

Williams' Commitment to Safety



According to the National Transportation Safety Board, natural gas pipelines are the safest mode of transportation today – surpassing highway, railroad, airborne or waterborne transport.

Interstate pipelines are regulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Pipeline Safety, which imposes a broad range of construction and operations standards. Williams has its own high standards for pipeline design, material specifications, construction, maintenance and testing.

- Pipeline representatives inspect the pipe at the mills during fabrication to ensure its quality meets or exceeds both federal and industry standards.
- Protective coatings are applied at the mill and on on-site to prevent moisture from coming into contact with the metal.
- The welds linking the pipe joints are x-rayed to ensure integrity.
- Once the pipeline is in the ground, it is tested with water at pressures higher than normal operating pressure to ensure the pipeline's integrity.
- Automatic shut-off valves are installed for safety.
- After the pipeline is installed, we put in a low-voltage electrical system called cathodic protection that, along with the pipe's coating, is designed to prevent corrosion of the steel pipeline.
- Internal, electronic inspection devices, called smart pigs, are used to detect any anomalies.



- Aerial and ground inspection of pipeline rights of way occur on a regular basis.
- Markers are posted along our rights of way to let you know there is a pipeline in your area. These markers are checked annually.
- Pipeline personnel monitor our systems 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our equipment can detect even a slight change in pressure or flow. Dispatchers can quickly activate emergency shutdown procedures if they detect a problem.