

SOUTHERN CO  
Form S-8 POS  
January 17, 2018

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 17, 2018  
Registration No. 333-212783

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 1  
TO  
FORM S-8  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

The Southern Company  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)  
Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 58-0690070  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)  
30 Ivan Allen Jr. Boulevard, N.W. 30308  
Atlanta, Georgia (Zip Code)  
(Address of principal executive offices)  
AGL RESOURCES INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLUS PLAN  
NICOR GAS THRIFT PLAN  
THE SOUTHERN COMPANY EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN  
(Full title of the plans)

MELISSA K. CAEN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
THE SOUTHERN COMPANY  
30 Ivan Allen Jr. Boulevard, N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308  
(Name and address of agent for service)  
(404) 506-5000  
(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

The Commission is requested to mail signed copies of all orders, notices and communications to:

ART P. BEATTIE  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
THE SOUTHERN COMPANY  
30 Ivan Allen Jr. Boulevard, N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308  
ERIC A. KOONTZ  
TROUTMAN SANDERS LLP  
600 Peachtree Street, N.E.  
Suite 5200  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308-2216

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated  
filer  (Do not check if a  
smaller reporting  
company) Smaller reporting company   
Emerging growth company

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If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

On July 29, 2016, The Southern Company (the “Company” or the “registrant”) filed a registration statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-212783) (the “Original Registration Statement”) with the Securities and Exchange Commission to register 7,500,000 shares of the Company’s Common Stock, par value \$5 per share (the “Common Stock”), that were available for issuance under the AGL Resources Inc. Retirement Savings Plus Plan (the “AGLR Plan”) and 500,000 shares of Common Stock that were available for issuance under the Nicor Gas Thrift Plan (together with the AGLR Plan, the “Old Plans”).

Effective January 1, 2018 (the “Effective Date”), the Old Plans were merged with and into The Southern Company Employee Savings Plan (the “Plan”) and individuals previously eligible to participate in the Old Plans became eligible to participate in the Plan. The Company has previously registered shares of Common Stock to be issued under the Plan on the registration statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-208173), filed on November 23, 2015.

As of the Effective Date, no new shares of Common Stock will be granted under the Old Plans. The 5,104,157 shares of Common Stock previously registered and reserved for issuance under the Old Plans and remaining unissued as of the Effective Date will become available for issuance under the Plan (the “Carryover Shares”).

Accordingly, pursuant to the undertaking in Item 512(a)(1)(iii) of Regulation S-K that the registrant disclose a material change in the plan of distribution as it was disclosed in the Original Registration Statement, the registrant is filing this Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Original Registration Statement (as amended, the “Registration Statement”) to reflect that, as of the Effective Date, the Carryover Shares may be issued under the Plan and to file as an exhibit hereto a copy of the Plan and a new opinion as to the validity of the Carryover Shares.

This Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Original Registration Statement amends and supplements the items listed below. All other items of the Original Registration Statement are incorporated herein by reference without change.

#### PART II INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

##### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The documents listed below are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement; and all documents subsequently filed by the Company or the Plan pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, prior to the filing of a post effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by

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reference in this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents; provided however, the registrant is not incorporating any information filed under Item 2.02 or 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K unless specifically stated otherwise.

- (a)(1) The registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016.
- (2) The Plan's Annual Report on Form 11-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 (File No. 001-03526).  
The registrant's Current Reports on Form 8-K dated January 6, 2017 (Item 8.01 only), January 31, 2017 (Item 8.01 only), March 2, 2017 (Item 8.01 only), March 16, 2017, March 29, 2017, April 3, 2017 (Item 8.01 only), April 28, 2017, May 1, 2017 (Item 8.01 only), May 12, 2017, May 24, 2017, June 3, 2017, June 5, 2017 (two reports; Items 8.01 only), June 9, 2017, June 22, 2017, June 28, 2017 (two reports), June 30, 2017 (Item 8.01 only), July 20, 2017, July 27, 2017, August 21, 2017, August 31, 2017, October 19, 2017, November 2, 2017, November 17, 2017, November 30, 2017, December 8, 2017 and December 21, 2017.
- (b)(1) The registrant's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2017, June 30, 2017 and September 30, 2017.
- (c) The description of the registrant's Common Stock contained in Registration No. 333-202413 filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 8. Exhibits.

Exhibit  
Number

- 4.1 - Composite Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, reflecting all amendments thereto through May 26, 2016. (Designated in Registration No. 33-3546 as Exhibit 4(a), in Certificate of Notification, File No. 70-7341, as Exhibit A, in Certificate of Notification, File No. 70-8181, as Exhibit A, in Form 8-K dated May 26, 2010, File No. 1-3526, as Exhibit 3.1, and in Form 8-K dated May 25, 2016, File No. 1-3526, as Exhibit 3.1.)
- 4.2 - By-laws of the Company as amended effective May 25, 2016, and as presently in effect. (Designated in Form 8-K dated May 25, 2016, File No. 1-3526, as Exhibit 3.2.)
- 4.3 - The Southern Company Employee Savings Plan, Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2018.
- 5.1 - Opinion of Troutman Sanders LLP, counsel to the Company.
- 23.1 - Consent of Troutman Sanders LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1 above).

Exhibit  
Number

- 23.2 - Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
- 23.3 - Consent of Warren Averett, LLC related to The Southern Company Employee Savings Plan.
- 24.1 - Power of Attorney and Resolution. (Designated in Form S-8 filed July 29, 2016, File No. 333-212783, as Exhibit 24.1.)

Exhibits listed above which have previously been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and which were designated as noted above are incorporated herein by reference.

In lieu of the opinion of counsel or determination letter contemplated by Item 601(b)(5)(ii) of Regulation S-K, the Company hereby undertakes that the Plan and any amendments thereto have been submitted to the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") to the extent required in a timely manner and all changes required by the IRS have been made in order to qualify the Plan under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, The Southern Company certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Atlanta, State of Georgia, on January 17, 2018.

THE SOUTHERN  
COMPANY

By: Thomas A. Fanning  
Chairman, President and  
Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/Melissa K. Caen  
Melissa K. Caen  
Attorney-in-Fact

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

SIGNATURE            TITLE            DATE

Thomas A. Fanning    Chairman,  
President, Chief  
Executive  
Officer and  
Director  
(Principal  
Executive  
Officer)

Art P. Beattie        Executive Vice  
President and  
Chief Financial  
Officer  
(Principal  
Financial  
Officer)

Ann P. Daiss         Comptroller  
and Chief  
Accounting  
Officer  
(Principal  
Accounting  
Officer)

Juanita  
Powell  
Baranco  
Jon A.  
Boscia  
Henry A.  
Clark III

David J.  
Grain  
Veronica  
M. Hagen  
Warren A.  
Hood, Jr.  
Linda P.  
Hudson  
Donald M.  
James  
John D.  
Johns  
Dale E.  
Klein  
William G.  
Smith, Jr.  
Larry D.  
Thompson  
E. Jenner  
Wood III

By: /s/Melissa K.  
Caen  
Melissa K. Caen  
Attorney-in-Fact

January  
17, 2018

The Southern Company Employee Savings Plan. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Atlanta, State of Georgia, on January 17, 2018.

THE SOUTHERN COMPANY EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN

By: /s/Nancy E. Sykes

Nancy E. Sykes, Chair of the Benefits Administration Committee