREWITH OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY OR THEREBY. EACH PARTY CERTIFIES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT (A) NO REPRESENTATIVE, AGENT OR ATTORNEY OFANY OTHER PARTY HAS REPRESENTED, EXPRESSLY OR OTHERWISE, THAT SUCH OTHER PARTY WOULD NOT, IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, SEEK TO ENFORCE THE FOREGOING WAIVER, (B) IT UNDERSTANDS AND HAS CONSIDERED THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUCH WAIVER, (C) IT MAKES SUCH WAIVER VOLUNTARILY AND (D) IT HAS BEEN INDUCED TO ENTER INTO THIS AMENDMENT BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE MUTUAL WAIVER AND CERTIFICATIONS IN THIS SECTION 7.

[Signature pages follow]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company, TopCo, TopCo GP, Parent, Parent GP and ETE GP have caused this Amendment to be signed by their respective officers thereunto duly authorized, all as of the date first written above.

# THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES, INC.

By:

/s/ Donald R. Chappel

Name: Donald R. Chappel

Title: Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer

#### ENERGY TRANSFER CORP LP

By: ENERGY TRANSFER CORP GP, LLC, its general partner

By:

/s/ Kelcy L. Warren

Name: Kelcy L. Warren

Title: Authorized Representative

#### ENERGY TRANSFER CORP GP, LLC

By:

/s/ Kelcy L. Warren

Name: Kelcy L. Warren

Title: Authorized Representative

# ENERGY TRANSFER EQUITY, L.P.

By: LE GP, LLC, its general partner

By:

/s/ John W. McReynolds

Name: John W. McReynolds

Title: President

By:

/s/ John W. McReynolds

Name: John W. McReynolds

Title: President

# ENERGY TRANSFER EQUITY GP, LLC

By:

/s/ John W. McReynolds

Name: John W. McReynolds

Title: President