

SOUTHERN CO  
Form 4  
July 30, 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 \*  
STORY SUSAN N

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
30 IVAN ALLEN JR. BLVD  
(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)  
07/27/2012

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)  
President & CEO, SCS

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   | 07/27/2012                           |  | M                              |   | 60,223  | A  | \$ 31.39  |
| Southern Company Common Stock   | 07/27/2012                           |  | S                              |   | 60,223  | D  | \$ 48.4291  |
| Southern Company Common Stock   | 07/27/2012                           |  | M                              |   | 26,358  | A  | \$ 31.17  |

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Southern  
Company  
Common  
Stock      07/27/2012      S      26,358      D      \$  
48,4291      558.302      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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Option Right to Buy                        | \$ 31.39   | 07/27/2012                           |  | M                              | 60,223  | 02/16/2010 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> 02/16/2019 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> | Southern Company Common Stock                     |
| Option Right To Buy                        | \$ 31.17   | 07/27/2012                           |  | M                              | 26,358  | 02/15/2011 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> 02/15/2020 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> | Southern Company Common Stock                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                               | Relationships |           |                      |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer              | Other |
| STORY SUSAN N<br>30 IVAN ALLEN JR. BLVD<br>ATLANTA, GA 30308 |               |           | President & CEO, SCS |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Patricia L. Roberts, Attorney-in-Fact for Susan N. Story      07/30/2012

\_\_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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