

SM Energy Co
Form 4
July 05, 2013

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

(Last) (First) (Middle)

1775 SHERMAN STREET, SUITE 1200

(Street)

DENVER, CO 80203

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
07/02/2013

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)

Chief Executive Officer

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 |
| Common Stock; \$.01 Par Value | 07/02/2013 | | M ⁽¹⁾ | | 63,216 | A | Ⓛ |
| Common Stock; \$.01 Par Value | 07/02/2013 | | F | | 29,447 | D | \$ 60.61 |
| | | | | | 292,405 | | |
| | | | | | 262,958 | | |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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. Un |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-------|
| | | | | Code V (A) (D) | | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Ti |
| Performance Share Award | (1) (2) | 07/02/2013 | | A(1) | 63,216 | 07/02/2013(1)(2) 07/02/2013(1)(2) | C |
| Performance Share Award | (1) (2) | 07/02/2013 | | M(1) | 63,216 | 07/02/2013(1)(2) 07/02/2013(1)(2) | C |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BEST ANTHONY JAMES 1775 SHERMAN STREET SUITE 1200 DENVER, CO 80203 | X | | Chief Executive Officer | |

Signatures

Karin M. Writer
(Attorney-In-Fact) 07/05/2013

__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).

On July 2, 2013, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the issuer determined that 63,216 shares of the issuer's common stock had been earned by the reporting person under the terms of a grant of performance share awards (the "PSAs"), based on the achievement of specific performance criteria that were not tied solely to the market price of the issuer's common stock. The PSAs

- (1) were granted to the reporting person on July 1, 2010, and represent the right to receive, upon the settlement of the PSAs, the determined number of earned shares of the issuer's common stock based on the achievement of the performance criteria over a three-year performance period (with the determined number of earned shares being within a range of zero to two times the number of PSAs granted on the award date), to the extent that the PSAs have vested under separate employment service vesting provisions.
- (2) The PSAs vested 1/7th on July 1, 2011, 2/7ths on July 1, 2012, and 4/7ths on July 1, 2013.

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.