

FANNING THOMAS A  
 Form 4  
 January 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 \*  
 FANNING THOMAS A

(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)  
 01/27/2012

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 President, CEO & Chairman

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 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	(A) or (D)	Price		
Southern Company Common Stock	01/27/2012		M		80,843	A	\$ 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

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.

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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)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
Option Right to Buy <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u>	\$ 32.7	01/27/2012		M	80,843	02/18/2006 02/18/2015	Southern Company Common Stock 80,843
Option Right to Buy <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u>	\$ 33.81	01/27/2012		M	95,392	02/20/2007 02/20/2016	Southern Company Common Stock 95,392
Option Right to Buy <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u>	\$ 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	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
			President, CEO & Chairman	

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.  
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