BEST ANTHONY JAMES

Form 4 July 21, 2011

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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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

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **BEST ANTHONY JAMES**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

below)

SM Energy Co [SM]

(Check all applicable)

(First)

(Month/Day/Year) 07/19/2011

(Middle)

_X__ Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

1775 SHERMAN STREET, SUITE

(Street)

CEO & President

1200

4. If Amendment, Date Original

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Instr. 8)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

(Instr. 4)

Person

DENVER, CO 80203

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (I)

(Instr. 4)

(A)

Following Reported Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

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

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

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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

Conversion or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any

4. 5. Number Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date Code Securities

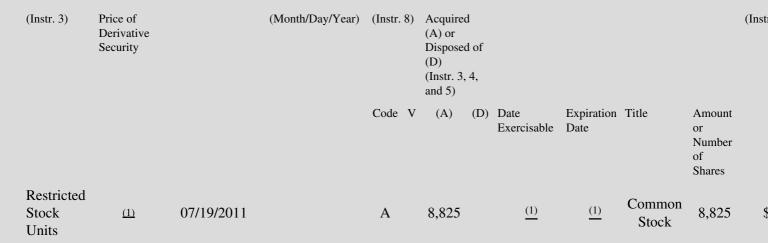
6. Date Exercisable and (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8. Pr **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

Deri

Secu

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Reporting Owners

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

Signatures

DENVER, CO 80203

Karin M. Writer (Attorney-In-Fact) 07/21/2011

**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).

Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of stock. The restricted stock unit grant vests over a three year (1) period, with 1/7th vesting on July 1, 2012, 2/7th vesting on July 1, 2013, and 4/7th vesting on July 1, 2014. 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.

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