

BEST ANTHONY JAMES
Form 4
August 03, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
BEST ANTHONY JAMES

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
SM Energy Co [SM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
1775 SHERMAN STREET, SUITE 1200

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
08/01/2011

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
CEO & President

(Street)
DENVER, CO 80203

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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			
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2011		M ⁽¹⁾		18,689	A	Ⓛ	77,093	D	
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2011		F		7,678	D	\$ 75.56	69,415	D	
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2011		M		5,000	A	Ⓛ	74,415	D	
Common Stock, \$.01	08/01/2011		F		2,054	D	\$ 75.56	72,361	D	

Par Value

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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Performance Share Award	<u>(1)</u>	08/01/2011		<u>M</u> ⁽¹⁾	18,689	08/01/2011 ⁽¹⁾	08/01/2011 ⁽¹⁾	Common Stock	
Restricted Stock Units	<u>(2)</u>	08/01/2011		M	5,000	08/01/2011	08/01/2011	Common Stock	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BEST ANTHONY JAMES 1775 SHERMAN STREET SUITE 1200 DENVER, CO 80203	X		CEO & President	

Signatures

Karin M. Writer
(Attorney-In-Fact) 08/02/2011

**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) On August 1, 2011, the issuer issued 18,689 shares of common stock to the reporting person in a settlement conversion of a performance share award (the "PSA") reported in a Form 4 for the reporting person filed on July 29, 2011. The PSA represented the right to receive, upon the settlement of the PSA, the determined number of earned shares of the issuer's common stock based on the achievement of performance criteria, to the extent that the PSA had vested under separate employment service vesting provisions. The PSA became fully

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vested and was settled in accordance with its terms on 08/01/2011.

Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of stock. The restricted stock unit grant vests as follows: 2,501 (2) shares on 8/1/10, 5,000 shares on 8/1/11 and 9,999 shares on 8/1/12. The vested shares will be issued to the reporting person on the vesting dates, at which time all restrictions on the vested shares will lapse.

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.