

# Actuarial Report Gulf Power Company

The Southern Company Pension Plan  
For 2009 Fiscal Year

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Hewitt  
Consulting

The Hewitt logo consists of the word "Hewitt" in a white, serif font, centered within a dark blue square.

# Preparation of this Actuarial Valuation

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For 2009 Fiscal Year

## **The Southern Company Pension Plan Gulf Power Company—Allocable Portion**

This report has been prepared primarily to present to management the FAS 87 pension cost allocable to Gulf Power Company (GULF) as set forth in FASB Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 87 (as amended) and No. 88 (as amended), including the provisions in FAS No. 132(R) and FAS No. 158. This cost is a portion of The Southern Company Pension Plan's total cost. GULF's cost is based on the benefit obligations of its employees and the assets in its separately maintained account within The Southern Company Pension Plan trust. In addition, this material describes how well funded GULF's benefit obligations are and GULF's anticipated funding responsibilities for the 2009 plan year.

In conducting the valuation, we have relied on personnel, plan design, and asset information supplied by the Company. While we cannot verify the accuracy of all this information, the supplied information was reviewed for consistency and reasonability. As a result of this review, we have no reason to doubt the substantial accuracy of the information and believe that it has produced appropriate results. This information, along with any adjustments or modifications, is summarized in various sections of this report.

This valuation has been conducted in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and practices, including the applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice as issued by the Actuarial Standards Board. In addition, the valuation results are based on our understanding of the requirements of FAS 87 and FAS 88 (as amended). The information in this report is not intended to supersede or supplant the advice and interpretations of the Company's auditors.

The actuarial assumptions and methods used in this valuation are described in the Actuarial Assumptions section of this report. The Company selected the economic assumptions and prescribed them for use for purposes of compliance with FAS 87 and FAS 88. While the demographic assumptions were also prescribed by the Company, Hewitt Associates provided guidance with respect to these assumptions, and it is our belief that they represent reasonable expectations of anticipated plan experience.

The undersigned are familiar with the near-term and long-term aspects of pension valuations, and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries necessary to render the actuarial opinions contained herein. All of the sections of this report are considered an integral part of the actuarial opinions.

To our knowledge, no associate of Hewitt Associates has any direct financial interest or indirect material interest in the Company, nor has anyone at Hewitt Associates acted as an officer or director of the Company. Thus, there is no relationship existing that might affect our capacity to prepare and certify this actuarial report for the Company.

The funding portion of this report is based on our interpretations of requirements mandated by various, recent pieces of legislation which have not been fully clarified through regulation. We expect these understandings and interpretations to be fully acceptable.

Hewitt Associates LLC



Scott C. Twery  
Fellow of the Society of Actuaries  
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October 2009

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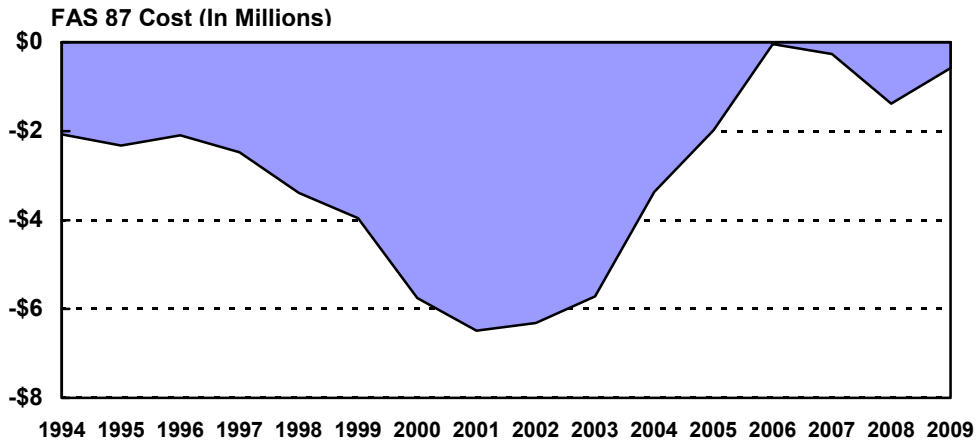
# Summary

# Summary

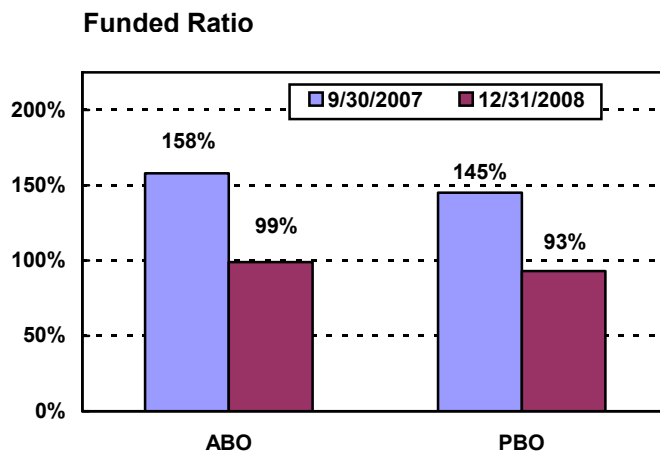
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## Overview of Results

GULF's FAS 87 cost for fiscal 2009 is \$(581,094). No contribution is expected to be required for 2009. The chart below shows the trend in FAS 87 costs since 1994. The changes in costs over this period have been attributable to a variety of factors; however, much of the change can be attributed to plan experience that differed from expectations.



The comparison of the assets in GULF's account within The Southern Company Pension Plan's trust to key measures of GULF's current benefit obligations is favorable. The chart below shows the ratio of the Company's assets' market value to two measures of benefit obligations for its current and former employees. Ratios are shown as of the cost measurement dates for 2008 and 2009. The accumulated benefit obligation (ABO) represents benefit obligations based on employees' current pays and current service levels; the projected benefit obligation (PBO) represents obligations based on the same service levels but with projected pays.



## Summary

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### **Change in Measurement Date**

As required by FAS 158, in 2008 the measurement date was changed from September 30 to December 31. As a result, reconciliations from the prior measurement date to the current measurement date reflect a 15 month period and include retained earnings adjustments required by FAS 158.

### **Changes Since 2008**

In general, the 2009 fiscal year costs are based on the same plan provisions and actuarial basis used to determine 2008 costs.

However, the following changes were recognized as of the September 30, 2008 measurement date.

Two plan changes were recognized in this valuation due to indexing of the pay and benefit limits.

- The IRC Section 415 benefit limit increased to \$185,000 from \$180,000.
- The IRC Section 401(a)(17) pay limit increased to \$230,000 from \$225,000.

These automatic increases in the limits were previously anticipated, so their impact has been treated as an experience item.

The following assumptions have been changed.

- The discount rate was increased to 6.75% from 6.30%.
- The mortality rates were updated to better reflect anticipated experience.

The discount rate was raised to comply with the FAS 87 requirements that the assumptions reflect market conditions as of the measurement date and changes in the assumptions between measurement dates reflect changes in the market conditions. The salary increase rate was raised to remain consistent with the discount rate and reflect emerging and expected future experience with respect to Southern's pay practices. As required by FAS 87, the impact of all of these changes was treated as an experience item.

No other changes were reflected in the 2009 fiscal year costs.

## Summary

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Significant results of the 2009 valuation are shown below. Comparable results of the 2008 valuation are also shown.

	2008	2009
<b>Benefit Obligations</b>		
Projected Benefit Obligation	\$ 238,590,119	\$ 247,879,115
Accumulated Benefit Obligation	\$ 218,953,504	\$ 231,299,859
Vested Benefit Obligation	\$ 214,508,156	\$ 226,616,365
Service Cost	\$ 6,493,875	\$ 6,257,766
<i>As % of Covered Payroll</i>	8.36%	7.92%
<b>Asset Values</b>		
Market	\$ 346,989,842	\$ 229,406,957
Market Related	\$ 306,530,834	\$ 306,764,801
Pending Asset Transfer	\$ (1,591,688)	\$ 0
<b>Contributions and Costs</b>		
Allocated Contribution	\$ 0	\$ 0
Pension Cost	\$ (1,378,946)	\$ (581,094)
<i>As % of Covered Payroll</i>	(1.77%)	(0.74%)
<b>Participant Counts and Payroll</b>		
Retirees and Beneficiaries	696	733
Terminated Vested	273	279
Surviving Spouses—Deferred	4	3
Actives	<u>1,304</u>	<u>1,291</u>
Total	2,277	2,306
Total Covered Payroll	\$ 77,711,923	\$ 79,015,926

# Funding Requirements



## Funding Requirements

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At the end of the 1996 plan year, the Company's pension plan was merged with other pension plans sponsored by the Southern Company to form The Southern Company Pension Plan. Due to the consolidation, funding requirements will be determined for The Southern Company Pension Plan in total. The total plan requirement will then be allocated to the component plans that were merged on a consistent basis.

For 2009, the actuarial valuation for the entire consolidated plan is expected to indicate that total plan assets exceed a number of critical measures of aggregate benefit liabilities. As a result, the consolidated plan is expected to be considered *fully funded*. **Therefore, the funding requirement allocable to GULF for 2009 should be \$0.**

# Accounting Requirements

# Accounting Requirements

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## **Pension Cost Under FASB Statement No. 87**

The Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 87 (Employers' Accounting for Pensions) and Statement No. 88 (Employers' Accounting for Settlements and Curtailments of Defined Benefit Pension Plans and for Termination Benefits) in December of 1985. Southern Company first adopted the cost and disclosure portions of Statement No. 87 for the 1987 fiscal year.

The following pages contain the results determined under Statement No. 87 for the 2009 fiscal year. The following developments are included:

- Benefit Obligations as of the Measurement Date;
- Reconciliation of Funded Status;
- Pension Cost;
- Plan Experience During Prior Plan Year;
- Amortizable Gain or Loss;
- Market-Related Value of Assets; and
- Unrecognized Prior Service Cost.

## Accounting Requirements

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### **Benefit Obligations as of the Measurement Date for Fiscal 2009 (December 31, 2008)**

The obligations shown below are based on personnel information and plan provisions supplied by the Company and actuarial assumptions as described in the Actuarial Assumptions section of the report. Obligations have been allocated to plan participants' years of service based on the method mandated by FAS 87. Assets were reported by the Company and are discussed more in the following pages.

	<b>Vested Benefit Obligation</b>	<b>Accumulated Benefit Obligation</b>	<b>Projected Benefit Obligation</b>
Retirees and Beneficiaries	\$ 98,123,866	\$ 98,123,866	\$ 98,123,866
Terminated Vested	8,785,826	8,785,826	8,785,826
Actives	<u>119,706,673</u>	<u>124,390,167</u>	<u>140,969,423</u>
Total	\$ 226,616,365	\$ 231,299,859	\$ 247,879,115
<i>Net Assets</i>	101.23%	99.18%	92.55%
<i>As a % of Total Obligations</i>			

## Accounting Requirements

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### Reconciliation of Funded Status

This schedule reconciles the funded status of the plan with amounts already accrued by the Company as of the current and prior measurement dates. The difference between the funded status and the prepaid/accrued pension cost represents amounts to be recognized in future periods as amortization payments.

A reconciliation of funded status is shown as of the current year's measurement date and at the prior year's measurement date.

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	Fiscal 2008 (September 30, 2007)	Fiscal 2009 (December 31, 2008)
Projected Benefit Obligation	\$ (238,590,119)	\$ (247,879,115)
Pending Asset Transfer	(1,591,688)	0
Market Value of Assets	<u>346,989,842</u>	<u>229,406,957</u>
Funded Status	\$ 106,808,035	\$ (18,472,158)
Unrecognized Amounts		
■ Transition Liability/(Asset)	0	0
■ Prior Service Cost	9,931,891	8,406,721
■ (Gain)/Loss	(70,053,037)	58,476,009
Fourth Quarter Cashflows	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Prepaid/(Accrued) Pension Cost	\$ 46,686,889	\$ 48,410,572

## Accounting Requirements

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### Pension Cost

The development of the pension cost for the fiscal year consists of payments for benefit accruals (service cost), interest on the current projected benefit obligation (interest cost), expected return on assets, and amortizations of unrecognized amounts.

	Fiscal 2008 Cost	Fiscal 2009 Cost
Service Cost	\$ 6,493,875	\$ 6,257,766
Interest Cost	14,664,377	16,298,636
Expected Return on Assets	(23,757,334)	(24,357,624)
Amortization of Unrecognized Amounts		
■ Transition Liability/(Asset)	0	0
■ Prior Service Cost	1,220,136	1,220,128
■ (Gain)/Loss	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Pension Cost</b>	<b>\$ (1,378,946)</b>	<b>\$ (581,094)</b>
<i>As % of Covered Payroll</i>	<i>(1.77%)</i>	<i>(0.74%)</i>
Supplemental Data and Expected Values		
■ Market-Related Value of Assets	\$ 306,530,834	\$ 306,764,801
■ Annual Benefit Payments	\$ 11,644,466	\$ 12,835,674
■ Average Remaining Service	13 Years	13 Years
■ Contributions	\$ 0	\$ 0
■ Annual Trust Expense	\$ 1,599,620	\$ 1,124,094

## Accounting Requirements

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### Plan Experience

During the current valuation, actual experience during the prior fiscal year is compared to anticipated experience. This comparison identifies experience gains or losses. These are measured as the difference between the expected funded position of the plan at year-end (based on the beginning of year actuarial assumptions and adjusted for plan changes) and the actual funded position of the plan at year-end.

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	<b>October 1, 2007 to December 31, 2008</b>
(1) Funded Status, As of Last Measurement Date	\$ 106,808,035
(2) Service Cost for Period <sup>1</sup>	(8,117,344)
(3) Interest Cost for Period <sup>1</sup>	(18,330,471)
(4) Expected Return for Period <sup>1</sup>	29,696,668
(5) Contributions During Period	0
(6) Impact of Plan Amendment	<u>0</u>
(7) Expected Funded Status, As of Current Measurement Date, (1)+(2)+(3)+(4)+(5)+(6)	\$ 110,056,888
(8) Actual Funded Status, At Current Measurement Date	<u>(18,472,158)</u>
(9) Experience (Gain)/Loss, (7)-(8)	\$ 128,529,046

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<sup>1</sup> For the 15 month period from October 1, 2007 to December 31, 2008, which includes the amounts reported in 2008 pension costs and the amounts reported in the 2008 retained earnings adjustment.

## Accounting Requirements

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### Plan Experience

The table below reconciles funded status and pension costs at the last measurement date with the corresponding figures at the current measurement date. Descriptions of each item of change appear on the following pages along with some quantitative analysis of experience items.

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	<b>Funded Status</b>
Levels as of Measurement Date for Fiscal 2008	\$ 106,808,035
Effects of:	
■ Expected Plan Experience	\$ 7,371,724
■ Actuarial (Losses)/Gains	
— Obligation Experience <sup>1</sup>	\$ 2,603,237
— Asset Experience	<u>(135,255,154)</u>
— Total	\$ (132,651,917)
■ Plan Changes	<u>0</u>
■ Total Change	\$ (125,280,193)
Levels as of Measurement Date for Fiscal 2009	\$ (18,472,158)

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<sup>1</sup> Includes assumption changes, personnel changes, and other miscellaneous items.



## Accounting Requirements

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### Plan Experience

#### Expected Plan Experience

PBO is expected to increase with Service Cost and Interest Cost, less benefit payments. Assets are expected to grow with contributions and expected return on assets, less benefit payments. The Service Cost is expected to grow with interest.

#### Gains and Losses

##### Assumption Changes

The discount rate was increased to 6.75% from 6.30%. The salary increase rate (average over a career for an average employee) remained the same at 3.75%.

##### Personnel Changes and Miscellaneous

Gains and losses may be caused by withdrawals, deaths, retirements, and new entrants as well as any data changes which are different than expected. This year, the data reflects a one-year freeze in pay rates for the year ending December 31, 2008 for employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

##### Asset Experience

The market value of assets earned -29.88% for the period from October 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008 versus the long-term rate of return of 8.5%. This item includes the effect of trust expenses different from expected. See a later page for more details.

##### Limit Changes

Neither the IRC §401(a)(17) recognizable pay limit nor the IRC §415 defined benefit plan maximum annual benefit increased as expected. Since changes in these limits are anticipated, the difference between the actual and expected limits has been treated as an experience item.

#### Plan Changes

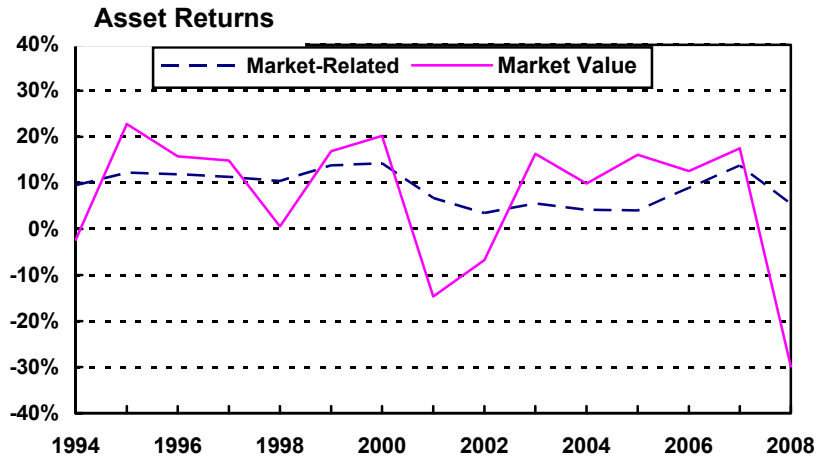
None.

# Accounting Requirements

## Asset Experience

Historical asset returns are shown below for several periods. The 2008 expected long-term rate of return was 8.5% compounded annually reduced by the anticipated trust expenses.

Year	Return on Market Value	Return on Market-Related Value
2008 <sup>1</sup>	-29.85%	5.52%
2007	17.50%	13.74%
2006	12.56%	8.87%
2005	16.10%	4.04%
2004	9.89%	4.14%
2003	16.29%	5.59%
2002	-6.77%	3.44%
2001	-14.62%	6.76%
2000	20.21%	14.26%
1999	16.86%	13.85%
1998	0.59%	10.45%
1997	14.88%	11.32%
1996	15.74%	11.86%
1995	22.75%	12.20%
1994	-2.35%	9.52%
15-Year Average	6.21%	8.97%



<sup>1</sup> Returns for the 15-month period October 1, 2007 thru December 31, 2008.

## Accounting Requirements

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### Development of (Gain)/Loss Amortization

Only gains and losses in excess of a corridor limit are subject to amortization. The corridor is 10% of the greater of:

- Market-Related Value of Assets (MRV); or
- Projected Benefit Obligation (PBO).

Only asset gains or losses which have been incurred and admitted into the market-related value of assets are subject to amortization. Gains and losses outside of the corridor, if any, are amortized over the average remaining service period of employees expected to receive benefits from the plan.

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	<b>Fiscal 2009</b>
(1) Unrecognized Net (Gain)/Loss	\$ 58,476,009
(2) Nonadmitted Asset (Gain)/Loss	<u>77,357,844</u>
(3) (Gain)/Loss Subject to Corridor, (1)-(2)	\$ (18,881,835)
(4) Corridor, 10% of Greater of PBO or MRV	
(a) PBO	247,879,115
(b) MRV	306,764,801
(c) Pending Asset Transfer	<u>0</u>
(d) Corridor, 10% of Max [(a) or (b)+(c)]	30,676,480
(5) (Gain)/Loss to be Amortized, Excess of (3) over (4d), If Any	\$ 0
(6) Average Remaining Service Period	13 Years
(7) (Gain)/Loss Amortization, (5)÷(6)	\$ 0

# Accounting Requirements

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## Market-Related Value of Assets for Fiscal 2009

For the FAS 87 pension cost valuation, a market-related value of assets is designed to dampen the effect of market value swings by spreading unexpected asset gains or losses over a period of five years. In general, each year, 20% of the prior five years' asset gains and losses are recognized. The market-related value is equal to the difference between the market value and nonadmitted asset gains and losses from prior years.

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	<b>Fiscal 2009 (December 31, 2008)</b>
<b>Development of Asset (Gain)/Loss from October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008</b>	
(1) Market Value of Assets, At Last Measurement Date	\$ 346,989,842
(2) Net Transfers During Prior Period	(1,311,043)
(3) Actual Benefit Payments During Prior Period	14,955,781
(4) Contributions During Prior Period	0
(5) Expected Return on Assets During Prior Period	<u>29,696,668</u>
(6) Expected Market Value, At Current Measurement Date, (1)+(2)-(3)+(4)+(5)	\$ 360,419,686
(7) Actual Market Value	<u>229,406,957</u>
(8) Asset (Gain)/Loss During Prior Period, (6)-(7)	\$ 131,012,729
<b>Development of Market-Related Value of Assets</b>	
(1) Market Value of Assets	\$ 229,406,957
(2) Nonadmitted (Gains)/Losses	
(a) 10/1/2003 to 9/30/2004	\$ 0
(b) 10/1/2004 to 9/30/2005	(3,733,514)
(c) 10/1/2005 to 9/30/2006	(5,485,418)
(d) 10/1/2006 to 9/30/2007	(18,233,407)
(e) 10/1/2007 to 12/31/2008	<u>104,810,183</u>
(f) Total	<u>77,357,844</u>
(3) Market-Related Value, (1)+(2f)	\$ 306,764,801

## Accounting Requirements

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### Development of Unrecognized Prior Service Cost

Under FASB Statement No. 87, increases in the projected benefit obligation (PBO) attributable to plan amendments are amortized over the remaining service period of employees benefiting under the Plan. Prior service costs that are being amortized are shown below.

<b>Date Established</b>	<b>Original Amounts to be Amortized<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Remaining Amortization Period</b>	<b>Remaining Amounts to be Amortized</b>	<b>Annual Amortization Amount</b>
06/01/1991	\$ 3,391,107	1.1667 Years	208,231	178,479
07/01/1996	\$ 3,309,817	4.25 Years	827,454	194,695
01/01/2001	\$ 7,112,167	8 Years	3,556,087	444,510
09/30/2002	\$ 4,115,395	8.75 Years	2,400,645	274,360
09/30/2005	\$ 1,269,632	10.75 Years	974,896	90,688
09/30/2006	\$ 523,548	11.75 Years	<u>439,408</u>	<u>37,396</u>
			\$ 8,406,721	\$ 1,220,128

<sup>1</sup> Reflects spin-off of prior service cost to SNC on 01/01/1991 and 01/01/1992, COMM on 01/01/1995, and SCS on 01/01/1996.

# Appendix

## Personnel Information

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This section contains a summary of personnel data submitted and used for the measurement of cost for fiscal 2009. Benefit obligations as of the December 31 measurement date are based on projections using personnel data supplied as of the preceding January 1 complemented with pay data which includes the preceding March updates. See the actuarial assumptions and methods section for more details. The information is organized to be useful for a variety of purposes:

- Averages of age, service, and pay provide quick comparisons of the differences from year to year in the employee group.
- Detailed information on active personnel by age and service isolates the number of employees eligible for specific employee benefits. For example, if employees with fifteen or more years of service are to receive additional vacation, this distribution indicates the number of employees currently eligible for additional vacation and the number potentially becoming eligible for additional vacation in each of the next several years.
- Information on pay by age in successive years may be useful in analyzing compensation trends.

## Personnel Information

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	For Fiscal 2008 (As of January 1, 2007)	For Fiscal 2009 (As of January 1, 2008)
<b>Active Participants</b>		
Number		
Male	933	918
Female	<u>327</u>	<u>327</u>
Total	1,260	1,245
Average Age		
Male	45.6	45.6
Female	44.6	44.7
Total	45.3	45.4
Average Service		
Male	19.1	18.9
Female	15.3	15.3
Total	18.1	17.9
Average Age at Hire		
Male	26.5	26.7
Female	29.3	29.4
Total	27.2	27.5
Average Pay	\$ 60,096	\$ 61,745
<b>Participants On Leave or Disabled</b>		
Accruing Service	34	41
Not Accruing Service	10	5
<b>Inactive Participants</b>		
Retirees and Beneficiaries		
Number	696	733
Average Monthly Benefit	\$ 1,235	\$ 1,314
Terminated Vesteds		
Number	273	279
Average Monthly Benefit	\$ 572	\$ 562
Surviving Spouses—Deferred		
Number	4	3
Average Monthly Benefit	\$ 302	\$ 250

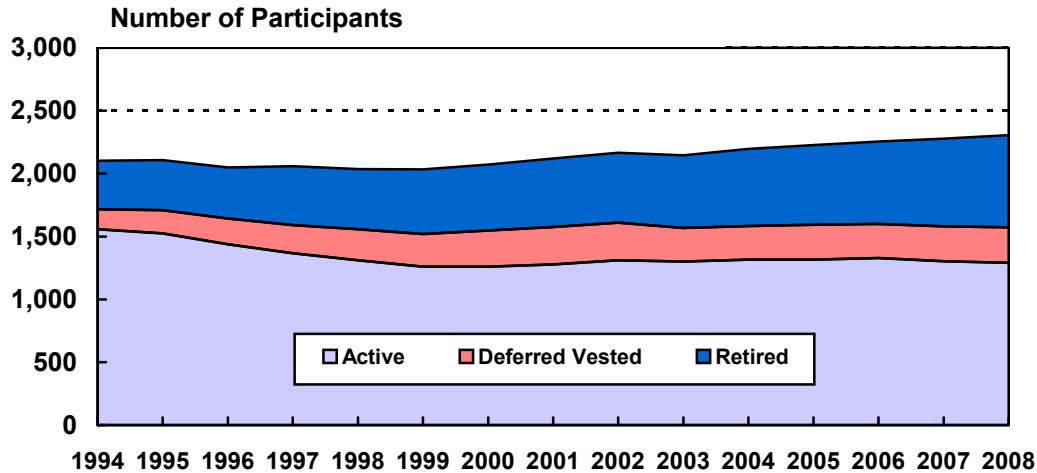


# Personnel Information

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## Personnel History

The graph below shows the number of pension participants from 1994 to the current census collection date.



The table below shows the average age and service of active pension participants from 1993 to the current census collection date. Participants on leave or disabled are excluded from the averages.

Year	Average Age	Average Service
1994	40.6	14.2
1995	41.4	15.1
1996	42.3	16.0
1997	42.4	16.3
1998	42.9	17.0
1999	43.4	17.4
2000	43.5	17.3
2001	43.7	17.4
2002	44.1	17.6
2003	44.7	18.0
2004	44.6	17.7
2005	44.6	17.8
2006	45.1	18.2
2007	45.3	18.1
2008	45.4	17.9

## Personnel Information

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### **Distribution of Personnel**

The following chart shows the distribution of active participants presented by age last birthday and completed years of service on the valuation date. All participants hired at the same age lie along the same diagonal line.

This chart may be useful in obtaining various types of information:

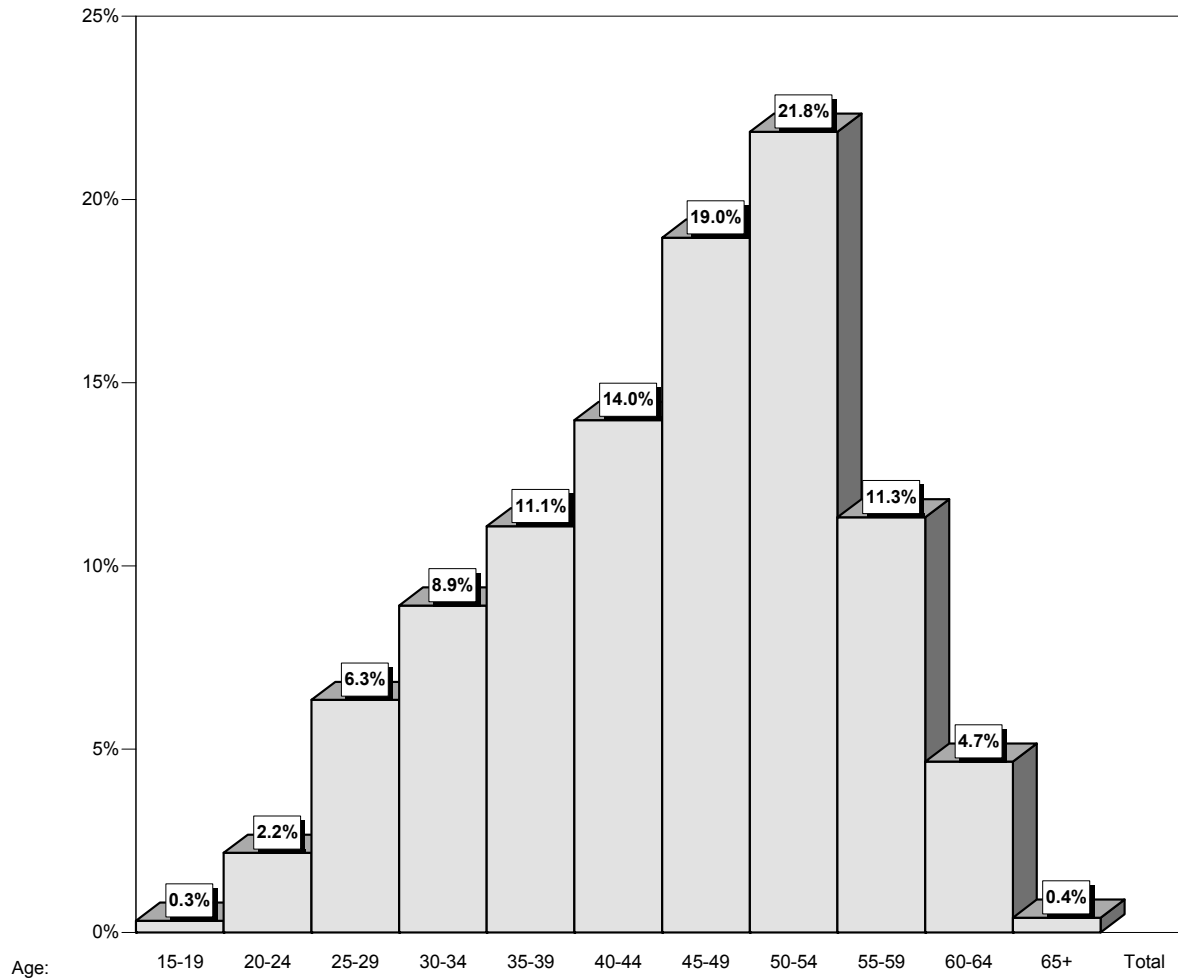
- The number of participants who will become eligible for early or normal retirement benefits in the next few years;
- The number of participants who continue to work past age 65;
- The number of participants who will meet the vesting requirements in the next few years;
- The number of participants who will be affected by changes in plan provisions or other benefits based on eligibility requirements;
- The ages at which participants were hired during the past year; and
- The distribution of participants by age and service around median age and median service.

Supplementing the age/service distribution are three graphs. The first shows the percentage of active employees in each of several 5-year age classifications and the second shows the percentage of active participants age 55 and over by expected service at age 65. This second chart is useful in determining the level of retirement benefits. The chart will also determine the proportion of the participants approaching retirement who are considered "full career" employees. The last graph contains a tracking of average pay by age over the last three years.



# Personnel Information

## Distribution of Personnel by Age

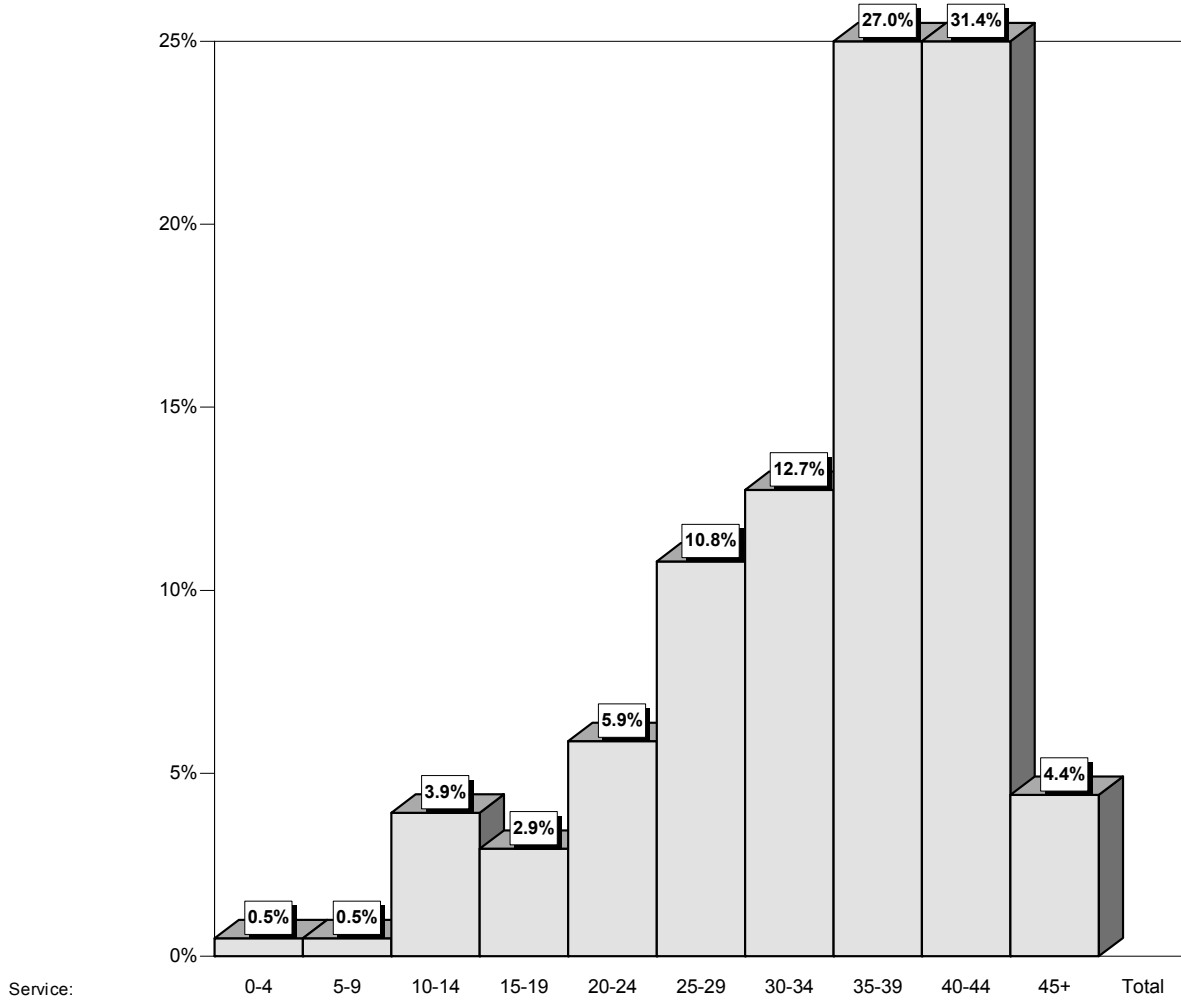


Number	4	27	79	111	138	174	236	272	141	58	5	1,245
Average Pay	31,515	33,410	44,486	51,561	55,799	60,612	66,229	70,621	68,115	62,937	53,374	61,745
Average Service	2.0	2.1	4.2	6.5	9.9	14.8	19.9	24.8	28.8	28.4	31.4	17.9

Detail of Employees 55 & Over												
Age	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66+
Number	35	36	31	24	15	26	13	7	7	5	4	1
Average Pay	67,449	70,672	66,729	69,999	63,386	66,376	65,905	50,665	59,627	59,153	55,795	\$
Average Service	28.4	27.8	27.9	30.0	31.6	27.9	28.3	27.9	33.0	25.0	27.3	48.0

# Personnel Information

## Distribution of Personnel By Expected Service At Age 65 (Based Upon Personnel Age 55 And Over)

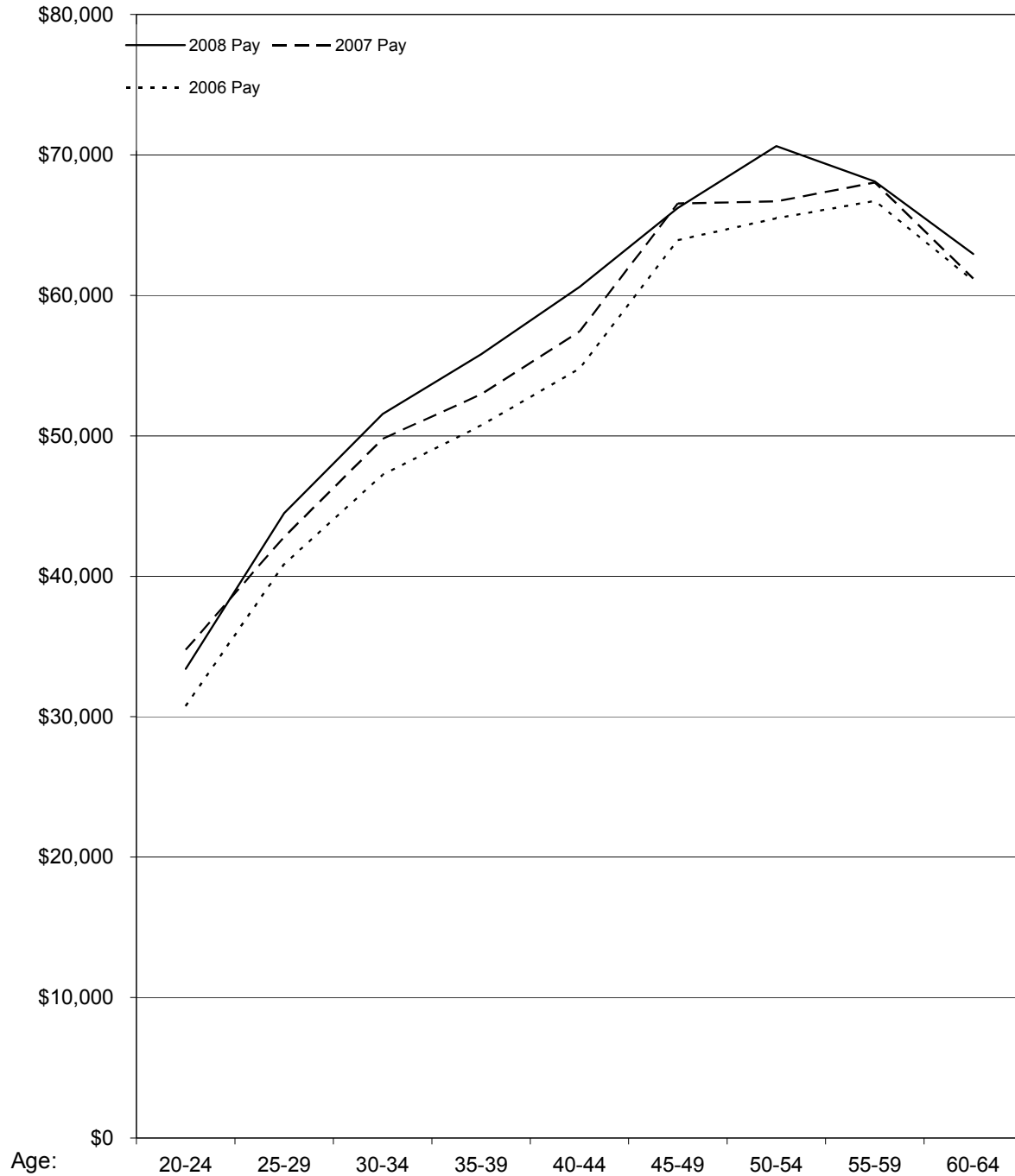


Service:	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	Total
Number	1	1	8	6	12	22	26	55	64	9	204
Average Pay	\$	\$	52,343	45,315	58,987	56,374	62,289	71,373	71,892	75,808	66,282
Average Service At Age 65*	2.8	9.7	13.4	18.3	23.4	27.8	33.0	37.3	42.3	46.2	35.1

# Personnel Information

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## Average Compensation By Age



## Plan Provisions

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### History

The Pension Plan for Employees of Gulf Power Company was originally effective July 1, 1944. The plan was consolidated with other pension plans of the Southern Company to form The Southern Company Pension Plan at the end of the 1996 plan year. The plan was most recently restated and amended as of January 1, 2002. The effect of plan amendments on the plan's liabilities is measured on the valuation date. Amendments and changes reflected in recent valuations are described below.

### Changes Reflected in the 2009 Valuation

The following plan changes were reflected as of the December 31, 2008 measurement date:

- The IRC Section 415 benefit limit increased to \$185,000 from \$180,000.
- The IRC Section 401(a)(17) pay limit increased to \$230,000 from \$225,000.

### Changes Reflected in the 2008 Valuation

The following plan changes were reflected as of the September 30, 2007 measurement date:

- The IRC Section 415 benefit limit increased to \$180,000 from \$175,000.
- The IRC Section 401(a)(17) pay limit increased to \$225,000 from \$220,000.

### Changes Reflected in the 2007 Valuation

The following plan changes were reflected as of the September 30, 2006 measurement date:

- The IRC Section 415 benefit limit increased to \$175,000 from \$170,000.
- The IRC Section 401(a)(17) pay limit increased to \$220,000 from \$210,000.

An additional plan change was recognized in this valuation due to legislative changes. The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 (EGTRRA) increased benefit and pay limits for purposes of determining qualified pension plan benefits. However, these increases were scheduled to return to pre-EGTRRA levels in 2011. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 made the EGTRRA increases permanent.

### Changes Reflected in the 2006 Valuation

The following plan changes were recognized as of the September 30, 2005 measurement date.

- The IRC Section 415 defined benefit plan maximum annual benefit was increased to \$170,000 from \$165,000.
- The IRC Section 401(a)(17) recognizable pay limit increased to \$210,000 from \$205,000.

Retirees in pay status as of April 1, 2005 were provided a pension supplement of \$250 per month starting August 1, 2005 payable until they turn age 62.

## Plan Provisions

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### **Changes Reflected in the 2005 Valuation**

The following plan changes were recognized as of the September 30, 2004 measurement date:

- The IRC Section 415 defined benefit plan maximum annual benefit was increased to \$165,000 from \$160,000.
- The IRC Section 401(a)(17) recognizable pay limit increased to \$205,000 from \$200,000.

### **Changes Reflected in the 2004 Valuation**

No changes in plan provisions were recognized in the 2004 valuation.

### **Changes Reflected in the 2003 Valuation**

The following plan changes were recognized as of the September 30, 2002 measurement date:

- As a result of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 (EGTRRA), the following changes were recognized:
  - The IRC section 401(a)(17) recognizable pay limit increased to \$200,000 from \$170,000. The Company elected to apply the new limit on a retrospective basis.
  - The IRC section 415 defined benefit plan maximum annual benefit increased to \$160,000 from \$140,000. In addition, the adjustment of the limit for early commencement was changed.
- Plan changes impacting two groups of participants were recognized. The changes impacted all covered employees and only noncovered employees under the “New Retirement Program” (i.e., noncovered employees under age 35 as of January 1, 1997, and noncovered employees hired after 1996). As a result of these changes, all employees have basically the same pension provisions.

### **Changes Reflected in the 2002 Valuation**

The maximum benefit limit was changed due to automatic indexing. The IRC Section 415 defined benefit plans maximum annual benefit was increased to \$140,000 from \$135,000.

### **Changes Reflected in the 2001 Valuation**

The following plan changes were recognized as of the September 30, 2000 measurement date:

- The IRC Section 415 defined benefit plans maximum annual benefit was increased to \$135,000 from \$130,000.

The IRC Section 401(a)(17) recognizable pay limit increased to \$170,000 from \$160,000.



## Plan Provisions

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Additionally, several plan changes occurring at year-end 2000 were reflected as of a December 31, 2000 remeasurement:

- A 1.25% of final average total pay (base plus incentives) formula was added.
- The 43-year service cap was removed.
- Early retirement reductions for employees starting receipt of pension benefits before age 55 were lowered to 0.3% (from 0.333%) for each month benefit commencement precedes age 55.
- The \$325 reduction in the Social Security benefit for the Social Security offset was changed to \$350.

### **Changes Reflected in the 2001 Valuation**

- An ad hoc benefit increase was made for retirees (1.5% per year of retirement; 7.5% maximum).

The first four changes above apply to noncovered employees only.

### **Changes Reflected in the 2000 Valuation**

No changes in plan provisions were recognized in the 2000 valuation.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1999 Valuation**

The maximum benefit limit was changed due to automatic indexing. The IRC Section 415 defined benefit plans maximum annual benefit was increased to \$130,000 from \$125,000.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1998 Valuation**

No changes in plan provisions were recognized in the 1998 valuations.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1997 Valuation**

The Pension Plan for Employees of Gulf Power Company was consolidated with other pension plans sponsored by Southern Company to form The Southern Company Pension Plan at the very end of the 1996 plan year. Additional plan changes which were recognized July 1, 1996 for FAS 87 purposes were first recognized for funding purposes.

The maximum pay and benefit limits were changed due to automatic indexing. The IRC section 415 defined benefit plans maximum annual benefit was increased to \$125,000 from \$120,000 and the IRC section 401(a)(17) recognizable pay limit increased to \$160,000 from \$150,000.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1996 Valuation**

Participant transfers from the GULF plan to the SCS plan occurred December 31, 1995. For funding purposes, this special transfer was reflected in the same manner as the regular transfers among the system plans. For FAS 87 purposes, this transfer was reflected as a special spin-off/merger with liabilities and unrecognized amounts transferred to the SCS plan as of January 1, 1996. Assets will be transferred at the end of the year.

## Plan Provisions

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For FAS 87 purposes, amendments adopted during the year were reflected in a July 1, 1996 remeasurement. For funding purposes, these changes will be recognized as of January 1, 1997.

Significant changes include:

- Ad hoc benefit increases for retirees (1.5% per year of retirement; 7.5% maximum).
- Transition to 1% of final average pay formula for noncovered employees who were under age 35 as of January 1, 1997.
- The \$250 reduction in the Social Security benefit for the Social Security offset was changed to \$325 for other noncovered employees.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1996 Valuation**

- Earliest retirement eligibility and benefit payment age for surviving spouses were changed from age 55 to age 50.

For funding purposes, these changes were reflected January 1, 1997.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1995 Valuation**

The maximum pay and benefit limits were changed. The IRC section 415 defined benefit plan maximum annual benefit was increased to \$120,000 from \$118,800 due to automatic indexing. In addition, the definition of actuarial equivalence used to adjust the limit for payment at ages other than the Social Security Retirement Age was changed by the Retirement Protection Act of 1994. For ERISA funding purposes, these changes were treated as a plan amendment since no increases were expected for the funding valuation. A de minimis spin-off from the GULF plan to the new Southern Communications Services, Inc. (COMM) plan occurred January 1, 1995. Even though the spin-off was de minimis, Funding Standard Account entries, unfunded frozen accrued liability, and actuarial value of assets were allocated to the new plan.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1994 Valuation**

The IRC section 415 benefit limit was changed from \$115,641 in 1993 to \$118,800 in 1994. Also, the pay cap was changed from \$235,840 in 1993 to \$150,000 in 1994. These changes were recognized in the January 1, 1994 valuation.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1993 Valuation**

The IRC section 415 benefit limit was changed from \$112,221 to \$115,641 in 1993. Also, the pay cap was changed from \$228,860 to \$235,840. These changes were recognized in the January 1, 1993 valuation.

### **Changes Reflected in the 1992 Valuation**

The IRC section 415 benefit limit was changed from \$108,963 to \$112,221 in 1992. Also, the pay cap was changed from \$222,220 to \$228,860. These changes were recognized in the January 1, 1992 valuation.

## Plan Provisions

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### Changes Reflected in the 1991 Valuation

The IRC section 415 benefit limit was changed from \$102,582 to \$108,963 in 1991. Also, the \$200,000 pay cap was changed from \$209,200 to \$222,220. These changes were recognized in the January 1, 1991 valuation.

The following plan changes were adopted on or about June 1, 1991, and also reflected in the 1991 valuations:

- An ad hoc retiree benefit increase was made, according to the following schedule:

Year of Retirement	Benefit Increase	Year of Retirement	Benefit Increase
1990	2%	1976-1986	10%
1989	4%	1971-1975	20%
1988	6%	1966-1970	30%
1987	8%	1965 or earlier	40%

- The minimum benefit was increased from \$240 per year of service to \$300 per year of service.
- The death benefit for survivors of active employees was changed to 45% of the participant's accrued benefit. The benefit had previously been 50% of the accrued benefit, actuarially reduced to age 55.
- The \$168 reduction in the Social Security benefit for the FAP formula's Social Security offset was changed to \$250.
- The 40-year service cap was increased to 43 years.

### Changes Reflected in the 1990 Valuation

The IRC section 415 benefit limit was changed from \$98,064 to \$102,582 in 1990. Also, the \$200,000 pay cap was changed to \$209,200. These changes were recognized in the January 1, 1990 valuation.

## Plan Provisions

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### **Participation**

Completion of one year of service.

### **Normal Retirement**

#### Eligibility

Later of attainment of age 65 and completion of five years of participation.

#### Benefit

Accrued benefit.

### **Early Retirement**

#### Eligibility

Later of attainment of age 50 and completion of ten years of participation.

#### Benefit

Accrued benefit reduced by 0.3% for each month benefit commencement precedes normal retirement date.

### **Disabled Retirement**

#### Eligibility

Completion of five years of service.

#### Benefit

Accrued benefit based on compensation at disablement and service at normal retirement date.

### **Terminated Vested Benefits**

#### Eligibility

Completion of five years of service.

#### Benefit

Accrued benefit payable at age 65. Benefits may commence as early as age 50 with actuarial reduction to age 55 and 0.3% reductions for each month benefit commencement precedes age 55.

## Plan Provisions

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### **Preretirement Spouse's Benefit**

Eligibility

Fully vested status.

Benefit

45% of the accrued benefit, payable on the participant's earliest retirement date.

Participants may elect to upgrade the benefit to a 100% Joint and Survivor. The cost of this upgrade is paid through a reduction in benefits payable.

Terminated employees with vested benefits receive the coverage free of charge prior to being eligible for early retirement. Thereafter, benefits are reduced if coverage is elected.

### **Normal Form of Annuity**

Single

Life Annuity.

Married

50% Joint and Survivor; benefits are reduced 10% for this form (terminated vested employees' benefits are adjusted based on actuarial equivalent tables).

### **Optional Forms of Payment**

Life Annuity,  
50% Joint and Survivor Annuity,  
50% Joint and Survivor Annuity with Pop-up,  
100% Joint and Survivor Annuity,  
100% Joint and Survivor Annuity  
with Pop-up, and  
Social Security Level Income Annuity.

### **Benefit Limits**

Benefits cannot exceed the limits set by IRC Section 415.

# Plan Provisions

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## Definitions

Accrued Benefits

Greater of (A) less (B), (C), or (D):

- (A) 1.7% times final average pay times years of participation as of calculation date.
- (B) 50% times offset based on PIA times a ratio of years of participation at calculation date to years of participation attainable at normal retirement.
- (C) \$300 times years of participation as of calculation date (career average pay benefit for service prior to 1986, if larger).
- (D) 1.25% times final average total pay times years of participation as of the calculation date.

Final Average Pay

Average pay over the three plan years of participation which produce the highest average out of the last ten plan years. Pay for benefit purposes cannot exceed the limits set by IRC Section 401(a)(17). Final average total pay includes incentives paid during each plan year in the average.

Offset Based on Primary Insurance Amount (PIA)

Estimated Social Security benefit (determined using only actual Southern Company earnings) reduced by \$4,200 (\$350 per month).

The offset is limited by the maximum allowable under integration rules in IRC Section 401(1).

Pay

Highest base rate of earnings during year.

Years of Participation for Benefit Purposes

Years of service as a participant, prorated for hours less than 1,680.

Year of Service

12-month period with 1,000 hours.

## Actuarial Assumptions

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<b>Measurement Date for Fiscal 2009</b>	December 31, 2008.
<b>Discount Rate</b>	6.75% compounded annually.
<b>Expected Long-Term Rate of Return</b>	8.50% compounded annually reduced by the anticipated trust expenses based on prior years' actual expenses.
<b>Pay Increases</b>	<p>4.00% for SERP participants. For other noncovered employees, according to rates which vary by age and service and average 3.75% over a full career. For covered employees (IBEW), according to rates which vary by age and calendar year and average 3.75% over a full career. See Table A for specific rates.</p> <p>No Pay increases are assumed during 2009 for all noncovered employees.</p>
<b>Social Security</b>	<p>Projected based on the Social Security Act in effect during 2008 assuming:</p> <p>(1) 3.25% per year increases in the formula breakpoints.</p> <p>(2) 3.50% per year cost-of-living increases.</p>
<b>Retirement Age</b> Actives	According to the rates of retirement shown below:

<b>Age</b>	<b>Percent Retiring</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Percent Retiring</b>
55	7.5%	63	30.0%
56	2.5%	64	20.0%
57	5.0%	65	99.0%
58	7.5%	66	99.0%
59	10.0%	67	99.0%
60	12.5%	68	99.0%
61	15.0%	69	99.0%
62	50.0%	70	100.0%

These rates produce a weighted average retirement age of 61.

# Actuarial Assumptions

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**Retirement Age**

Terminated Vesteds

Age 57.

**Mortality Rates**

Healthy Lives

Retired Pensioners 2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table, Fully Generational.

Disabled Lives

Retired Pensioners 2000 Combined Healthy Table.

**Withdrawal Rates**

According to select and ultimate rates based on Company experience. See Table C for specific rates.

**Disability Rates**

According to rates which vary by age. See Table B for specific rates.

**Expenses**

An explicit adjustment for trust expenses is included. The adjustment is based on the prior three years' trust expenses. For fiscal 2009, \$1,124,094 of expenses have been assumed payable in the middle of the measurement period.

**Incentive Payments**

Incentives are anticipated to pay out at 135% of target in future years. Incentive targets varying by salary grade are provided by the Company. Covered employees (IBEW) are assumed to have a 5% target.

**Marital Status**

80% of males and 70% of females are married. Husbands are two years older than wives.

**Payment Form**

All single participants are assumed to elect single life annuities. For married participants, 20% are assumed to elect single life annuities, 40% are assumed to elect 50% joint and survivor annuities, and 40% are assumed to elect 100% joint and survivor annuities.

**Cost Method**

Projected Unit Credit.



# Actuarial Assumptions

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## **Market-Related Value of Assets**

The market-related value of assets is equal to the difference between the market value of assets and nonadmitted asset gains and losses from prior years. Asset gain/losses are identified for each year as the difference between expected and actual asset return. Each year's asset gains and losses are recognized or admitted over a five-year period.

## **Section 415 Limits**

The annual benefit payable at Social Security retirement age has been limited to \$185,000 based on the provisions of IRC Section 415(b).

## **Pay and Benefit Limits Indexing**

2.75% per year.

## **Participants Included**

All employees designated by the Company as active or transfers-in and eligible to participate, plus any others currently receiving benefits or entitled to benefits in the future.

## **Participant Data**

Benefit obligations are based on reasonable and normal actuarial projections of participant data supplied prior to the measurement date. For the development of fiscal 2009 costs, demographic information as of January 1, 2008 and pay data including the March 2008 updates were used.

Population data as of January 1, 2008 was projected to the December 31, 2008 measurement date. As directed by Southern, the projection reflects no increase in pay rates during the projection period for employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement, including SERP participants. This reflects the fact that Southern announced a freeze in base pay rates in December 2008. The valuation assumptions were otherwise assumed to have accurately anticipated plan experience during the projection period. No other significant changes in the employee population during that period were identified by Southern that merited special adjustments.

## **Asset Data**

Asset data was supplied by the Company as of the measurement date.

# Actuarial Assumptions

**Table A**

**Salary Increases**

Age	Noncovered Employees—Years of Service								Covered Employees Calendar Year	
	Under 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 or more	Through 2008	2009 and after
Under 25	10.10%	9.90%							6.25%	5.50%
25 to 29	7.70%	7.60%							6.25%	5.50%
30 to 34	5.30%	5.20%	5.00%	4.70%					5.25%	4.50%
35 to 39	4.10%	4.10%	3.90%	3.70%	3.50%				5.25%	3.50%
40 to 44	3.40%	3.40%	3.30%	3.10%	3.00%	2.80%			4.25%	3.00%
45 to 49	2.90%	2.90%	2.80%	2.70%	2.60%	2.50%	2.40%		3.25%	2.75%
50 to 54	2.70%	2.70%	2.60%	2.50%	2.40%	2.30%	2.30%	2.20%	3.25%	2.50%
Over 55	2.50%	2.50%	2.40%	2.30%	2.30%	2.20%	2.20%	2.10%	3.25%	2.50%

**Table B**

**Disability Rates**

Age	Disabilities Per 1,000 Participants
Under 40	0.85
40 to 44	1.76
45 to 49	3.80
50 to 54	6.39
55 to 59	11.60
60 to 64	15.52
65 & Over	0.00

# Actuarial Assumptions

**Table C**

**Withdrawals per 1,000 Participants**

Hire Age	Years of Service					
	0	1	2	3	4	Ultimate
20 & Under	180.0	130.5	115.0	99.0	84.5	70.0
21	176.0	130.5	115.0	99.0	82.5	66.0
22	171.0	126.9	115.0	99.0	80.0	61.0
23	166.0	122.4	111.0	99.0	77.5	56.0
24	163.0	117.9	106.0	94.6	73.8	53.0
25	159.0	115.2	101.0	89.1	69.1	49.0
26	156.0	111.6	98.0	83.6	64.8	46.0
27	152.0	108.9	94.0	80.3	61.2	42.0
28	149.0	105.3	91.0	75.9	57.5	39.0
29	146.0	102.6	87.0	72.6	54.3	36.0
30	144.0	99.9	84.0	68.2	51.1	34.0
31	141.0	98.1	81.0	64.9	48.0	31.0
32	139.0	95.4	79.0	61.6	45.3	29.0
33	137.0	93.6	76.0	59.4	43.2	27.0
34	135.0	91.8	74.0	56.1	40.6	25.0
35	133.0	90.0	72.0	53.9	38.5	23.0
36	131.0	88.2	70.0	51.7	36.4	21.0
37	129.0	86.4	68.0	49.5	34.3	19.0
38	128.0	84.6	66.0	47.3	32.7	18.0
39	126.0	83.7	64.0	45.1	30.6	16.0
40	125.0	81.9	63.0	42.9	29.0	15.0
41	123.0	81.0	61.0	41.8	27.4	13.0
42	122.0	79.2	60.0	39.6	25.8	12.0
43	121.0	78.3	58.0	38.5	24.8	11.0
44	119.5	77.4	57.0	36.3	22.9	9.5
45	118.5	76.1	56.0	35.2	21.9	8.5
46	117.5	75.2	54.5	34.1	20.8	7.5
47	116.5	74.3	53.5	32.5	19.5	6.5
48	115.5	73.4	52.5	31.4	18.5	5.5
49	115.0	72.5	51.5	30.3	17.7	5.0
50	114.0	72.0	50.5	29.2	16.6	4.0
51	113.0	71.1	50.0	28.1	15.6	3.0
52	112.5	70.2	49.0	27.5	15.0	2.5
53	111.5	69.8	48.0	26.4	14.0	1.5
54	110.0	68.9	47.5	25.3	13.2	1.0
55	110.0	67.5	46.5	24.8	12.4	0.0
56	110.0	67.5	45.0	23.7	11.9	0.0
57	110.0	67.5	45.0	22.0	11.0	0.0
58	110.0	67.5	45.0	22.0	11.0	0.0
59	110.0	67.5	45.0	22.0	11.0	0.0
60	110.0	67.5	45.0	22.0	11.0	0.0
61 & over	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

# Actuarial Assumptions

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## Discussion of Actuarial Assumptions and Methods

### Ultimate Cost

The ultimate cost of a pension plan can be measured only when the obligation to all participants has been fully discharged. The cost will then be:

The benefits paid from the plan  
plus  
administrative expenses  
less  
investment gains  
plus  
investment losses.

The actuarial process assigns pension costs to the current year by estimating, based on both current and future service, the benefits to be paid to current plan participants. These estimates are determined through an actuarial valuation which uses three basic elements to project payments from the plan:

- Benefit provisions of the plan.
- Data on the present workforce, terminated vested, and retired employees.
- Certain predictions (actuarial assumptions) about the future as it applies to this workforce.

### Actuarial Assumptions

The first step in the actuarial process is to determine the magnitude of the pension liability by determining the benefits expected to be paid. To determine how many employees will become eligible for benefits, what benefits will be paid, and how long benefits will be paid, it is necessary to make some economic and demographic predictions (usually called *actuarial assumptions*) such as:

- An assumed retirement age predicting when employees will begin to receive retirement benefits.
- A mortality rate predicting the number of employees who will die before retirement and the duration of benefit payments after retirement.
- A withdrawal rate predicting the number of employees who will leave the workforce before retirement. (Sometimes certain kinds of withdrawal such as disabilities are predicted separately.)
- If the benefits are based on compensation, an assumed rate of pay increases predicting employees' compensation in future years.

# Actuarial Assumptions

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These assumptions are applied to the data for each employee to predict the amount of benefits expected to be paid each year in the future. The total future benefit payments in each year are then discounted at a selected interest rate to determine the current amount which with future investment return, will be sufficient to pay the expected benefits as they become payable. The discounted payments are usually called the present value of future benefits.

<b>Total Future Benefit Payments</b>	
<b>Future Investment Return</b>	<b>Present Value of Future Benefits</b>

### Actuarial Method

The actuarial method is the mathematical process which determines the contributions required to pay for the present value of future benefits, by allocating costs to the years of an employee's career. Some costs are allocated to future years in an employee's career (*future service liability*) and other costs are allocated to past years (*past service liability*).

<b>Total Future Benefit Payments</b>		
<b>Future Investment Return</b>	<b>Present Value of Future Benefits</b>	
	<b>Future Service Liability</b>	<b>Past Service Liability</b>

There is a fair amount of flexibility in this allocation of costs between future and past. Some methods assign relatively little cost to past years in an employee's career, others assign a more significant portion to the past. All methods produce allocations of contributions which will accumulate to an amount sufficient to provide the benefits at retirement. However, the various methods produce widely different allocation of contributions to past and future employment.

Many actuarial methods are acceptable under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) for calculating cash contributions. However, once an actuarial method has been selected and filed for minimum funding purposes, a change in method may be made only if approved by the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate. The Secretary has granted automatic approval for some changes in actuarial method.

Usual terminology refers to the future allocation as the *present value of future normal costs* and the past allocation as the *accrued liability*.

# Actuarial Assumptions

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The portion of the accrued liability which is not covered by the assets of the plan is called the *unfunded accrued liability*. The value of the assets used in the actuarial process under ERISA must take into account fair market value, but this may be done in a way which eliminates much of the short-term fluctuation of market value from one valuation to the next.

<b>Total Future Benefit Payments</b>		
<b>Future Investment Return</b>	<b>Present Value of Future Benefits</b>	
	<b>Future Service Liability</b>	<b>Past Service Liability</b>
	<b>Present Value of Future Normal Costs</b>	<b>Unfunded Accrued Liability</b>
		<b>Assets</b>

For the current year, the method produces a *normal cost*. Payment of the normal cost each year would eventually discharge all future service liability.

The unfunded accrued liability must also be discharged, and this is done by an *amortization payment*. The amortization payment is flexible, and may be increased or decreased within certain allowable bounds. The sum of both the normal cost and the amortization payment is the current year's pension cost.

<b>Total Future Benefit Payments</b>		
<b>Future Investment Return</b>	<b>Present Value of Future Benefits</b>	
	<b>Future Service Liability</b>	<b>Past Service Liability</b>
	<b>Present Value of Future Normal Costs</b>	<b>Unfunded Accrued Liability</b>
		<b>Assets</b>

Normal Cost			Amortization Payment
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**Current Year's Contribution**

## Actuarial Assumptions

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Valuations to determine expense for the ongoing plan use the *Projected Unit Credit Cost Method*.

Under this actuarial method, the costs attributable to past service and the current year's service are determined by prorating over all years of service the benefits expected to be paid upon normal retirement.

- The expected pension benefit (based on past and future service) at normal retirement is determined for each employee.
- The *normal cost* is determined equal to the present value of the current year's portion of the employee's expected pension benefit. The current year's portion is equal to the expected pension benefit divided by the total credited service at the anticipated retirement date.
- The *accrued liability* is determined equal to the present value of the past years' portion of the employee's expected pension benefit. The past years' portion is equal to the expected pension benefit times the ratio of the participant's credited service to the total credited service at the anticipated retirement date.
- The sum of such values for all employees determines the normal cost and accrued liability for the plan.

The *unfunded accrued liability* is the amount by which the accrued liability exceeds the valuation assets.

The calculations for any disability, termination or death benefits take into consideration that the entitlement to benefits may begin at various future times. Each age prior to retirement has associated with it appropriate probabilities of disability, termination and death.