

SOUTHERN CO  
Form 8-K  
December 31, 2008  
UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D. C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

December 31, 2008

| <b>Commission</b>         | <b>Registrant, State of Incorporation,</b>   | <b>I.R.S. Employer</b>           |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <b><u>File Number</u></b> | <b><u>Address and Telephone Number</u></b>   | <b><u>Identification No.</u></b> |
| 1-3526                    | <b>The Southern Company</b><br><br>(A Delaware Corporation)<br><br>30 Ivan Allen Jr. Boulevard, N.W.<br><br>Atlanta, Georgia 30308<br><br>(404) 506-5000 | 58-0690070                       |

The address of the registrant has not changed since the last report.

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

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- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

**Item 8.01. Other Events**

Attached as Exhibit 100 to this Current Report on Form 8-K are the following materials from The Southern Company Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2008, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on November 6, 2008, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income, (ii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, (iii) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, and (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income. Users of this data are advised pursuant to Rule 401 of Regulation S-T that the financial information contained in the XBRL documents is unaudited and these are not the official publicly filed financial statements of The Southern Company. The purpose of submitting these XBRL formatted documents is to test the related format and technology and, as a result, investors should continue to rely on the official filed version of the furnished documents and not rely on this information in making investment decisions.

In accordance with Rule 402 of Regulation S-T, the information in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including Exhibit 100, shall not be deemed filed for the purposes of section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific references in such filing.

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**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits**

The following exhibits are furnished herewith:

| <b>Exhibit No.</b> | <b>Exhibit Description</b>  |
|--------------------|---|
| 100                | The following materials from The Southern Company Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2008, filed on November 6, 2008, formatted in XBRL (Extensive Business Reporting Language): (i) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income (Unaudited), (ii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited), (iii) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited), and (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited). |

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 31, 2008

THE SOUTHERN COMPANY

By /s/ Wayne Boston

Wayne Boston

Assistant Secretary

**Exhibit Index**

| <b><u>Exhibit No.</u></b> | <b><u>Description</u></b>                    |
|---------------------------|--|
| EX-100.INS                | XBRL Instance Document                       |
| EX-100.SCH                | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document      |
| EX-100.PRE                | XBRL Taxonomy Presentation Linkbase Document |
| EX-100.LAB                | XBRL Taxonomy Label Linkbase Document        |
| EX-100.CAL                | XBRL Taxonomy Calculation Linkbase Document  |
| EX-100.DEF                | XBRL Definition Linkbase Document            |