FANNING THOMAS A

Form 4

January 30, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average

OMB APPROVAL

burden hours per response...

subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

if no longer

Check this box

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * FANNING THOMAS A (Last) (First) (Middle) | Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol SOUTHERN CO [SO] Date of Earliest Transaction | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| 30 IVAN ALLEN JR. BLVD. NW | (Month/Day/Year) 01/27/2012 | Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) President, CEO & Chairman | | |
| (Street) | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person | | |
| ATLANTA, GA 30308 | Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially O | | | | | | | Owned |
|--|---|--|-----------------|---|-----|--|--|---|-------|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or orDisposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or | | 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) | |
| Southern Company Common Stock | 01/27/2012 | | Code V M | Amount 80,843 | (D) | Price \$ 32.7 | 81,828.3367 | D | |
| Southern Company Common Stock | 01/27/2012 | | M | 95,392 | A | \$ 33.81 | 177,220.3367 | D | |
| Southern Company Common Stock | 01/27/2012 | | M | 99,382 | A | \$ 36.42 | 276,602.3367 | D | |

Edgar Filing: FANNING THOMAS A - Form 4

| Southern Company Common Stock 01/27/2012 | S | 275,617 D | \$ 45.0693 | 985.3367 | D | |
|--|---|-----------|---------------|-------------|---|--------------|
| Southern Company Common Stock | | | | 10,301.2725 | I | By 401(K) |

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.

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | Secu Acqu or D (D) | rities uired (A) isposed of r. 3, 4, | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | Underlying S | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | |
|---|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|---|--|
| | | | | Code V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
| Option Right to Buy (1) (2) | \$ 32.7 | 01/27/2012 | | M | | 80,843 | 02/18/2006 | 02/18/2015 | Southern Company Common Stock | 80,843 | |
| Option Right to Buy (1) (2) | \$ 33.81 | 01/27/2012 | | M | | 95,392 | 02/20/2007 | 02/20/2016 | Southern Company Common Stock | 95,392 | |
| Option Right to Buy (1) (2) | \$ 36.42 | 01/27/2012 | | M | | 99,382 | 02/19/2008 | 02/19/2017 | Southern Company Common Stock | 99,382 | |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

President, CEO & Chairman

Reporting Owners 2

FANNING THOMAS A 30 IVAN ALLEN JR. BLVD. NW ATLANTA, GA 30308

Signatures

/s/ Patricia L. Roberts, Attorney-in-Fact for Thomas A. Fanning

01/30/2012

**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. 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.

Signatures 3