

Southern Company

Environmental Fact Sheet



UNQUESTIONABLE TRUST

Atlanta-based Southern Company provides reliable, affordable electricity to nearly 4.4 million customers in the Southeast while meeting or surpassing all laws and regulations as determined by state and federal agencies for protecting human health and the environment. We are committed to doing our part to ensure that the Southeast remains a great — and environmentally healthy — place to live, now and for future generations.

SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE

We emphasize environmental responsibility in all our operations, and we are committed to minimizing our impact on the environment as much as possible while providing reliable, affordable energy. We are at the forefront of research to generate energy in new and cleaner ways. And we will continue to pursue the right solutions for addressing the climate change issue and other environmental challenges.

TOTAL COMMITMENT

We are committed to doing our part to help find common sense solutions to the energy needs of our region and the nation. We will continue to seek a balanced supply of energy sources — including coal, nuclear, natural gas and renewables — to meet the needs of our customers. And we continue investing in our communities through projects and partnerships that promote conservation, restoration and increased environmental awareness.

Emission Reduction

- Since 1990, combined emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxide (NO_x) are down more than 30 percent, while megawatt-hour generation has increased more than 40 percent to serve growing demand for electricity.
- Through 2007, invested about \$4.6 billion in environmental controls.
- Planning to spend additional \$3.9 billion through 2010 to further reduce emissions of NO_x, SO₂ and mercury.
- Voluntarily reduced, avoided or offset 165 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) over the past 10 years.

Research and Development

- Managed nearly \$500 million in research and development over the past decade seeking innovative ways to improve the generation, delivery and use of electricity.
- Successfully tested a technology that turns coal into gas that can be used to generate electricity more cleanly than traditional coal-fired power plants.
- Continuing a partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy at a one-of-a-kind advanced coal-based power generation research center in Wilsonville, Alabama.
- Actively involved in research into carbon capture and sequestration, including a demonstration project in Mississippi to inject CO₂ into saline reservoirs nearly two miles below the Earth's surface.

Environmental Stewardship

- Engaged in a \$10.5 million partnership with the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation to conserve Southern birds and their habitats, restore the longleaf pine ecosystem and help communities restore wetland, riparian and coastal habitats.
- Coordinating Renew Our Rivers, inspired by an employee's vision, one of the largest volunteer river clean-up and educational programs in the Southeast.
- Managing corporate lands, reservoirs and easements to promote habitat for wildlife.
- Partnering with conservation groups on site-specific projects.

“We are meeting our challenge to serve the ever-growing need for electricity while continuing to minimize the impact of electricity production on the environment.”

– David Ratcliffe, Chairman, President and CEO



Climate Change

Southern Company’s efforts to address the climate change issue are focused on developing and deploying technologies to reduce greenhouse gases while making sure that electricity remains reliable and affordable. We are committed to finding solutions that make technological, environmental and economic sense.

Addressing Greenhouse Gases

- Developed, with U.S. Department of Energy and KBR, TRIG™ advanced coal gasification technology.
- Member of the Southeast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership, evaluating carbon dioxide (CO₂) capture technologies and underground injection sites.
- Established history of voluntary CO₂ reductions — more than 165 million metric tons through more than 20 projects and planting more than 45 million trees.
- Among first participants in DOE’s Climate Challenge Program.
- Pursuing regulatory approval for two additional non-emitting nuclear power units at Plant Vogtle in Georgia.

Mercury

We have pioneered research into ways to reduce mercury emissions from power plants, such as the first full-scale test of activated carbon injection into baghouses for mercury control. And emissions control technologies being installed at our generating plants to reduce nitrogen oxide (NO_x) and sulfur dioxide (SO₂) have the added benefit of also reducing mercury emissions. Therefore, we expect to make continued progress in reducing mercury emissions from our power plants.

Addressing Mercury

- Partnered with DOE to test advanced mercury control technology.
- Established the nation’s first-of-its-kind mercury controls research test center in Pensacola, Florida.
- Combination of selective catalytic reduction systems and scrubbers is expected to lower mercury emissions from 40 percent to 50 percent below current levels by 2010.
- Supporting research to examine health impacts, deposition and how mercury emissions react in the environment.

Renewables and Energy Efficiency

Though the relative scarcity of renewable resources in the Southeast limits the overall extent of their potential contribution to our generation portfolio, we continue to research and evaluate the development of those sources, particularly biomass, that do show promise for producing cost-effective, reliable and lower-emitting energy. Our operating companies offer a growing variety of programs to help customers use energy more efficiently.

Renewable Energy Initiatives

- Testing of switchgrass and wood chips as biomass fuels co-fired with coal.
- Researching feasibility of converting selected coal units to 100 percent biomass.
- Evaluating potential for wind power generation.
- Selling power from landfill gas and other certified “green” sources.

Energy Efficiency Initiatives

- Existing programs reducing peak demand for electricity by 3,000 megawatts.
- Plan to increase investment in energy efficiency and demand control programs to more than \$1 billion through 2020.