

# Chris Womack

Executive Vice President and President, External Affairs • Southern Company

Chris Womack is executive vice president and president of external affairs for Southern Company, one of America's largest producers of electricity. In this role, Womack oversees the company's federal and state affairs and corporate communication initiatives.



Prior to assuming his current position in January 2009, he was executive vice president of external affairs for Georgia Power from March 2006–December 2008.

Womack has held a number of leadership positions within Southern Company and its subsidiaries. He joined Alabama Power in 1988 as a governmental affairs representative. He was named assistant to the vice president of public affairs in 1989 and director of community relations in 1991. He was promoted to vice president of public relations in 1993. Two years later, he was named senior vice president of public relations and corporate services. In 1998, Womack was named Southern Company's senior vice president of human resources and chief people officer. In 2001, Womack was named senior vice president and senior production officer of Southern Company Generation, where he was responsible for coal, gas, and hydro generation for Georgia Power and Savannah Electric.

Prior to joining Alabama Power, Womack worked for the U.S. House of Representatives as a legislative aide to Leon Panetta and as staff director for the Subcommittee on Personnel and Police, for the Committee on House Administration.

Womack is chairman of the board of Communities in Schools and he is a board member of the 100 Black Men

of Atlanta, Children's Healthcare of America, Bill Dickey Scholarship Association, Western Michigan University Foundation, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Georgia Conservancy. Womack is also a national trustee for the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. He has received numerous honors, including the Johnny Morrow Endowment Foundation "Man of the Year" (1996); SCLC Leadership Award (1998); Distinguished Alumni, Western Michigan University (2003); and Black Enterprise Magazine's 75 Most Powerful Blacks in Corporate America (2005). He received the Boy Scouts of America Whitney M. Young Award for Public Service in 2007.

A native of Greenville, Alabama, he holds a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University and a master's degree in public administration from The American University. He attended the Stanford Executive Program in 2001.