

SOUTHERN CO  
Form 3  
March 13, 2006

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *		2. Date of Event Requiring Statement	3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol	
Â HINSON W RON		(Month/Day/Year)	SOUTHERN CO [SO]	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	03/11/2006	
30 IVAN ALLEN JR. BOULEVARD			4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
(Street)			(Check all applicable)	
ATLANTA,Â GAÂ 30308			<input type="checkbox"/> Director	<input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
			(give title below)	(specify below)
			Comptroller	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person
				<input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Southern Company Common Stock	4,144.54	I	By 401(k)
Southern Company Common Stock	1,234.04	I	By ESOP

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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.**

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Option Right to Buy <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u>	02/15/2003	02/15/2012	Southern Company Common Stock	7,724	\$ 25.26	D	Â
Option Right to Buy <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u>	02/14/2004	02/14/2013	Southern Company Common Stock	10,576	\$ 27.98	D	Â
Option Right to Buy	02/13/2005	02/13/2014	Southern Company Common Stock	10,384	\$ 29.5	D	Â
Option Right to Buy	02/18/2006	02/18/2015	Southern Company Common Stock	10,574	\$ 32.7	D	Â
Option Right to Buy <u>(1)</u>	02/20/2007	02/20/2016	Southern Company Common Stock	18,717	\$ 33.81	D	Â
Phantom Stock Units <u>(3)</u>	Â <u>(3)</u>	Â <u>(3)</u>	Southern Company Common Stock	7.09	\$ 0	D	Â

## Reporting Owners

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

## Signatures

By: Patricia L. Roberts, Attorney  
in fact 03/13/2006

        Signature of Reporting Person

        Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).

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- (1) Includes the right to have shares withheld upon exercise to satisfy tax withholding obligations.
- (2) Options Vest 33% per year on the anniversary of the grant date.
- (3) Includes phantom stock units acquired as if reinvested in the dividend reinvestment plan. There is no exercise or expiration date.

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

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