

HINSON W RON  
Form 4  
March 08, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
HINSON W RON

(Last) (First) (Middle)

30 IVAN ALLEN JR. BLVD. NW

(Street)

ATLANTA, GA 30308

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
SOUTHERN CO [SO]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
03/07/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_X\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Comptroller

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(D)	Price
Southern Company Common Stock	03/07/2012		M		11,197	A	\$ 31.17 11,410
Southern Company Common Stock	03/07/2012		S		11,197	D	\$ 44.5794 213
Southern Company Common Stock	03/07/2012		M		12,451	A	\$ 31.39 12,664

Southern  
Company  
Common  
Stock      03/07/2012      S      12,451      D      \$  
44,5794      213      D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

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(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Option Right To Buy <sup>(1)</sup> <sub>(2)</sub>	\$ 31.17	03/07/2012		M	11,197	02/15/2011	02/15/2020	Southern Company Common Stock	11,197
Option Right to Buy <sup>(1)</sup> <sub>(2)</sub>	\$ 31.39	03/07/2012		M	12,451	02/16/2010	02/16/2019	Southern Company Common Stock	12,451

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HINSON W RON 30 IVAN ALLEN JR. BLVD. NW ATLANTA, GA 30308			Comptroller	

## Signatures

/s/ Patricia L. Roberts, Attorney-in-Fact for W. Ron  
Hinson

03/08/2012

        \*\*Signature of Reporting Person

        Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) Options vest 33% per year on the anniversary of the grant date.

(2) Includes the right to have shares withheld upon exercise to satisfy tax withholding obligations.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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