

MUELLER MARK D

Form 4

July 29, 2011

**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... 0.5Check this box  
if no longer  
subject to  
Section 16.  
Form 4 or  
Form 5  
obligations  
may continue.  
See Instruction  
1(b).**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 \*  
MUELLER MARK D

(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)

07/28/2011

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 &amp; 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<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V                                                                          | Amount                                                                                                             | (D)                                                                  | Price                                                             |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not  
required to respond unless the form  
displays a currently valid OMB control  
number.**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<br>Derivative<br>Security | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any | 4. Transaction<br>Code | 5. Number<br>of Derivative<br>Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Underlying<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|

# Edgar Filing: MUELLER MARK D - Form 4

| (Instr. 3)                 | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | Code | V     | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable             | Expiration Date              | Title           |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|-----|-----|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Performance<br>Share Award | <u>(1)</u> <u>(2)</u>              | 07/28/2011       |            | A <sup>(1)</sup>                                                    |      | 3,935 |     |     | 08/01/2011 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> | 08/01/2011 <sup>(1)(2)</sup> | Common<br>Stock |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                          | Relationships |           |                           |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|
|                                                                         | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                   | Other |
| MUELLER MARK D<br>1775 SHERMAN STREET<br>SUITE 1200<br>DENVER, CO 80203 |               |           | Sr. VP & Regional Manager |       |

## Signatures

Karin M.  
Writer (Attorney-In-Fact) 07/29/2011  
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).
- On July 28, 2011, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the issuer determined that 3,935 shares of the issuer's common stock had been earned by the reporting person under the terms of a performance share award (the "PSA"), based on the achievement of specific performance criteria that were not tied solely to the market price of the issuer's common stock. The PSA was
- (1) granted to the reporting person on August 1, 2008, and represents the right to receive, upon the settlement of the PSA, the determined number of earned shares of the issuer's common stock based on the achievement of the performance criteria over a three-year performance period (with the determined number of earned shares being within a range of zero to two times the number of target shares indicated on the award date), to the extent that the PSA has vested under separate employment service vesting provisions.
  - The PSA vested 1/7th on August 1, 2009 and 2/7ths on August 1, 2010, and the remaining 4/7ths is scheduled to vest on August 1, 2011.
  - (2) Under the terms of the PSA, the PSA is scheduled to be settled through the issuance of the number of earned and vested shares of common stock on or about August 1, 2011.

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.