

SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY CO  
Form 11-K  
June 28, 2004

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

## FORM 11-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number  
1-8246

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer  
named below:

**Southwestern Energy Company 401(k) Savings Plan**

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its  
principal executive office:

SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY COMPANY  
2350 N. Sam Houston Parkway E.

Suite 300  
Houston, Texas 77032

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Southwestern Energy  
Company  
401(k) Savings Plan

**Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule  
December 31, 2003 and 2002**

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**Southwestern Energy Company  
401(k) Savings Plan  
Index  
December 31, 2003 and 2002**

|  | <b>Page(s)</b> |
|--|----------------|
| <b>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</b> | 1              |
| <b>Financial Statements</b>                                    |                |
| Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits                | 2              |
| Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits      | 3              |
| Notes to Financial Statements                                  | 4              |
| <b>Supplemental Schedule</b>                                   |                |
| Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) | 8              |

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**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Participants and Administrator of  
Southwestern Energy Company 401(k) Savings Plan

In our opinion, the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of Southwestern Energy Company 401(k) Savings Plan (the "Plan") at December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2003 in conformity with accounting

principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Tulsa, Oklahoma

June 25, 2004

**Southwestern Energy Company  
401(k) Savings Plan  
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits  
December 31, 2003 and 2002**

|   | <b>2003</b>   | <b>2002</b>   |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                           |               |               |
| Investments, at fair value              |               |               |
| Mutual funds                            | \$ 10,982,358 | \$ 8,148,355  |
| Common collective trusts                | 9,841,745     | 8,144,394     |
| Common stock                            | 1,356,624     | 709,006       |
| Participant loans, net of loan defaults | 615,546       | 520,401       |
| Total investments, at fair value        | 22,796,273    | 17,522,156    |
| Contributions receivable                |               |               |
| Participant                             | 86,821        | 78,336        |
| Employer                                | 32,602        | 29,297        |
| Total contributions receivable          | 119,423       | 107,633       |
| Net assets available for benefits       | \$ 22,915,696 | \$ 17,629,789 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

2

**Southwestern Energy Company**  
**401(k) Savings Plan**  
**Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2003**

|   |  |               |
|---|--|---------------|
| <b>Additions</b>                              |  |               |
| Contributions                                 |  |               |
| Participant                                   |  | \$ 1,868,039  |
| Employer, net of forfeitures                  |  | 692,992       |
| Rollover                                      |  | 116,713       |
|   | Total contributions                                  | 2,677,744     |
| Interest and dividend income                  |  | 413,333       |
| Net appreciation in fair value of investments |  | 3,249,761     |
|   | Total additions                                      | 6,340,838     |
| <b>Deductions</b>                             |  |               |
| Benefits paid to participants                 |  | 1,054,931     |
|   | Net increase in net assets available<br>for benefits | 5,285,907     |
| <b>Net assets available for benefits</b>      |  |               |
| Beginning of year                             |  | 17,629,789    |
| End of year                                   |  | \$ 22,915,696 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

3

**Southwestern Energy Company**  
**401(k) Savings Plan**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2003 and 2002**  
**1. Description of Plan**

The following description of the Southwestern Energy Company 401(k) Savings Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

**General**

The Plan is a defined contribution plan that covers all employees of Southwestern Energy Company (the "Company") and its subsidiaries except for:

- a) Employees who have not yet completed thirty (30) days of service;
- b) Employees who are under the age of twenty-one (21); and
- c) Seasonal employees who have one thousand (1,000) or less hours of service for the applicable computation period.

Participation by eligible employees in the Plan is voluntary. It is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

**Administration**

The trust under the Plan is operated under a trust agreement with Scudder Trust Company.

**Contributions and Funding Policy**

Participants may contribute from 1% to 16% of their compensation in Salary Reduction Contributions, as defined. Effective November 1, 2003, the maximum contribution percentage increased to 25%. The Company matches 50% up to 6% of the employee's compensation. All contributions to the Plan are invested under the direction of the participant in 13 investment options including Company stock. Investments in stock of Entergy Corporation originated from a previous plan merger and is no longer an active investment option. Contributions are subject to certain limitations as determined by the Internal Revenue Code.

**Vesting**

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Participants vest in the Company's contributions to the Plan as set forth in the following schedule:

| <b>Years of Vesting Service</b> | <b>Percent Vested</b> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1                               | 0%                    |
| 2                               | 50%                   |
| 3                               | 100%                  |

Participants' Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and an allocation of the Company's contribution and the Plan's investment earnings.

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**Southwestern Energy Company**  
**401(k) Savings Plan**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2003 and 2002**

The Plan permits current participants to apply for and receive loans, which represent borrowings from a participant's account. The maximum amount of any loan available under the Plan is limited to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of a participant's vested account balance. The loans are collateralized by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at one percentage point above the prime lending rate. At December 31, 2003, interest rates ranged from 5.0% to 10.5%.

Although withdrawals from active participants' accounts are restricted by the Plan, various options are available to participants, which are based on the type of contributions made, age of the participant and other factors.

On termination of service due to death or disability, a participant or a participant's estate may receive the full value of his or her account in a lump sum. For termination of service due to other reasons, a participant may receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account as a lump sum. Benefits are recorded when paid.

#### Forfeitures

Forfeited nonvested amounts are applied to restore matching contributions of any Plan participants because of a valid repayment. Remaining forfeitures are used to reduce Plan expenses. Any forfeiture amounts that remain following payment of Plan expenses will be used to reduce employer matching contributions. At December 31, 2003, there were no forfeitures available to be used for the purposes stated above.

#### Plan Termination

The Plan gives the Company the right to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in the contributions made by the Company.

## 2. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### Basis of Accounting

The Plan's financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

#### Estimates

The preparation of the Plan's financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the Plan to make significant estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for benefits at the date of the financial statements and the changes in net assets available for benefits during the reporting period and, when applicable, the disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Investment Valuation and Income Recognition**

The Plan's investments are stated at fair value. Mutual funds and common stock are valued at quoted year-end market prices. Units of common collective trusts are valued at quoted market prices which represent the net asset value of shares held by the Plan at year end. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest and divided income are recorded on the accrual basis.

5

**Southwestern Energy Company****401(k) Savings Plan****Notes to Financial Statements****December 31, 2003 and 2002**

## Plan Expenses

Expenses incurred in connection with the Plan are paid by the Company. During 2003 and 2002, the Company paid \$13,539 and \$14,046, respectively, in expenses on behalf of the Plan. Brokerage commissions and transfer taxes incurred in connection with securities transactions are treated as part of the purchase cost or a reduction of sales proceeds.

**3. Tax Status**

The Internal Revenue Service issued a favorable determination letter dated May 9, 1996, stating that the Plan was designed in accordance with applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. The Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter. However, the Plan administrator and the Plan's legal counsel believe that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

**4. Investments**

The following investments, stated at market value, represent 5% or more of the net assets available for benefits at December 31:

|   | 2003         | 2002         |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Scudder Trust Company Collective Investment Trust - |              |              |
| Stable Value Fund                                   | \$ 5,336,719 | \$ 5,112,841 |
| Scudder Trust Company Collective Investment Trust - |              |              |
| Stock Index Fund                                    | 4,505,026    | 3,031,553    |
| Scudder Trust Company - Growth and Income Fund      | 4,198,864    | 3,095,403    |
| Pimco Funds - Total Return Fund                     | 2,422,513    | 2,171,221    |
| PBHG Funds - Mid Cap Value Fund                     | 1,542,826    | 1,086,807    |
| Scudder Trust Company - Life Cycle                  |              |              |
| Mid-Range Investment                                | 1,425,875    | -            |
| Southwestern Energy Company - common stock          | 1,191,313    | *            |
| Scudder Trust Company - Pathway Series              |              |              |

|               |   |           |
|---------------|---|-----------|
| Moderate Fund | - | 1,166,879 |
|---------------|---|-----------|

\*Balance was less than 5% at December 31, 2002.

## 5. Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments

Net appreciation by investment type for the year ended December 31, 2003 was as follows:

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Mutual funds             | \$ 1,635,050 |
| Common collective trusts | 968,769      |
| Common stock             | 645,942      |
|                          | \$ 3,249,761 |

6

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## Southwestern Energy Company 401(k) Savings Plan Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2003 and 2002

### 6. Risk and Uncertainties

The Plan provides for various investment options in any combination of mutual funds, common stock and common collective trusts. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits and the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

### 7. Related Party Transactions

Certain Plan investments are shares of Southwestern Energy Company common stock. These transactions represent investments in the Company, and, therefore, qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Further, certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds managed by Scudder Trust Company. Scudder Trust Company is the trustee as defined by the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. There were no fees paid by the Plan for the investment management services for the year ended December 31, 2003.

7

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**Southwestern Energy Company**  
**401(k) Savings Plan**  
**Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**  
**December 31, 2003**

| <b>Party in Interest Identification</b> | <b>Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party</b> | <b>Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest Collateral, Par or Maturity Value</b> | <b>Current Value</b> |
|---|--|--|----------------------|
| *                                       | Scudder Trust<br>Company Collective<br>Investment Trust      | Stable Value Fund  | \$ 5,336,719         |
| *                                       | Scudder Trust<br>Company Collective<br>Investment Trust      | Stock Index Fund   | 4,505,026            |
| *                                       | Scudder Trust<br>Company                                     | Growth and Income Fund   | 4,198,864            |
|   | Pimco Funds  | Total Return Fund  | 2,422,513            |
|   | PBHG Funds   | Mid Cap Value Fund   | 1,542,826            |
| *                                       | Scudder Trust<br>Company                                     | LifeCycle Mid-Range Investment   | 1,425,875            |
| *                                       | Southwestern Energy<br>Company                               | 49,846 Common Shares   | 1,191,313            |
|   | Amer Europacific<br>Growth R-3                               | International Fund   | 645,519              |
|   | Managers Special<br>Equity                                   | Long Term Growth Fund  | 606,713              |
|   | Entergy Corporation  | 2,894 Common Shares  | 165,311              |
| *                                       | Scudder Trust<br>Company                                     | Large Company Value Fund   | 58,677               |
|   |  | Long Term Growth Fund  | 48,337               |

ABN  
AMRO/Montag  
Caldwell

|   |                              |   |               |
|---|------------------------------|---|---------------|
| * | Scudder Trust<br>Company     | LifeCycle Long Range Investment   | 24,467        |
| * | Scudder Trust<br>Company     | LifeCycle Short Range Investment  | 8,567         |
| * | Various plan<br>participants | Participant loans with interest rates<br>from 5.0% to 10.5% and various<br>maturities | 615,546       |
|   |                              |   | \$ 22,796,273 |

8

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### SIGNATURES

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

SOUTHWESTERN ENERGY COMPANY  
401(k) SAVINGS PLAN

Date: June 28, 2004

By: /s/ GREG D. KERLEY  
Greg D. Kerley  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer,  
Southwestern Energy Company

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### EXHIBIT INDEX

**EXHIBIT  
NUMBER**

**EXHIBIT**

23.1

Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

