

Williams Hosts Public Workshops

Approximately 60 people attended one of three public workshops in northern and southern Virginia Jan. 24-26 to gather information and ask questions about Williams' proposed expansion of its Transco natural gas pipeline.

The expansion, known as the Potomac project, includes pipeline construction in three Virginia counties: Campbell, Pittsylvania and Fairfax. The workshops are designed to solicit early feedback from members of the community so that issues with potential facility locations can be identified and addressed.

“We are early in this process,” said Project Manager Larry Dearing. “The earlier we can get out in front of people and begin this dialogue, the better off we are going to be.”

The proposal will require approximately 20 miles of new 42-inch pipeline that will loop the company's existing mainline system in Pittsylvania and Campbell counties, and replace a portion of pipe in Fairfax County.

Williams expects to file a certificate application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in July 2006.

“It is important to us that all interested stakeholders are given an opportunity to review the study area and provide feedback,” said Allen Smith, environmental specialist. “The comments gathered during this planning phase will help shape the project scope.”

The proposed Potomac expansion is being designed to increase deliveries on the Transco pipeline by approximately 165,000 dekatherms per day.



