

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)
December 16, 2011 (December 14, 2011)

SM Energy Company
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-31539
(Commission
File Number)

41-0518430
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1775 Sherman Street, Suite 1200, Denver, Colorado
(Address of principal executive offices)

80203
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (303) 861-8140

Not applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2.):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

In accordance with General Instruction B.2. of Form 8-K, the following information, including Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “*Exchange Act*”) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall such information and Exhibit be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

On December 14, 2011, SM Energy Company (“the Company”) issued a press release announcing its dispute with Endeavour International Corporation over the closing of its previously announced sale of Marcellus Shale assets. A copy of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this report and incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1

The following exhibit is furnished as part of this report:

Press release of the Company dated December 14, 2011, entitled “SM Energy Announces Dispute With Endeavour Over Closing of Marcellus Assets Sale”

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SM ENERGY COMPANY

Date: December 16, 2011

By: /s/ DAVID W. COPELAND

David W. Copeland
Senior Vice President, General Counsel
and Corporate Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SM ENERGY ANNOUNCES DISPUTE WITH ENDEAVOUR OVER
CLOSING OF MARCELLUS ASSETS SALE**

DENVER, CO December 14, 2011 - SM Energy Company (NYSE: SM) today announces its dispute with Endeavor International Corporation (NYSE: END) over the closing of its previously announced sale of Marcellus Shale assets. Earlier today, Endeavour announced that it had "terminated" purchase and sale agreements (the "Agreements") between SM Energy, SM Energy's partners and a subsidiary of Endeavour related to oil and gas assets in the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania. SM Energy disputes Endeavour's ability to terminate the Agreements and is disappointed with its actions and announcement. The Company and its partners intend to pursue any and all legal remedies arising from Endeavour's actions. Regardless of the outcome of the aforementioned dispute, SM Energy does not expect to make any capital expenditures related to its Marcellus Shale assets in 2012 and is not required to make such expenditures to maintain substantially all of its acreage position.

INFORMATION ABOUT FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This release contains forward looking statements within the meaning of securities laws, including forecasts and projections. The words "will," "believe," "budget," "anticipate," "plan," "intend," "estimate," "forecast," and "expect" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward looking statements. These statements involve known and unknown risks, which may cause SM Energy's actual results to differ materially from results expressed or implied by the forward looking statements. These risks include factors such as the uncertainty of negotiations to result in an agreement or a completed transaction, the uncertain nature of the expected benefits from the actual or expected acquisition, divestiture, farm down or joint venture of oil and gas properties, the uncertain nature of announced divestiture, joint venture, farm down or similar efforts and the ability to complete such transactions, the volatility and level of oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids prices, uncertainties inherent in projecting future rates of production from drilling activities and acquisitions, the imprecise nature of estimating oil and gas reserves, the availability of additional economically attractive exploration, development, and property acquisition opportunities for future growth and any necessary financings, unexpected drilling conditions and results, unsuccessful exploration and development drilling, the availability of drilling, completion, and operating equipment and services, the risks associated with the Company's commodity price risk management strategy, uncertainty regarding the ultimate impact of potentially dilutive securities, and other such matters discussed in the "Risk Factors" section of SM Energy's 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K and subsequent quarterly reports filed on Form 10-Q. Although SM Energy may from time to time voluntarily update its prior forward looking statements, it disclaims any commitment to do so except as required by

securities laws.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

SM Energy Company is an independent energy company engaged in the exploration, exploitation, development, acquisition, and production of natural gas, natural gas liquids, and crude oil. SM Energy routinely posts important information about the Company on its website. For more information about SM Energy, please visit its website at www.sm-energy.com.