

**William O. (Billy) Ball**

*Executive Vice President and Chief Transmission Officer
Southern Company Transmission*

Billy is responsible for the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of Southern Company's transmission system. Billy is actively involved in electric utility industry policy matters. He currently serves on several committees, including: Department of Energy Electricity Advisory Committee, Consortium for Electric Reliability Technology Solutions (CERTS) Industry Leadership Council, Eastern Interconnection Data Sharing Network (EIDSN) as Board Chairman, North American Transmission Forum (NATF) Human Resources and Governance Committee and Secretary of the Board, EPRI/NATF Resiliency Executive Steering Committee and CIGRE "International Council on Large Electric Systems" Executive Committee. Billy previously served as Chairman of the NATF and was a member of the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative Executive Committee (2002-2016) and National Institute of Standards and Technology Smart Grid Federal Advisory Committee (SGFAC) (NIST 2010-2016).



Prior to his current position, Billy was Senior Vice President, Transmission Design and Construction. From 2004 to 2008, he was Senior Vice President, Transmission Planning and Operations, and was responsible for the planning and operations of the Southern Company's network transmission grid, transmission policy and industry interfaces. While in this role, he served as Vice Chairman of the Board of the Southeastern Electric Reliability Council, and Chairman of the North American Electric Reliability Council Members Representative Committee.

Billy's previous experience includes positions at Mirant (formerly Southern Energy) where he was responsible for technical due diligence on business development projects, transmission and O&M support to the various business units, and establishing and implementing safety and health policy at Mirant. He also held the position of Manager, System Planning, with both generation and transmission planning responsibilities at Mississippi Power, and played a key role in the development and certification of the company's 1,100 MW combined cycle facility at Plant Daniel. He served as Mississippi Power's technical witness in numerous regulatory hearings.

Billy is a native of Columbia, Mississippi. He is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Mississippi State University (MSU) with a bachelor degree in Electrical Engineering and holds an MBA from the University of Southern Mississippi. He serves on the Board of Briarwood Christian School, is a Distinguished Fellow of the Mississippi State University James Worth Bagley College of Engineering, and serves on the MSU Dean's Advisory Council. Billy is a registered professional engineer in Mississippi.