

BEST ANTHONY JAMES
 Form 4
 August 03, 2012

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)
08/01/2012

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	08/01/2012		M ⁽¹⁾		105,000	A	Ⓛ
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2012		F		43,136	D	\$ 47.3
Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value	08/01/2012		M		9,999	A	Ⓛ
Common Stock, \$.01	08/01/2012		F		4,108	D	\$ 47.3

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Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of stock. The restricted stock unit grants vested as follows:

- (2) 2,501 shares on 8/1/10, 5,000 shares on 8/1/11 and 9,999 shares on 8/1/12. The vested shares were issued to the reporting person on the vesting dates, at which time all restrictions on the vested shares lapsed.

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.