

ALABAMA POWER CO  
Form S-3ASR  
January 08, 2008

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 8, 2008

Registration No.

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

**FORM S-3  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

**Alabama Power Company**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified  
in its charter)*

**Alabama**

*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**63-0004250**

*(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)*

**600 North 18th Street  
Birmingham, Alabama 35291  
(205) 257-1000**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of each registrant's principal executive offices)

**WILLIAM E. ZALES, JR.**

**Vice President and Corporate Secretary**

**Alabama Power Company  
600 North 18th Street**

**Birmingham, Alabama 35291  
(205) 257-2714**

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service of each registrant)

**The Commission is requested to mail signed copies of all orders, notices and communications to:**

**THOMAS A. FANNING  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer  
THE SOUTHERN COMPANY  
30 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd., N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308**

**MONICA W. SARGENT  
BALCH & BINGHAM LLP  
1901 Sixth Avenue North  
Suite 1500  
Birmingham, Alabama 35203**

**MELISSA K. CAEN  
Vice President and Associate  
General Counsel  
SOUTHERN COMPANY  
SERVICES, INC.  
30 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd., N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308**

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box:

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.  \_\_\_\_\_

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.  \_\_\_\_\_

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

#### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of<br>Each Class of Securities<br>to be Registered  | Amount<br>to be<br>Registered(1) | Proposed Maximum<br>Offering Price<br>Per Unit(1) | Proposed Maximum<br>Aggregate Offering<br>Price(1) | Amount of<br>Registration<br>Fee(2) |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| Alabama Power Company<br>Class A Preferred Stock  |                                  |   |  |                                     |
| Alabama Power Company<br>Preference Stock   |                                  |   |  |                                     |
| Depository Preference Shares,<br>each representing a fraction of a<br>share of Preference Stock |                                  |   |  |                                     |
| Alabama Power Company<br>Senior Notes   |                                  |   |  |                                     |
| Alabama Power Company<br>Junior Subordinated Notes  |                                  |   |  |                                     |

- (1) There are being registered hereunder such presently indeterminate number of shares of Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock and Depository Preference Shares and such presently indeterminate principal amount of Senior Notes and Junior Subordinated Notes of Alabama Power Company as may from time to time be issued at indeterminable prices.
- (2) In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r), the registrant is deferring payment of all of the registration fee, except for \$17,655 that has already been paid and may be offset pursuant to Rule 457(p) for fees paid with respect to \$150,000,000 aggregate initial offering price of securities that were previously registered pursuant to Registration Statement No. 333-126348, declared effective on July 19, 2005, and were not sold thereunder. Registration Statement No. 333-126348 is hereby withdrawn.



**PROSPECTUS**

**Alabama Power Company  
Class A Preferred Stock  
Cumulative, Par Value \$1 Per Share  
Preference Stock  
Depositary Preference Shares,  
each representing a fraction of a share of Preference Stock  
Senior Notes  
Junior Subordinated Notes**

We will provide the specific terms of these securities in supplements to this Prospectus. You should read this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement carefully before you invest.

*See Risk Factors on page 2 for information on certain risks related to the purchase of these securities.*

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this Prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

This Prospectus is dated January 8, 2008

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## ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This Prospectus is part of a registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission ) using a shelf registration process under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the 1933 Act ). Under the shelf process, Alabama Power Company (the Company ) may sell, in one or more transactions,

class A preferred stock (the Class A Preferred Stock )

preference stock (the Preference Stock )

depository preference shares, each representing a fraction of a share of Preference Stock (the Depository Shares )

senior notes (the Senior Notes )

junior subordinated notes (the Junior Subordinated Notes )

in one or more offerings. This Prospectus provides a general description of those securities. Each time the Company sells securities, the Company will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering ( Prospectus Supplement ). The Prospectus Supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this Prospectus. You should read this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement together with additional information under the heading Available Information.

## RISK FACTORS

Investing in the Company's securities involves risk. Please see the risk factors described in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, along with the disclosure related to risk factors contained in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2007, June 30, 2007 and September 30, 2007, which are incorporated by reference in this Prospectus. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider these risks as well as other information contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus. The risks and uncertainties described are not the only ones facing the Company. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to the Company or that the Company deems immaterial may also impair its business operations, its financial results and the value of its securities.

## AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Company has filed with the Commission a registration statement on Form S-3 (the Registration Statement, which term encompasses any amendments of and exhibits to the Registration Statement) under the 1933 Act. As permitted by the rules and regulations of the Commission, this Prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the Registration Statement and the exhibits and schedules to the Registration Statement, to which reference is made.

The Company is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the 1934 Act ), and in accordance with the 1934 Act files reports and other information with the Commission. Such reports and other information can be inspected and copied at the Public Reference Room of the Commission at 100 F. Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the Commission at 1-800-SEC-0330. The Commission maintains a Web site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants including the Company that file electronically at <http://www.sec.gov>. In addition, reports and other material concerning the Company can be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, on which Exchange certain of the Company's outstanding securities are listed.



### INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The following documents have been filed with the Commission pursuant to the 1934 Act and are incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and made a part of this Prospectus:

- (a) the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006;
- (b) the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2007, June 30, 2007 and September 30, 2007; and
- (c) the Company's Current Reports on Form 8-K dated January 26, 2007, January 30, 2007, March 6, 2007, April 3, 2007, April 4, 2007, May 1, 2007, September 12, 2007, October 9, 2007, October 11, 2007, October 11, 2007, October 15, 2007, November 26, 2007, December 4, 2007 and December 21, 2007.

All documents filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the 1934 Act subsequent to the date of this Prospectus and prior to the termination of this offering shall be deemed to be incorporated in this Prospectus by reference and made a part of this Prospectus from the date of filing of such documents; provided, however, the Company is not incorporating any information furnished under Items 2.02 or 7.01 of any Current Report on Form 8-K unless specifically stated otherwise. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Prospectus shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this Prospectus or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Prospectus modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

**The Company will provide without charge to each person to whom this Prospectus is delivered, on the written or oral request of any such person, a copy of any or all documents incorporated in this Prospectus by reference (other than the exhibits to such documents unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference). Such requests should be directed to William E. Zales, Jr., Vice President and Corporate Secretary, Alabama Power Company, 600 North 18th Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35291, telephone: (205) 257-2714.**



## ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

The Company is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Alabama on November 10, 1927, by the consolidation of the predecessor Alabama Power Company, Gulf Electric Company and Houston Power Company. The predecessor Alabama Power Company had a continuous existence since its incorporation in 1906. The principal executive offices of the Company are located at 600 North 18th Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35291, and the telephone number is (205) 257-1000.

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Southern Company. The Company is engaged, within the State of Alabama, in the generation and purchase of electricity and the distribution and sale of such electricity at retail in over 1,000 communities (including Anniston, Birmingham, Gadsden, Mobile, Montgomery and Tuscaloosa), and at wholesale to 15 municipally-owned electric distribution systems, 11 of which are served indirectly through sales to the Alabama Municipal Electric Authority, and two rural distributing cooperative associations. The Company also supplies steam service in downtown Birmingham. The Company owns coal reserves near its Gorgas Steam Electric Generating Plant and uses the output of coal from the reserves in its generating plants. It also sells, and cooperates with dealers in promoting the sale of, electric appliances.

The Company and one of its affiliates, Georgia Power Company ( GEORGIA ), each own 50% of the common stock of Southern Electric Generating Company ( SEGCO ). SEGCO owns generating units with an aggregate capacity of 1,019,680 kilowatts at the Ernest C. Gaston Steam Plant ( Plant Gaston ) on the Coosa River near Wilsonville, Alabama. The Company and GEORGIA are each entitled to one-half of the capacity and energy of these units. The Company acts as SEGCO 's agent in the operation of SEGCO 's units and furnishes coal to SEGCO as fuel for its units. SEGCO also owns three 230,000 volt transmission lines extending from Plant Gaston to the Georgia state line.

### SELECTED INFORMATION

*The following material, which is presented in this Prospectus solely to furnish limited introductory information regarding the Company, has been selected from, or is based upon, the detailed information and financial statements appearing in the documents incorporated in this Prospectus by reference or elsewhere in this Prospectus, is qualified in its entirety by reference to such documents and, therefore, should be read together with those documents.*

#### Alabama Power Company

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Business  | Generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electric energy        |
| Service Area  | Approximately 45,000 square miles comprising most of the State of Alabama |
| Customers at December 31, 2006                          | 1,415,935   |
| Generating Capacity at December 31, 2006<br>(kilowatts) | 12,221,687  |
| Sources of Generation during 2006<br>(kilowatt-hours)   | Coal (68%), Nuclear (19%), Gas (9%), Hydro (4%)                           |

**Certain Ratios**

The following table sets forth the Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Earnings to Fixed Charges Plus Preferred and Preference Dividend Requirements (Pre-Income Tax Basis) for the periods indicated.

|   |             | <b>Year Ended December 31,</b> |             |             |             |      | <b>Nine<br/>Months<br/>Ended<br/>September 30,<br/>2007(1)</b> |
|---|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------|--|
|   | <b>2002</b> | <b>2003</b>                    | <b>2004</b> | <b>2005</b> | <b>2006</b> |      |  |
| Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges (2)  | 3.98        | 4.29                           | 4.76        | 4.67        | 4.34        | 4.87 |  |
| Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges Plus Preferred and Preference Dividend Requirements (Pre-Income Tax Basis) (3) | 3.66        | 3.83                           | 4.06        | 4.01        | 3.77        | 4.13 |  |

- (1) Due to seasonal variations in the demand for energy, operating results for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 do not necessarily indicate operating results for the entire year.
- (2) This ratio is computed as follows: (i) Earnings have been calculated by adding to Earnings Before Income Taxes Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized, Interest expense to affiliate trusts, Distributions on mandatorily redeemable preferred securities and the debt portion of allowance for funds used during construction; and (ii) Fixed Charges consist of Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized, Interest expense to affiliate trusts, Distributions on mandatorily redeemable preferred securities and the debt portion of allowance for funds used during construction. For the nine months ended September 30, 2007, this ratio includes interest related to Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*.
- (3) In computing this ratio, Preferred and Preference Dividend Requirements represent the before-tax earnings necessary to pay such dividends, computed at the effective tax rates for the applicable periods. For the nine months ended September 30, 2007, this ratio includes interest related to FASB Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Except as may be otherwise described in an applicable Prospectus Supplement, the net proceeds received by the Company from the sale of the Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes will be used in connection with its ongoing construction program, to pay scheduled maturities and/or refundings of its securities, to repay short-term indebtedness to the extent outstanding and for other general corporate purposes.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE CLASS A PREFERRED STOCK**

Set forth below is a description of the general terms of the Class A Preferred Stock. The statements in this Prospectus concerning the Class A Preferred Stock are an outline and do not purport to be complete. Such statements make use of defined terms and are qualified in their entirety by express reference to the cited provisions of the charter of the Company, as amended (the charter), a copy of which is filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus forms a part. The general provisions which apply to all series of the Class A Preferred Stock, which are now or may at a later time be authorized or created, are set forth in the charter.

**General**

Each series of the Class A Preferred Stock is to be established by resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Company, a copy of which is an exhibit to the Registration Statement (or incorporated by reference). In such resolutions, the Board of Directors will set the stated capital, among other terms, of such series of Class A Preferred Stock.

At September 30, 2007, the Company had 27,500,000 authorized shares of Class A Preferred Stock, of which 12,000,000 shares of Class A Preferred Stock with a stated capital of \$25 per share and 1,250 shares of Class A

Preferred Stock with a stated capital of \$100,000 per share were outstanding. Additionally, at September 30, 2007, the Company had outstanding 475,115 shares of Preferred Stock which have a par value of \$100 per share. The Class A Preferred Stock ranks on a parity as to dividends and assets with the outstanding Preferred Stock and has the same general rights and preferences as the outstanding Preferred Stock. On all matters submitted to a vote of the holders of the Preferred Stock and the Class A Preferred Stock (other than a change in the rights and preferences of only one, but not the other, such kind of stock), both kinds of stock vote together as a single class, and each share of Preferred Stock and Class A Preferred Stock shall have the relative voting rights described in "Voting Rights" in this Prospectus.

The Class A Preferred Stock will not be subject to further calls or to assessment by the Company.

Any proposed listing of the Class A Preferred Stock on a securities exchange will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

### **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the transfer agent for the Class A Preferred Stock will be Southern Company Services, Inc., 30 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd., N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30308, which will also serve as the registrar.

### **Dividend Rights**

The holders of the Preferred Stock and Class A Preferred Stock of each class are entitled to receive cumulative dividends, payable when and as declared by the Board of Directors, at the rates determined for the respective classes, before any dividends may be declared or paid on the Preference Stock or the Common Stock. Dividends on the Preferred Stock and Class A Preferred Stock must have been or be contemporaneously declared and set apart for payment, or paid, on the Preferred Stock and Class A Preferred Stock of all classes for all dividend periods terminating on the same or an earlier date (Charter A. Preferred Stock 2. General Provisions a and b).

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will set forth the dividend rate provisions of the Class A Preferred Stock, including the payment dates and the rate or rates, or the method of determining the rate or rates (which may involve periodic dividend rate settings through remarketing or auction procedures or pursuant to one or more formulae, as described in the Prospectus Supplement). Dividends payable on the Class A Preferred Stock will be cumulative from the date of original issue.

### **Redemption Provisions**

Any redemption provisions applicable to the Class A Preferred Stock will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

The charter provides that the Company shall not redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire any shares of Preferred Stock or Class A Preferred Stock if, at the time of such redemption, purchase or other acquisition, dividends payable on the Preferred Stock or Class A Preferred Stock of any class shall be in default in whole or in part unless, prior to or concurrently with such redemption, purchase or other acquisition, all such defaults shall be cured or unless such action has been ordered, approved or permitted under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended, by the Commission or any successor commission or regulatory authority of the United States of America (Charter A. Preferred Stock 2. General Provisions d).

### **Voting Rights**

The voting rights applicable to the Preferred Stock and Class A Preferred Stock will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

**Liquidation Rights**

Upon voluntary or involuntary liquidation, the holders of the Preferred Stock and Class A Preferred Stock of each class, without preference between classes, will be entitled to receive the amounts specified to be payable on the shares of such class (which, in the case of the Class A Preferred Stock, is an amount equal to the stated capital per

share on involuntary liquidation, or an amount equal to the then current regular redemption price per share on voluntary liquidation, plus accrued dividends in each case) before any distribution of assets may be made to the holders of the Preference Stock or the Company's Common Stock. Available assets, if insufficient to pay such amounts to the holders of the Preferred Stock and Class A Preferred Stock, are to be distributed pro rata to the payment, first, of the amount per share payable in the event of involuntary liquidation, second, of accrued dividends, and third, of any premium (Charter A. Preferred Stock 2. General Provisions c.).

### **Sinking Fund**

The terms and conditions of a sinking fund or purchase fund, if any, for the benefit of the holders of the Class A Preferred Stock will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

### **Other Rights**

The holders of the Class A Preferred Stock do not have any preemptive or conversion rights unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERENCE STOCK**

Set forth below is a description of the general terms of the Preference Stock. The statements in this Prospectus concerning the Preference Stock are an outline and do not purport to be complete. Such statements make use of defined terms and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the charter and the amendments thereto, a copy of which is filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus forms a part. The general provisions which apply to all series of the Preference Stock, which are now or may at a later time be authorized or created, are set forth in the charter.

### **General**

Each series of Preference Stock is to be established by resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Company, a copy of which is an exhibit to the Registration Statement (or incorporated by reference). In such resolutions, the Board of Directors will set the stated capital, among other terms, of such series of Preference Stock.

As of September 30, 2007, the Company had 40,000,000 authorized shares of Preference Stock, of which 12,000,000 shares with a stated capital of \$25 per share were outstanding. Subsequent to September 30, 2007, the Company issued 2,000,000 additional shares of Preference Stock with a stated capital of \$25 per share. The Preference Stock ranks junior to the Preferred Stock and the Class A Preferred Stock with respect to dividends and amounts payable upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company. The Preference Stock ranks senior to the Company's Common Stock and to any other securities the Company may issue in the future that by their terms rank junior to the Preference Stock with respect to dividends and amounts payable upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company. All shares of the Preference Stock will rank on a parity with respect to dividends and amounts payable upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company.

The Preference Stock will not be subject to further calls or assessment by the Company.

Any proposed listing of the Preference Stock on a securities exchange will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

### **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, the transfer agent for the Preference Stock will be Southern Company Services, Inc., 30 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd., N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30308, which will also serve as

the registrar.

**Dividend Rights**

Dividends on the Preference Stock are payable, when, as and if declared by the Board of Directors, at the rate per annum determined for each respective series. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Prospectus

Supplement, dividends will be payable to holders of record of the Preference Stock as they appear on the books of the Company on the record dates fixed by the Board of Directors.

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will set forth the dividend rate provisions of the Preference Stock, including the payment dates and the rate or rates, or the method of determining the rate or rates (which may involve periodic dividend rate settings through remarketing or auction procedures or pursuant to one or more formulae, as described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement), and whether dividends shall be cumulative and, if so, from which date or dates.

### **Redemption Provisions**

Any redemption provisions applicable to the Preference Stock will be described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

### **Voting Rights**

The applicable Prospectus Supplement will describe the voting rights for each series of the Preference Stock.

### **Liquidation Rights**

Upon voluntary or involuntary liquidation, the holders of the Preference Stock of each series, without preference among series, are entitled to receive the amount specified to be payable on the shares of such series following the satisfaction of all claims ranking senior to the Preference Stock (including the claims of holders of any outstanding shares of Preferred Stock and Class A Preferred Stock) and before any distribution of assets may be made to the holders of the Company's Common Stock. Available assets, if insufficient to pay such amounts to the holders of the Preference Stock, are to be distributed pro rata to the payment, first of the amount per share payable in the event of involuntary liquidation, second of accrued dividends, if any, and third of any premium.

### **Sinking Fund**

The terms and conditions of a sinking or purchase fund, if any, for the benefit of the holders of the Preference Stock will be set forth in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

### **Other Rights**

The holders of the Preference Stock do not have any pre-emptive or conversion rights, except as otherwise described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE DEPOSITARY SHARES**

Set forth below is a description of the general terms of the Depositary Shares. The statements in this Prospectus concerning the Depositary Shares and the Deposit Agreement (as defined below) are an outline and do not purport to be complete. Such statements make use of defined terms and are qualified in their entirety by express reference to the Deposit Agreement (which contains the form of Depositary Receipt (as defined below)), a form of which is an exhibit to the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus forms a part or incorporated by reference to the Registration Statement.

### **General**

The Company may, at its option, elect to offer Depositary Shares. Each Depositary Share will represent a fraction of a share of Preference Stock as described in the Prospectus Supplement. The shares of Preference Stock represented by



the Depositary Shares will be deposited under a Deposit Agreement (the Deposit Agreement ), among the Company, the Depositary named in the Deposit Agreement (the Depositary ) and all holders from time to time of the depositary receipts (the Depositary Receipts ) issued under the Deposit Agreement. Subject to the terms of the Deposit Agreement, each owner of a Depositary Share is entitled, proportionately, to all the rights, preferences and privileges of the Preference Stock (including dividend, voting and liquidation rights) and subject,

proportionately, to all of the limitations of the Preference Stock contained in the charter summarized under Description of the Preference Stock in this Prospectus. The Depositary Shares are evidenced by Depositary Receipts issued pursuant to the Deposit Agreement.

Any proposed listing of the Depositary Shares on a securities exchange will be described in the Prospectus Supplement.

### **Issuance of Depositary Receipts**

Immediately following the issuance of the Preference Stock, the Company will deposit the Preference Stock with the Depositary, which will then execute and deliver the Depositary Receipts to the Company. The Company will, in turn, deliver the Depositary Receipts to the underwriters or purchasers. Depositary Receipts will be issued evidencing only whole Depositary Shares.

### **Withdrawal of Preference Stock**

Upon surrender of Depositary Receipts at the corporate trust office of the Depositary, the owner of the Depositary Shares evidenced by such Depositary Receipts is entitled to delivery at such office of certificates evidencing the number of shares of Preference Stock (but only in whole shares of Preference Stock) represented by such Depositary Shares. If the Depositary Receipts delivered by the holder evidence a number of Depositary Shares in excess of the number of whole shares of Preference Stock to be withdrawn, the Depositary will deliver to such holder at the same time a new Depositary Receipt evidencing such excess number of Depositary Shares. The Company does not expect that there will be any public trading market for the Preference Stock, except as represented by the Depositary Shares.

### **Redemption of Depositary Shares**

The Depositary Shares will be redeemed, upon not less than 15 nor more than 60 days' notice, using the cash proceeds received by the Depositary resulting from the redemption, in whole or in part, at the Company's option, but subject to the applicable terms and conditions, of shares of Preference Stock held by the Depositary. The redemption price per Depositary Share will be equal to the fraction of the redemption price per share applicable to the Preference Stock. Whenever the Company redeems shares of the Preference Stock held by the Depositary, the Depositary will redeem as of the same redemption date the number of Depositary Shares representing the shares of Preference Stock so redeemed. If less than all the outstanding Depositary Shares are to be redeemed, the Depositary Shares to be redeemed will be selected pro rata (as nearly as may be) or by lot or by such other equitable method as the Depositary may determine.

### **Dividends and Other Distributions**

The Depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received in respect of Preference Stock to the record holders of Depositary Receipts in proportion, insofar as practicable, to the number of Depositary Shares owned by such holders. In the event of a distribution other than in cash, the Depositary will distribute property received by it to the record holders of Depositary Receipts entitled to such property, unless the Depositary determines that it is not feasible to make such distribution, in which case the Depositary may, with the approval of the Company, adopt such method as it deems equitable and practicable for the purpose of effecting such distribution, including the sale (at public or private sale) of such property and distribution of the net proceeds from such sale to such holders. The amount distributed in any of the foregoing cases will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by the Company or the Depositary on account of taxes or otherwise required pursuant to law, regulation or court process.

### **Record Date**

Whenever (i) any cash dividend or other cash distribution shall become payable, any distribution other than cash shall be made, or any rights, preferences or privileges shall be offered with respect to the Preference Stock or (ii) the Depositary shall receive notice of any meeting at which holders of Preference Stock are entitled to vote or of which holders of Preference Stock are entitled to notice, the Depositary shall in each such instance fix a record date

(which shall be the record date fixed by the Company with respect to the Preference Stock) for the determination of the holders of Depositary Receipts who shall be entitled to (y) receive such dividend, distribution, rights, preferences or privileges or the net proceeds of such sale or (z) give instructions for the exercise of voting rights at such meeting or receive notice of such meeting.

### **Voting Preference Stock**

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of Preference Stock are entitled to vote, the Depositary will mail the information contained in such notice of meeting to the record holders of Depositary Receipts. The record holders of Depositary Receipts on the record date (which will be the same date as the record date for the Preference Stock) will be entitled to instruct the Depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights pertaining to the amount of Preference Stock represented by their respective Depositary Receipts. The Depositary will endeavor insofar as practicable to vote or cause to be voted the amount of Preference Stock represented by such Depositary Receipts in accordance with such instructions, and the Company has agreed to take all action which may be deemed necessary by the Depositary in order to enable the Depositary to do so. The Depositary will abstain from voting the Preference Stock to the extent it does not receive specific instructions from the holders of the Depositary Receipts.

### **Amendment and Termination of Deposit Agreement**

The form of the Depositary Receipts and any provisions of the Deposit Agreement may at any time and from time to time be amended or modified in any respect by agreement between the Company and the Depositary. Any amendment which imposes any fees or charges (other than taxes, fees and charges provided for in the Deposit Agreement) on the holders of Depositary Receipts, or which otherwise prejudices any substantial existing right of holders of Depositary Receipts, will not become effective as to outstanding Depositary Receipts until the expiration of 90 days after notice of such amendment shall have been given to the record holders of outstanding Depositary Receipts. Every holder of an outstanding Depositary Receipt at the time any such amendment becomes effective shall be deemed, by continuing to hold such Depositary Receipt, to consent and agree to such amendment and to be bound by the Deposit Agreement as amended. In no event may any amendment impair the right of the holder of any Depositary Receipt, subject to the conditions of the Deposit Agreement, to surrender such Depositary Receipt and receive the Preference Stock represented by such Depositary Receipt, except in order to comply with mandatory provisions of applicable law.

Whenever so directed by the Company, the Depositary will terminate the Deposit Agreement by mailing notice of such termination to the record holders of all Depositary Receipts then outstanding at least 30 days prior to the date fixed in such notice for such termination. The Depositary may likewise terminate the Deposit Agreement if at any time 60 days shall have expired after the Depositary shall have delivered to the Company a written notice of its election to resign and a successor depositary shall not have been appointed and accepted its appointment. If any Depositary Receipts remain outstanding after the date of termination, the Depositary will discontinue the transfer of Depositary Receipts, will suspend the distribution of dividends to the holders of Depositary Receipts and will not give any further notices (other than notice of such termination) or perform any further acts under the Deposit Agreement except that the Depositary will continue to collect dividends and other distributions pertaining to the Preference Stock and deliver Preference Stock together with such dividends and distributions and the net proceeds of any sale of any rights, preferences, privileges or other property in exchange for Depositary Receipts surrendered. At any time after the expiration of two years from the date of termination, the Depositary may sell the Preference Stock then held by it at public or private sale at such place or places and upon such terms as it deems proper and may thereafter hold the net proceeds of any such sale, together with any other cash then held by it, without liability for interest, for the pro rata benefit of the holders of Depositary Receipts which have not been surrendered. Any such moneys unclaimed by the holders of Depositary Receipts more than two years from the date of termination of the Deposit Agreement will, upon request of the Company, be paid to it, and after such payment, the holders of Depositary Receipts entitled to the funds so paid to the Company shall look only to the Company for payment without interest. The Company does not intend to terminate the Deposit Agreement or to permit the resignation of the Depositary without appointing a successor depositary.



## **Charges of Depositary**

The Company will pay all charges of the Depositary including charges for the initial deposit of the Preference Stock and delivery of Depositary Receipts and withdrawals of Preference Stock by the holders of Depositary Receipts, except for taxes (including transfer taxes, if any) and such charges as are expressly provided in the Deposit Agreement to be at the expense of the persons depositing Preference Stock or holders of Depositary Receipts.

## **Miscellaneous**

The Depositary will make available for inspection by holders of Depositary Receipts at its corporate trust office any reports and communications received from the Company which are made generally available to the holders of Preference Stock by the Company.

Neither the Depositary nor the Company will be liable if it is prevented or delayed by law or any circumstance beyond its control in performing its obligations under the Deposit Agreement. The obligations of the Depositary and the Company under the Deposit Agreement are limited to performance in good faith of their duties under the Deposit Agreement, and they are not obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of the Preference Stock, the Depositary Receipts or the Depositary Shares unless satisfactory indemnity is furnished. The Depositary and the Company may rely upon advice of or information from counsel, accountants or other persons believed to be competent and on documents believed to be genuine.

The Depositary may at any time resign or be removed by the Company, effective upon the acceptance by its successor of its appointment.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE SENIOR NOTES**

Set forth below is a description of the general terms of the Senior Notes. The following description does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, the Senior Note Indenture, dated as of December 1, 1997, between the Company and The Bank of New York (as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank)), as trustee (the Senior Note Indenture Trustee), as to be supplemented by a supplemental indenture establishing the Senior Notes of each series (the Senior Note Indenture, as supplemented, is referred to as the Senior Note Indenture), the forms of which are filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus forms a part. The terms of the Senior Notes will include those stated in the Senior Note Indenture and those made a part of the Senior Note Indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the 1939 Act). Certain capitalized terms used in this Prospectus are defined in the Senior Note Indenture.

## **General**

The Senior Notes will be issued as unsecured senior debt securities under the Senior Note Indenture and will rank equally with all other unsecured and unsubordinated debt of the Company. The Senior Notes will be effectively subordinated to all secured debt of the Company aggregating approximately \$153,000,000 outstanding at September 30, 2007. The Senior Note Indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of Senior Notes that may be issued under the Senior Note Indenture and provides that Senior Notes may be issued from time to time in one or more series pursuant to an indenture supplemental to the Senior Note Indenture. The Senior Note Indenture gives the Company the ability to reopen a previous issue of Senior Notes and issue additional Senior Notes of such series, unless otherwise provided.

Reference is made to the Prospectus Supplement that will accompany this Prospectus for the following terms of the series of Senior Notes being offered by such Prospectus Supplement: (i) the title of such Senior Notes; (ii) any limit on the aggregate principal amount of such Senior Notes; (iii) the date or dates on which the principal of such Senior Notes is payable; (iv) the rate or rates at which such Senior Notes shall bear interest, if any, or any method by which

such rate or rates will be determined, the date or dates from which such interest will accrue, the interest payment dates on which such interest shall be payable, and the regular record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date; (v) the place or places where the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, on such Senior Notes shall be payable; (vi) the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the

terms and conditions on which such Senior Notes may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at the option of the Company or at the option of the holder prior to their maturity; (vii) the obligation, if any, of the Company to redeem or purchase such Senior Notes; (viii) the denominations in which such Senior Notes shall be issuable; (ix) if other than the principal amount of such Senior Notes, the portion of the principal amount of such Senior Notes which shall be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity of such Senior Notes; (x) any deletions from, modifications of or additions to the Events of Default or covenants of the Company as provided in the Senior Note Indenture pertaining to such Senior Notes; (xi) whether such Senior Notes shall be issued in whole or in part in the form of a Global Security; and (xii) any other terms of such Senior Notes.

The Senior Note Indenture does not contain provisions that afford holders of Senior Notes protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction involving the Company.

### **Events of Default**

The Senior Note Indenture provides that any one or more of the following described events with respect to the Senior Notes of any series, which has occurred and is continuing, constitutes an Event of Default with respect to the Senior Notes of such series:

(a) failure for 10 days to pay interest on the Senior Notes of such series, when due on an interest payment date other than at maturity or upon earlier redemption; or

(b) failure to pay principal or premium, if any, or interest on the Senior Notes of such series when due at maturity or upon earlier redemption; or

(c) failure for three Business Days to deposit any sinking fund payment when due by the terms of a Senior Note of such series; or

(d) failure to observe or perform any other covenant or warranty of the Company in the Senior Note Indenture (other than a covenant or warranty which has expressly been included in the Senior Note Indenture solely for the benefit of one or more series of Senior Notes other than such series) for 90 days after written notice to the Company from the Senior Note Indenture Trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding Senior Notes of such series; or

(e) certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company.

The holders of not less than a majority in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Senior Notes of any series have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Senior Note Indenture Trustee with respect to the Senior Notes of such series. If a Senior Note Indenture Event of Default occurs and is continuing with respect to the Senior Notes of any series, then the Senior Note Indenture Trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Senior Notes of such series may declare the principal amount of the Senior Notes due and payable immediately by notice in writing to the Company (and to the Senior Note Indenture Trustee if given by the holders), and upon any such declaration such principal amount shall become immediately due and payable. At any time after such a declaration of acceleration with respect to the Senior Notes of any series has been made and before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained as provided in Article Five of the Senior Note Indenture, the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Senior Notes of such series may rescind and annul such declaration and its consequences if the default has been cured or waived and the Company has paid or deposited with the Senior Note Indenture Trustee a sum sufficient to pay all matured installments of interest and principal due otherwise than by acceleration and all sums paid or advanced by the Senior Note Indenture Trustee, including reasonable compensation and expenses of the Senior Note Indenture Trustee.



The holders of not less than a majority in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Senior Notes of any series may, on behalf of the holders of all the Senior Notes of such series, waive any past default with respect to such series, except (i) a default in the payment of principal or interest or (ii) a default in respect of a covenant or provision which under Article Nine of the Senior Note Indenture cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Senior Note of such series affected.

## **Registration and Transfer**

The Company shall not be required to (i) issue, register the transfer of or exchange Senior Notes of any series during a period of 15 days immediately preceding the date notice is given identifying the Senior Notes of such series called for redemption, or (ii) issue, register the transfer of or exchange any Senior Notes so selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any Senior Note being redeemed in part.

## **Payment and Paying Agent**

Unless otherwise indicated in an applicable Prospectus Supplement, payment of principal of any Senior Notes will be made only against surrender to the Paying Agent of such Senior Notes. Principal of and interest on Senior Notes will be payable, subject to any applicable laws and regulations, at the office of such Paying Agent or Paying Agents as the Company may designate from time to time, except that, at the option of the Company, payment of any interest may be made by wire transfer or by check mailed to the address of the person entitled to an interest payment as such address shall appear in the Security Register with respect to the Senior Notes. Payment of interest on Senior Notes on any interest payment date will be made to the person in whose name the Senior Notes (or predecessor security) are registered at the close of business on the record date for such interest payment.

Unless otherwise indicated in an applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Senior Note Indenture Trustee will act as Paying Agent with respect to the Senior Notes. The Company may at any time designate additional Paying Agents or rescind the designation of any Paying Agents or approve a change in the office through which any Paying Agent acts.

All moneys paid by the Company to a Paying Agent for the payment of the principal of or interest on the Senior Notes of any series which remain unclaimed at the end of two years after such principal or interest shall have become due and payable will be repaid to the Company, and the holder of such Senior Notes from that time forward will look only to the Company for payment of such principal and interest.

## **Modification**

The Senior Note Indenture contains provisions permitting the Company and the Senior Note Indenture Trustee, with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Senior Notes of each series that is affected, to modify the Senior Note Indenture or the rights of the holders of the Senior Notes of such series; provided, that no such modification may, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Senior Note that is affected, (i) change the stated maturity of the principal of, or any installment of principal of or interest on, any Senior Note, or reduce the principal amount of any Senior Note or the rate of interest on any Senior Note or any premium payable upon the redemption of any Senior Note, or change the method of calculating the rate of interest on any Senior Note, or impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after the stated maturity of any Senior Note (or, in the case of redemption, on or after the redemption date), or (ii) reduce the percentage of principal amount of the outstanding Senior Notes of any series, the consent of whose holders is required for any such supplemental indenture, or the consent of whose holders is required for any waiver (of compliance with certain provisions of the Senior Note Indenture or certain defaults under the Senior Note Indenture and their consequences) provided for in the Senior Note Indenture, or (iii) modify any of the provisions of the Senior Note Indenture relating to supplemental indentures, waiver of past defaults, or waiver of certain covenants, except to increase any such percentage or to provide that certain other provisions of the Senior Note Indenture cannot be modified or waived without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Senior Note that is affected.

In addition, the Company and the Senior Note Indenture Trustee may execute, without the consent of any holders of Senior Notes, any supplemental indenture for certain other usual purposes, including the creation of any new series of senior notes.

## **Consolidation, Merger and Sale**

The Company shall not consolidate with or merge into any other corporation or convey, transfer or lease its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any person, unless (1) such other corporation or person is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States, any state in the United States or the District

of Columbia and such other corporation or person expressly assumes, by supplemental indenture executed and delivered to the Senior Note Indenture Trustee, the payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on all the Senior Notes and the performance of every covenant of the Senior Note Indenture on the part of the Company to be performed or observed; (2) immediately after giving effect to such transactions, no Event of Default, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an Event of Default, shall have happened and be continuing; and (3) the Company has delivered to the Senior Note Indenture Trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that such transaction complies with the provisions of the Senior Note Indenture governing consolidation, merger, conveyance, transfer or lease and that all conditions precedent to the transaction have been complied with.

### **Information Concerning the Senior Note Indenture Trustee**

The Senior Note Indenture Trustee, prior to an Event of Default with respect to Senior Notes of any series, undertakes to perform, with respect to Senior Notes of such series, only such duties as are specifically set forth in the Senior Note Indenture and, in case an Event of Default with respect to Senior Notes of any series has occurred and is continuing, shall exercise, with respect to Senior Notes of such series, the same degree of care as a prudent individual would exercise in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Subject to such provision, the Senior Note Indenture Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers vested in it by the Senior Note Indenture at the request of any holder of Senior Notes of any series, unless offered reasonable indemnity by such holder against the costs, expenses and liabilities which might be incurred by the Senior Note Indenture Trustee. The Senior Note Indenture Trustee is not required to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur any financial liability in the performance of its duties if the Senior Note Indenture Trustee reasonably believes that repayment or adequate indemnity is not reasonably assured to it.

The Bank of New York, the Senior Note Indenture Trustee, also serves as Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee. The Company and certain of its affiliates maintain deposit accounts and banking relationships with The Bank of New York. The Bank of New York also serves as trustee under other indentures pursuant to which securities of the Company and affiliates of the Company are outstanding.

### **Governing Law**

The Senior Note Indenture and the Senior Notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the internal laws of the State of New York.

### **Miscellaneous**

The Company will have the right at all times to assign any of its rights or obligations under the Senior Note Indenture to a direct or indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the Company; provided, that, in the event of any such assignment, the Company will remain primarily liable for all such obligations. Subject to the foregoing, the Senior Note Indenture will be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties to the Senior Note Indenture and their respective successors and assigns.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE JUNIOR SUBORDINATED NOTES**

Set forth below is a description of the general terms of the Junior Subordinated Notes. The following description does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, the Subordinated Note Indenture, dated as of January 1, 1997, between the Company and The Bank of New York (as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank)), as trustee (the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee), as to be supplemented by a supplemental indenture to the Subordinated Note Indenture establishing the Junior Subordinated Notes of each series (the Subordinated Note Indenture, as so supplemented, is referred to as the Subordinated Note Indenture), the forms of which are filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement of which this

Prospectus forms a part. The terms of the Junior Subordinated Notes will include those stated in the Subordinated Note Indenture and those made a part of the Subordinated Note Indenture by reference to the 1939 Act. Certain capitalized terms used in this Prospectus are defined in the Subordinated Note Indenture.

## General

The Junior Subordinated Notes will be issued as unsecured junior subordinated debt securities under the Subordinated Note Indenture. The Subordinated Note Indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of Junior Subordinated Notes that may be issued under the Subordinated Note Indenture and provides that Junior Subordinated Notes may be issued from time to time in one or more series pursuant to an indenture supplemental to the Subordinated Note Indenture. The Subordinated Note Indenture gives the Company the ability to reopen a previous issue of Junior Subordinated Notes and issue additional Junior Subordinated Notes of such series, unless otherwise provided.

Reference is made to the Prospectus Supplement that will accompany this Prospectus for the following terms of the series of Junior Subordinated Notes being offered by such Prospectus Supplement: (i) the title of such Junior Subordinated Notes; (ii) any limit on the aggregate principal amount of such Junior Subordinated Notes; (iii) the date or dates on which the principal of such Junior Subordinated Notes is payable; (iv) the rate or rates at which such Junior Subordinated Notes shall bear interest, if any, or any method by which such rate or rates will be determined, the date or dates from which such interest will accrue, the interest payment dates on which such interest shall be payable, and the regular record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date; (v) the place or places where the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, on such Junior Subordinated Notes shall be payable; (vi) the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions on which such Junior Subordinated Notes may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at the option of the Company or at the option of the holder prior to their maturity; (vii) the obligation, if any, of the Company to redeem or purchase such Junior Subordinated Notes; (viii) the denominations in which such Junior Subordinated Notes shall be issuable; (ix) if other than the principal amount of the Junior Subordinated Notes, the portion of the principal amount of such Junior Subordinated Notes which shall be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity of the Junior Subordinated Notes; (x) any deletions from, modifications of or additions to the Events of Default or covenants of the Company as provided in the Subordinated Note Indenture pertaining to such Junior Subordinated Notes; (xi) whether such Junior Subordinated Notes shall be issued in whole or in part in the form of a Global Security; (xii) the right, if any, of the Company to extend the interest payment periods of such Junior Subordinated Notes; and (xiii) any other terms of such Junior Subordinated Notes. The terms of each series of Junior Subordinated Notes issued to a Trust will correspond to those of the related Preferred Securities of such Trust as described in the Prospectus Supplement relating to such Preferred Securities.

The Subordinated Note Indenture does not contain provisions that afford holders of Junior Subordinated Notes protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction involving the Company.

## Subordination

The Junior Subordinated Notes are subordinated and junior in right of payment to all Senior Indebtedness (as defined below) of the Company. No payment of principal of (including redemption payments, if any), or premium, if any, or interest on (including Additional Interest (as defined below)) the Junior Subordinated Notes may be made if (a) any Senior Indebtedness is not paid when due and any applicable grace period with respect to such default has ended with such default not being cured or waived or otherwise ceasing to exist, or (b) the maturity of any Senior Indebtedness has been accelerated because of a default, or (c) notice has been given of the exercise of an option to require repayment, mandatory payment or prepayment or otherwise. Upon any payment or distribution of assets of the Company to creditors upon any liquidation, dissolution, winding-up, reorganization, assignment for the benefit of creditors, marshalling of assets or liabilities, or any bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings of the Company, the holders of Senior Indebtedness shall be entitled to receive payment in full of all amounts due or to become due on or in respect of all Senior Indebtedness before the holders of the Junior Subordinated Notes are entitled to receive or retain any payment or distribution. Subject to the prior payment of all Senior Indebtedness, the rights of the holders of the Junior Subordinated Notes will be subrogated to the rights of the holders of Senior Indebtedness to receive payments and distributions applicable to such Senior Indebtedness until all amounts owing on the Junior Subordinated

Notes are paid in full.

The term **Senior Indebtedness** means, with respect to the Company, (i) any payment due in respect of indebtedness of the Company, whether outstanding at the date of execution of the Subordinated Note Indenture or

incurred, created or assumed after such date, (a) in respect of money borrowed (including any financial derivative, hedging or futures contract or similar instrument) and (b) evidenced by securities, debentures, bonds, notes or other similar instruments issued by the Company that, by their terms, are senior or senior subordinated debt securities including, without limitation, all obligations under its indentures with various trustees; (ii) all capital lease obligations; (iii) all obligations issued or assumed as the deferred purchase price of property, all conditional sale obligations and all obligations of the Company under any title retention agreement (but excluding trade accounts payable arising in the ordinary course of business and long-term purchase obligations); (iv) all obligations for the reimbursement of any letter of credit, banker's acceptance, security purchase facility or similar credit transaction; (v) all obligations of the type referred to in clauses (i) through (iv) above of other persons the payment of which the Company is responsible or liable as obligor, guarantor or otherwise; and (vi) all obligations of the type referred to in clauses (i) through (v) above of other persons secured by any lien on any property or asset of the Company (whether or not such obligation is assumed by the Company), except for (1) any such indebtedness that is by its terms subordinated to or that ranks equally with the Junior Subordinated Notes and (2) any unsecured indebtedness between or among the Company or its affiliates. Such Senior Indebtedness shall continue to be Senior Indebtedness and be entitled to the benefits of the subordination provisions contained in the Subordinated Note Indenture irrespective of any amendment, modification or waiver of any term of such Senior Indebtedness.

The Subordinated Note Indenture does not limit the aggregate amount of Senior Indebtedness that may be issued by the Company. As of September 30, 2007, Senior Indebtedness of the Company aggregated approximately \$5,039,000,000.

#### **Additional Interest**

Additional Interest is defined in the Subordinated Note Indenture as (i) such additional amounts as may be required so that the net amounts received and retained by a holder of Junior Subordinated Notes (if the holder is a Trust) after paying taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature (other than withholding taxes) imposed by the United States or any other taxing authority will not be less than the amounts the holder would have received had no such taxes, duties, assessments, or other governmental charges been imposed; and (ii) any interest due and not paid on an interest payment date, together with interest from such interest payment date to the date of payment, compounded quarterly, on each interest payment date.

#### **Certain Covenants**

The Company covenants in the Subordinated Note Indenture, for the benefit of the holders of each series of Junior Subordinated Notes, that, (i) if at such time the Company shall have given notice of its election to extend an interest payment period for such series of Junior Subordinated Notes and such extension shall be continuing, (ii) if at such time the Company shall be in default with respect to its payment or other obligations under the Guarantee with respect to the Trust Securities, if any, related to such series of Junior Subordinated Notes, or (iii) if at such time an Event of Default under the Subordinated Note Indenture with respect to such series of Junior Subordinated Notes shall have occurred and be continuing, (a) the Company shall not declare or pay any dividend or make any distributions with respect to, or redeem, purchase, acquire or make a liquidation payment with respect to, any of its capital stock, and (b) the Company shall not make any payment of interest, principal or premium, if any, on or repay, repurchase or redeem any debt securities (including guarantees other than the Guarantees) issued by the Company which rank equally with or junior to the Junior Subordinated Notes. None of the foregoing, however, shall restrict (i) any of the actions described in the preceding sentence resulting from any reclassification of the Company's capital stock or the exchange or conversion of one class or series of the Company's capital stock for another class or series of the Company's capital stock, or (ii) the purchase of fractional interests in shares of the Company's capital stock pursuant to the conversion or exchange provisions of such capital stock or the security being converted or exchanged.

The Subordinated Note Indenture further provides that, for so long as the Trust Securities of any Trust remain outstanding, the Company covenants (i) to directly or indirectly maintain 100% ownership of the Common Securities



of such Trust; provided, however, that any permitted successor of the Company under the Subordinated Note Indenture may succeed to the Company's ownership of such Common Securities, and (ii) to use its reasonable efforts to cause such Trust (a) to remain a statutory trust, except in connection with the distribution of Junior

Subordinated Notes to the holders of Trust Securities in liquidation of such Trust, the redemption of all of the Trust Securities of such Trust, or certain mergers, consolidations or amalgamations, each as permitted by the related Trust Agreement, and (b) to otherwise continue to be classified as a grantor trust for United States federal income tax purposes.

### **Events of Default**

The Subordinated Note Indenture provides that any one or more of the following described events with respect to the Junior Subordinated Notes of any series, which has occurred and is continuing, constitutes an Event of Default with respect to the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series:

- (a) failure for 10 days to pay interest on the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series, including any Additional Interest (as defined in clause (ii) of the definition of Additional Interest in the Subordinated Note Indenture) on such unpaid interest, when due on an interest payment date other than at maturity or upon earlier redemption; provided, however, that a valid extension of the interest payment period by the Company shall not constitute a default in the payment of interest for this purpose; or
- (b) failure for 10 days to pay Additional Interest (as defined in clause (i) of the definition of Additional Interest in the Subordinated Note Indenture); or
- (c) failure to pay principal or premium, if any, or interest, including Additional Interest (as defined in clause (ii) of the definition of Additional Interest in the Subordinated Note Indenture), on the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series when due at maturity or upon earlier redemption; or
- (d) failure for three Business Days to deposit any sinking fund payment when due by the terms of a Junior Subordinated Note of such series; or
- (e) failure to observe or perform any other covenant or warranty of the Company in the Subordinated Note Indenture (other than a covenant or warranty which has expressly been included in the Subordinated Note Indenture solely for the benefit of one or more series of Junior Subordinated Notes other than such series) for 90 days after written notice to the Company from the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee or the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding Junior Subordinated Notes of such series; or
- (f) certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company.

The holders of not less than a majority in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Junior Subordinated Notes of any series have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee with respect to the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series. If a Subordinated Note Indenture Event of Default occurs and is continuing with respect to the Junior Subordinated Notes of any series, then the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series may declare the principal amount of the Junior Subordinated Notes due and payable immediately by notice in writing to the Company (and to the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee if given by the holders), and upon any such declaration such principal amount shall become immediately due and payable. At any time after such a declaration of acceleration with respect to the Junior Subordinated Notes of any series has been made and before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained as provided in Article Five of the Subordinated Note Indenture, the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series may rescind and annul such declaration and its consequences if the default has been cured or waived and the Company has paid or deposited with the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee a sum sufficient to pay all matured installments of interest (including any Additional Interest) and principal due otherwise than by acceleration and all sums paid or advanced by the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee, including reasonable compensation and expenses of the Subordinated Note

Indenture Trustee.

A holder of Preferred Securities may institute a legal proceeding directly against the Company, without first instituting a legal proceeding against the Property Trustee or any other person or entity, for enforcement of payment to such holder of principal of or interest on the Junior Subordinated Notes of the related series having a principal

amount equal to the aggregate stated liquidation amount of the Preferred Securities of such holder on or after the due dates specified in the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series.

The holders of not less than a majority in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Junior Subordinated Notes of any series may, on behalf of the holders of all the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series, waive any past default with respect to such series, except (i) a default in the payment of principal or interest or (ii) a default in respect of a covenant or provision which under Article Nine of the Subordinated Note Indenture cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Junior Subordinated Note of such series affected.

### **Registration and Transfer**

The Company shall not be required to (i) issue, register the transfer of or exchange Junior Subordinated Notes of any series during a period of 15 days immediately preceding the date notice is given identifying the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series called for redemption, or (ii) issue, register the transfer of or exchange any Junior Subordinated Notes so selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any Junior Subordinated Note being redeemed in part.

### **Payment and Paying Agent**

Unless otherwise indicated in an applicable Prospectus Supplement, payment of principal of any Junior Subordinated Notes will be made only against surrender to the Paying Agent of such Junior Subordinated Notes. Principal of and interest on Junior Subordinated Notes will be payable, subject to any applicable laws and regulations, at the office of such Paying Agent or Paying Agents as the Company may designate from time to time, except that, at the option of the Company, payment of any interest may be made by wire transfer or by check mailed to the address of the person entitled to an interest payment as such address shall appear in the Security Register with respect to the Junior Subordinated Notes. Payment of interest on Junior Subordinated Notes on any interest payment date will be made to the person in whose name the Junior Subordinated Notes (or predecessor security) are registered at the close of business on the record date for such interest payment.

Unless otherwise indicated in an applicable Prospectus Supplement, the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee will act as Paying Agent with respect to the Junior Subordinated Notes. The Company may at any time designate additional Paying Agents or rescind the designation of any Paying Agents or approve a change in the office through which any Paying Agent acts.

All moneys paid by the Company to a Paying Agent for the payment of the principal of or interest on the Junior Subordinated Notes of any series which remain unclaimed at the end of two years after such principal or interest shall have become due and payable will be repaid to the Company, and the holder of such Junior Subordinated Notes will from that time forward look only to the Company for payment of such principal and interest.

### **Modification**

The Subordinated Note Indenture contains provisions permitting the Company and the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee, with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Junior Subordinated Notes of each series affected, to modify the Subordinated Note Indenture or the rights of the holders of the Junior Subordinated Notes of such series; provided, that no such modification may, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Junior Subordinated Note affected, (i) change the stated maturity of the principal of, or any installment of principal of or interest on, any Junior Subordinated Note, or reduce the principal amount of any Junior Subordinated Note or the rate of interest (including Additional Interest) on any Junior Subordinated Note or any premium payable upon the redemption of any Junior Subordinated Note, or change the method of calculating the rate of interest on any Junior Subordinated Note, or impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after the stated maturity of any Junior Subordinated Note (or, in the case of redemption, on or after the

redemption date), or (ii) reduce the percentage of principal amount of the outstanding Junior Subordinated Notes of any series, the consent of whose holders is required for any such supplemental indenture, or the consent of whose holders is required for any waiver (of compliance with certain provisions of the Subordinated Note Indenture or certain defaults under the Subordinated Note Indenture and their consequences) provided for in the Subordinated Note Indenture, or (iii) modify any of the provisions of the Subordinated Note Indenture relating to supplemental indentures, waiver of past defaults, or waiver of certain covenants, except to

increase any such percentage or to provide that certain other provisions of the Subordinated Note Indenture cannot be modified or waived without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Junior Subordinated Note affected thereby, or (iv) modify the provisions of the Subordinated Note Indenture with respect to the subordination of the Junior Subordinated Notes in a manner adverse to such holder.

In addition, the Company and the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee may execute, without the consent of any holders of Junior Subordinated Notes, any supplemental indenture for certain other usual purposes, including the creation of any new series of junior subordinated notes.

### **Consolidation, Merger and Sale**

The Company shall not consolidate with or merge into any other corporation or convey, transfer or lease its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any person, unless (1) such other corporation or person is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States, any state in the United States or the District of Columbia and such other corporation or person expressly assumes, by supplemental indenture executed and delivered to the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee, the payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest (including Additional Interest) on all the Junior Subordinated Notes and the performance of every covenant of the Subordinated Note Indenture on the part of the Company to be performed or observed; (2) immediately after giving effect to such transactions, no Event of Default, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an Event of Default, shall have happened and be continuing; and (3) the Company has delivered to the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that such transaction complies with the provisions of the Subordinated Note Indenture governing consolidation, merger, conveyance, transfer or lease and that all conditions precedent to the transaction have been complied with.

### **Information Concerning the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee**

The Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee, prior to an Event of Default with respect to Junior Subordinated Notes of any series, undertakes to perform, with respect to Junior Subordinated Notes of such series, only such duties as are specifically set forth in the Subordinated Note Indenture and, in case an Event of Default with respect to Junior Subordinated Notes of any series has occurred and is continuing, shall exercise, with respect to Junior Subordinated Notes of such series, the same degree of care as a prudent individual would exercise in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Subject to such provision, the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers vested in it by the Subordinated Note Indenture at the request of any holder of Junior Subordinated Notes of any series, unless offered reasonable indemnity by such holder against the costs, expenses and liabilities which might be incurred by the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee. The Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee is not required to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur any financial liability in the performance of its duties if the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee reasonably believes that repayment or adequate indemnity is not reasonably assured to it.

The Bank of New York, the Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee, also serves as Senior Note Indenture Trustee. The Company and certain of its affiliates maintain deposit accounts and banking relationships with The Bank of New York. The Bank of New York also serves as trustee under other indentures pursuant to which securities of the Company and affiliates of the Company are outstanding.

### **Governing Law**

The Subordinated Note Indenture and the Junior Subordinated Notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the internal laws of the State of New York.

### **Miscellaneous**

The Company will have the right at all times to assign any of its rights or obligations under the Subordinated Note Indenture to a direct or indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the Company; provided, that, in the event of any such assignment, the Company will remain primarily liable for all such obligations. Subject to the foregoing, the Subordinated Note Indenture will be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties to the Subordinated Note Indenture and their respective successors and assigns.

## **PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

The Company may sell the Class A Preferred Stock, the Preference Stock, the Depositary Shares, the Senior Notes and the Junior Subordinated Notes in one or more of the following ways from time to time: (i) to underwriters for resale to the public or to institutional investors; (ii) directly to institutional investors; or (iii) through agents to the public or to institutional investors. The Prospectus Supplement with respect to each series of Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes will set forth the terms of the offering of such Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes, including the name or names of any underwriters or agents, the purchase price of such Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes and the proceeds to the Company from such sale, any underwriting discounts or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters or agents compensation, any initial public offering price, any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers and any securities exchange on which such Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes may be listed.

If underwriters participate in the sale, such Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes will be acquired by the underwriters for their own accounts and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale.

Unless otherwise set forth in the Prospectus Supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase any series of Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes will be subject to certain conditions precedent and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of such series of Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes, if any are purchased.

Underwriters and agents may be entitled under agreements entered into with the Company to indemnification against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the 1933 Act. Underwriters and agents may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, the Company in the ordinary course of business.

Each series of Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes will be a new issue of securities and will have no established trading market. Any underwriters to whom Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes are sold for public offering and sale may make a market in such Class A Preferred Stock, Preference Stock, Depositary Shares, Senior Notes or Junior Subordinated Notes, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. The Class A Preferred Stock, the Preference Stock, the Depositary Shares, the Senior Notes or the Junior Subordinated Notes may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the Class A Preferred Stock, the Preference Stock, the Depositary Shares, the Senior Notes, the Junior Subordinated Notes and certain matters relating to such securities will be passed upon on behalf of the Company by Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham, Alabama, and by Troutman Sanders LLP, Atlanta, Georgia. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriters by Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP, New York, New York. From time to time Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP acts as counsel to affiliates of the Company for some matters.

## **EXPERTS**

The financial statements and the related financial statement schedule incorporated in this Prospectus by reference from the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered



public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated by reference (which report on the financial statements expresses an unqualified opinion and includes an explanatory paragraph referring to the Company's change in method of accounting for the funded status of defined benefit pension and postretirement plans), and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. *Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.***

The estimated expenses of issuance and distribution, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, to be borne by the Company are as follows:

|   |           |                      |
|---|-----------|----------------------|
| Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee               | \$        | *                    |
| Fees and expenses of trustees and/or Transfer Agent and Registrar |           | 63,000**             |
| Listing fees of New York Stock Exchange                           |           | 361,500***           |
| Printing expenses   |           | 200,000**            |
| Rating Agency fees  |           | 1,550,000**          |
| Services of Southern Company Services, Inc.                       |           | 200,000**            |
| Fees and expenses of counsel                                      |           | 550,000**            |
| Blue sky fees and expenses  |           | 50,000**             |
| Fees of accountants   |           | 300,000**            |
| Miscellaneous expenses  |           | 325,500**            |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$</b> | <b>3,600,000****</b> |

\* Under Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act, the Commission registration fee will be paid at the time of any particular offering of securities under this registration statement and is therefore not currently determinable.

\*\* Because an indeterminate amount of securities is covered by this registration statement, the expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities are therefore not currently determinable. The amounts shown are estimates of expenses for the amount of securities which the registrant is currently authorized to issue but do not limit the amount of securities that may be offered.

\*\*\* The listing fee is based upon the principal amount or number of securities listed, if any, and is therefore not currently determinable.

\*\*\*\* Each Prospectus Supplement will reflect estimated expenses of the Company based upon the amount of the related offering.

**Item 15. *Indemnification of Directors and Officers.***

Code of Alabama, 1975, Section 10-2B-8.51 and 10-2B-8.56 gives a corporation power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative and whether formal or informal by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, penalties, fines and amounts paid in settlement reasonably incurred by him in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the corporation, when acting in his or her official capacity with the corporation, or, in all other cases, not opposed

to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. The same Sections also give a corporation power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that he is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees) reasonably incurred by him in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the corporation, when acting in his or her official capacity with the

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corporation or, in all other cases, not opposed to the best interest of the corporation. No indemnification shall be made, however, in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have not met the applicable standard of conduct, shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation or, in connection with any other action, suit or proceeding charging improper personal benefit to such person, if such person was adjudged liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received by him, unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which such court shall deem proper. Also, Section 10-2B-8.52 states that, to the extent that a director, officer, employee or agent of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any such action, suit or proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) reasonably incurred by him in connection therewith, notwithstanding that he has not been successful on any other claim, issue or matter in any such action, suit or proceeding.

Article XIII of the By-laws of the Company provides in pertinent part as follows:

Each person who is or was a director of the corporation, officer of the corporation or employee of the corporation holding one or more positions of management and who was or is a party or was or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed claim, action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that he is or was a director of the corporation or officer of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee, agent or trustee of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise, shall be indemnified by the corporation as a matter of right against any and all expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him and against any and all claims, judgments, fines, penalties, liabilities and amounts paid in settlement actually incurred by him in defense of such claim, action, suit or proceeding, including appeals, to the full extent permitted by applicable law. The indemnification provided by this Section shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such person.

Expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by a director or officer of the corporation, or by an employee of the corporation holding one or more positions of management, with respect to the defense of any such claim, action, suit or proceeding may be advanced by the corporation prior to the final disposition of such claim, action, suit or proceeding, as authorized by the board of directors in the specific case, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such person to repay such amount unless it shall ultimately be determined that such person is entitled to be indemnified by the corporation under this Section or otherwise; provided, however, that the advancement of such expenses shall not be deemed to be indemnification unless and until it shall ultimately be determined that such person is entitled to be indemnified by the corporation.

The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance at the expense of the corporation on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or any person who is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director (or the equivalent), officer, employee, agent or trustee of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise, against any liability or expense (including attorneys' fees) asserted against him and incurred by him in any such capacity, or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him against such liability or expense under this Section or otherwise.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing provisions of this Section, no present or future director or officer of the corporation, or his heirs, executors, or administrators, shall be liable for any act, omission, step, or conduct taken or had in good faith, which is required, authorized, or approved by any order or orders issued pursuant to the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, the Federal Power Act, or any federal or state statute or municipal ordinance regulating the corporation, its parent or its subsidiaries by reason of their being holding or investment companies, public utility companies, public utility holding companies, or subsidiaries of public utility holding companies. In any action, suit, or proceeding based on any act, omission, step, or conduct, as in this paragraph described, the provisions

hereof shall be brought to the attention of the court. In the event that the foregoing provisions of this paragraph are found by the court not to constitute a valid defense on the grounds of not being applicable to the particular class of plaintiff, each such director and officer, and his heirs, executors, and administrators, shall be reimbursed for, or indemnified against, all expenses and liabilities

incurred by him or imposed on him, in connection with, or arising out of, any such action, suit, or proceeding based on any act, omission, step, or conduct taken or had in good faith as in this paragraph described. Such expenses and liabilities shall include, but shall not be limited to, judgments, court costs, and attorneys' fees.

The foregoing rights shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which any such director or officer may otherwise be entitled and shall be available whether or not the director or officer continues to be a director or officer at the time of incurring any such expenses and liabilities.

The Company has an insurance policy covering its liabilities and expenses which might arise in connection with its lawful indemnification of its directors and officers for certain of their liabilities and expenses and also covering its officers and directors against certain other liabilities and expenses.

**Item 16. Exhibits.**

**Exhibit  
Number**

- 1.1 Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to the Class A Preferred Stock.\*
- 1.2 Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to the Preference Stock.\*
- 1.3 Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to the Depositary Shares.\*
- 1.4 Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to the Senior Notes.\*
- 1.5 Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to the Junior Subordinated Notes.\*
- 4.1 Charter of Alabama Power Company and amendments thereto through October 17, 2007. (Designated in Registration Nos. 2-59634 as Exhibit 2(b), 2-60209 as Exhibit 2(c), 2-60484 as Exhibit 2(b), 2-70838 as Exhibit 4(a)-2, 2-85987 as Exhibit 4(a)-2, 33-25539 as Exhibit 4(a)-2, 33-43917 as Exhibit 4(a)-2, in Form 8-K dated February 5, 1992, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4(b)-3, in Form 8-K dated July 8, 1992, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4(b)-3, in Form 8-K dated October 27, 1993, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibits 4(a) and 4(b), in Form 8-K dated November 16, 1993, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4(a), in Certificate of Notification, File No. 70-8191, as Exhibit A, in Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 3(b)2, in Form 8-K dated August 10, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.4, in Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2000, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 3(b)2, in Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 3(b)(2) in Form 8-K dated February 5, 2003, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.4, in Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2003, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 3(b)1, in Form 8-K dated February 5, 2004, File No. 1-3164 as Exhibit 4.4, in Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2006, File No. 1-3164 as Exhibit 3(b), in Form 8-K dated December 5, 2006, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated September 12, 2007, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.5 and in Form 8-K dated October 15, 2007, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.5).
- 4.2 Form of Certificate of Resolutions of Board of Directors of Alabama Power Company establishing the Class A Preferred Stock.\*
- 4.3 Form of Certificate of Resolutions of Board of Directors of Alabama Power Company establishing the Preference Stock.\*
- 4.4 By-laws of Alabama Power Company as amended effective January 26, 2007, and presently in effect (Designated in Form 8-K dated January 26, 2007, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 3(b)2).

**Exhibit  
Number**

- 4.5 Senior Note Indenture dated as of December 1, 1997 between Alabama Power Company and The Bank of New York (as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank)), as Trustee, and indentures supplemental thereto through that dated October 16, 2002. (Designated in Form 8-K dated December 4, 1997, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibits 4.1 and 4.2, in Form 8-K dated February 20, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated April 17, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated August 11, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated September 8, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated September 16, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated October 7, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated October 28, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated November 12, 1998, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated May 19, 1999, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated August 13, 1999, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated September 21, 1999, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated May 11, 2000, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated August 22, 2001, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibits 4.2(a) and 4.2(b), in Form 8-K dated June 21, 2002, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2(a), in Form 8-K dated October 16, 2002, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2(a), in Form 8-K dated November 20, 2002, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2(a), in Form 8-K dated December 6, 2002, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated February 11, 2003, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibits 4.2(a) and 4.2(b), in Form 8-K dated March 12, 2003, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated April 15, 2003, File No. 1-3164 as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated May 1, 2003, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2 and in Form 8-K dated November 14, 2003, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2 in Form 8-K dated February 10, 2004, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated April 7, 2004, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated August 19, 2004, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated November 9, 2004, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated March 8, 2005, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated January 11, 2006, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated January 13, 2006, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated February 1, 2006, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibits 4.2(a) and 4.2(b), in Form 8-K dated March 9, 2006, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated June 7, 2006, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated January 30, 2007, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated April 4, 2007, File No. 1-6484, Exhibit 4.2, in Form 8-K dated October 11, 2007, File No. 1-3164 as Exhibit 4.2 and in Form 8-K dated December 4, 2007, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibit 4.2).
- 4.6 Form of Supplemental Indenture to Senior Note Indenture to be used in connection with the issuance of Senior Notes.\*
- 4.7 Subordinated Note Indenture dated as of January 1, 1997 between Alabama Power Company and The Bank of New York (as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank)), as Trustee, and indentures supplemental thereto through that dated as of February 25, 1999. (Designated in the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 9, 1997 as Exhibits 4.1 and 4.2, in Form 8-K dated February 18, 1999, File No. 3164, as Exhibit 4.2 and Form 8-K dated September 26, 2002, File No. 1-3164, as Exhibits 4.9-A and 4.9-B)
- 4.8 Form of Supplemental Indenture to Subordinated Note Indenture to be used in connection with the issuance of Junior Subordinated Notes.\*
- 4.9 Form of Senior Note (included in Exhibit 4.6 above).
- 4.10 Form of Junior Subordinated Note (included in Exhibit 4.8 above).
- 4.11 Form of Deposit Agreement with respect to the Depository Shares (including the form of Depository Receipt to be issued thereunder).\*
- 5.1 Opinion of Balch & Bingham LLP.
- 12.1 Computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges.
- 12.2

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Computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges plus preferred and preference dividend requirements (pre-income tax basis).

- 23.1 Consent of Balch & Bingham LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1 above).
- 23.2 Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
- 24.1 Powers of Attorney and Resolution.
- 25.1 Statement of Eligibility under Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, of The Bank of New York, as Senior Note Indenture Trustee.

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**Exhibit  
Number**

- 25.2 Statement of Eligibility under Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, of The Bank of New York, as Subordinated Note Indenture Trustee.

Exhibits listed above which have heretofore been filed with the Commission and which were designated as noted above are hereby incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof with the same effect as if filed herewith.

\* To be subsequently filed or incorporated by reference.

**Item 17. Undertakings.**

- (a) Undertaking related to Rule 415 offering:

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

- (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement.

- (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

Provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii) and (a)(1)(iii) do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-3 or Form F-3 and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

- (4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

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(A) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the

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date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which the prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof. *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(b) Undertaking related to filings incorporating subsequent Securities Exchange Act of 1934 documents by reference:

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Company's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(c) Undertaking related to the registration statement becoming effective upon filing:

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.



**SIGNATURES**

**Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, Alabama Power Company certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Birmingham, State of Alabama, on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2008.**

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

President and Chief Executive Officer

By: Charles D. McCrary,

*Attorney-in-fact*

By: /s/ Wayne Boston,

**Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following directors and officers of Alabama Power Company in the capacities and on the date indicated.**

| <b>Signature</b>  | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Date</b> |
|---|--|-------------|
| Charles D. McCrary  | President, Chief Executive Officer and Director<br>(Principal Executive Officer)                       |             |
| Art P. Beattie  | Executive Vice President,<br>Chief Financial Officer and<br>Treasurer (Principal<br>Financial Officer) |             |
| Philip C. Raymond   | Vice President and<br>Comptroller (Principal<br>Accounting Officer)                                    |             |
| Whit Armstrong<br>David J. Cooper, Sr.<br>John D. Johns<br>Patricia M. King<br>James K. Lowder<br>Malcolm Portera<br>Robert D. Powers<br>David M. Ratcliffe<br>James H. Sanford<br>John Cox Webb, IV<br>James W. Wright | } Directors  |             |
| By<br>/s/ Wayne Boston  |  |             |

**(Wayne Boston, Attorney-in-fact)**

January 8, 2008

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