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ALABAMA POWER CO  
Form 8-K  
August 02, 2004

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) August 2, 2004  
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Commission File Number	Registrant, State of Incorporation, Address and Telephone Number	I.R.S. Employer Identification No.
1-3526	The Southern Company (A Delaware Corporation) 270 Peachtree Street, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 506-5000	58-0690070
1-3164	Alabama Power Company (An Alabama Corporation) 600 North 18th Street Birmingham, Alabama 35291 (205) 257-1000	63-0004250

The addresses of the registrants have not changed since the last report.

This combined Form 8-K is filed separately by two registrants: The Southern Company and Alabama Power Company. Information contained herein relating to each registrant is filed by each registrant solely on its own behalf. Each registrant makes no representation as to information relating to the other registrant.

Item 5. Other Events and Regulation FD Disclosure.

On August 2, 2004, Alabama Power Company made a filing with the Alabama Public Service Commission to establish a specific rate mechanism for the recovery of retail costs associated with environmental laws, regulations or other such mandates. If approved, the rate mechanism would begin operation in January 2005 and provide for the recovery of these costs pursuant to a factor that will be calculated annually. It is anticipated that for the first two years of the increase, retail rates would increase under the proposed mechanism by approximately 1% (\$33 million) in 2005 and approximately an additional 1% (\$30 million) in 2006. Such environmental cost recovery would include operation and maintenance expense, depreciation and a return on invested capital. The outcome

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of this matter cannot now be determined.

### SIGNATURES

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

Date: August 2, 2004

THE SOUTHERN COMPANY

By /s/W. Dean Hudson  
W. Dean Hudson  
Comptroller

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

By /s/Wayne Boston  
Wayne Boston  
Assistant Secretary