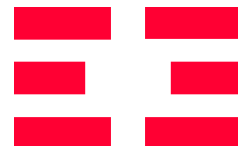




Southern

Subsidiaries: Georgia Power, Alabama Power, Power Secure, Mississippi Power, Southern Power,
Locations: Georgia (HQ)
Industries: Energy

RISK LEVEL:



High Risk

DESCRIPTION:

Southern Power Company scored a 100 out of 100 on the 2023-2024 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a political stakeholder group. By complying with the HRC's controversial demands, Southern Power Company increases the risk of dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. The company provides a benefits package for employees which covers transgender medical procedures for covered employees and dependents, including children. It also uses sex and gender ideology criteria in employee recruitment, vendor selection, marketing, and philanthropic support. Southern Power Company forces employees to undergo multiple ideological trainings and uses its reputation, corporate funds, and political influence to support controversial sex and gender ideologies, organizations, and legislation. The company highlights its unconscious and inclusive bias training required for all employees. Southern Company's CEO is a member of the Business Roundtable and signed its 2019 Statement on the Purpose of a Corporation, which promotes stakeholder capitalism over traditional obligations to shareholders. The company commits to being an "anti-racist" company. Southern company's former CEO, Tom Fanning, signed the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion pledge, which includes a commitment to promote DEI through bias education training in the workplace. The company has donated to Planned Parenthood and donated \$200 million to racial equity and social justice causes, including \$50 million to a net zero carbon future. Souther Company has lobbied for ideological purposes. For these reasons, Southern Company receives a High Risk rating.

Corporate Weaponization

Has canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors due to their political views or religious beliefs OR corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries. Medium Risk

Southern Company's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company recruits employees based on sexual identity. The company discriminates against vendors that do not promote divisive sex and gender policies, indicating it prioritizes sexual issues over merit (1)(2). However, the company has not publicly canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs (3).

Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs. High Risk

Southern Company's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (1)(2). The company does not appear to discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or beliefs (3). Southern Company's charitable giving focus areas are "arts and culture, health and human services, civic and community projects, safety, education and the environment" (4).

Employment policies fail to protect against viewpoint or other discrimination and/or are ideological in nature.

High Risk

Southern Company's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company forces employees to attend multiple, controversial trainings on gender identity, sexual orientation, transgender issues, and divisive racial ideology. The company provides gender transition guidelines for its employees and a specific benefits guide with a comprehensive explanation of transgender services funded by the company (1)(2). Southern Company highlights its unconscious and inclusive bias training required for all employees (3). The company does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees (4).

Corporate Governance and Public Policy

Uses corporate reputation to support causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression.

High Risk

Southern Company's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company agrees to allow a controversial stakeholder group focused on sexual identity issues to dictate marketing or advertising strategy (1)(2). By doing so, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. Southern Company's CEO is a member of the Business Roundtable and signed its 2019 Statement on the Purpose of a Corporation, which promotes stakeholder capitalism over traditional obligations to shareholders (3)(4). Southern Company commits to being an "anti-racist" company (5). The company's former CEO, Tom Fanning, signed the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion pledge, which includes a commitment to promote DEI through bias education training in the workplace (6)(7).

Uses corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression.

High Risk

Southern Company's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company provides a benefits package for employees which covers transgender medical procedures for covered employees and dependents, including children. This includes paid short-term leave, puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, chest surgeries, genital surgeries, medical visits and lab monitoring, travel and lodging. Additionally, the company has pledged philanthropic support of at least one organization or event that promotes sex and gender ideology (1)(2). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company increases health care costs and risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. Southern Company has donated to Planned Parenthood and donated \$200 million to racial equity and social justice causes, including \$50 million to a net zero carbon future (3)(4).

Uses corporate political actions and/or financial contributions for ideological, non-business purposes.

High Risk

Southern Company's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company publicly advocated for controversial sex and gender ideology through local, state or federal legislation or initiatives (1)(2). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. Southern Company has not used its PAC donations for ideological purposes but has lobbied for ideological purposes (3)(4)(5).

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