

Leyendecker Gregory T
 Form 4
 July 19, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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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 *
 Leyendecker Gregory T

(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)
 07/17/2012

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)
 Sr. VP & Regional Manager

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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |

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

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SEC 1474
 (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 | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Pr Deriv Secur |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|

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| (Instr. 3) | Price of Derivative Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | (Instr. 3) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | (Instr. 3) |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|---|-----|-----|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Restricted Stock Units | (1) | 07/17/2012 | A | 2,291 | (1) | (1) | | | | | | Common Stock | 2,291 | \$ |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Leyendecker Gregory T 1775 SHERMAN STREET SUITE 1200 DENVER, CO 80203 | | | Sr. VP & Regional Manager | |

Signatures

Karin M. Writer
(Attorney-In-Fact) 07/19/2012

__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 in three equal (1) annual installments beginning on July 1, 2013. 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.