

SunCoke Energy, Inc.
Form 8-K
January 10, 2012

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): January 10, 2012

SUNCOKE ENERGY, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-35423
(Commission
File Number)

90-0604593
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

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1011 Warrenville Road, Suite 600

Lisle, Illinois
(Address of principal executive offices)

60532
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (630) 824-1000

N/A

(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. below):

- .. 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))

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On January 10, 2012, SunCoke Energy, Inc. (the Company) indicated that after a preliminary review of 2011 results, the Company estimates 2011 Adjusted EBITDA will be between \$148 million and \$153 million.

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

An investor presentation prepared by the Company is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K being furnished pursuant to Items 2.02, 7.01 and 9.01 shall not be deemed to be filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, and is not incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

DEFINITIONS

This Current Report on Form 8-K includes Adjusted EBITDA, which is a non-GAAP measure. Adjusted EBITDA represents earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, depletion and amortization (EBITDA) adjusted for sales discounts and the deduction of income attributable to non-controlling interests in the Company's Indiana Harbor cokemaking operations. EBITDA reflects sales discounts included as a reduction in sales and other operating revenue. The sales discounts represent the sharing with the Company's customers of a portion of nonconventional fuels tax credits, which reduce our income tax expense. However, the Company believes that its Adjusted EBITDA would be inappropriately penalized if these discounts were treated as a reduction of EBITDA since they represent sharing of a tax benefit which is not included in EBITDA. Accordingly, in computing Adjusted EBITDA, the Company has added back these sales discounts. The Company's Adjusted EBITDA also reflects the deduction of income attributable to noncontrolling interest in its Indiana Harbor cokemaking operations. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA do not represent and should not be considered alternatives to net income or operating income under GAAP and may not be comparable to other similarly titled measures of other businesses. Management believes Adjusted EBITDA is an important measure of the operating performance of the Company's assets and is indicative of the Company's ability to generate cash from operations.

Non-GAAP financial measures are intended to supplement, not substitute for, comparable GAAP measures. Reconciliations of non-GAAP financial measures to GAAP financial measures are provided in the investor presentation attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference. Investors are urged to consider carefully the comparable GAAP measures and the reconciliations to those measures provided in such Exhibit 99.1.

FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements included in this Current Report on Form 8-K constitute forward looking statements (as defined in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). Such forward-looking statements are based on management's beliefs and assumptions and on information currently available. You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include all statements that are not historical facts and may be identified by the use of forward looking terminology such as the words believe, expect, plan, project, intend, anticipate, estimate, predict, potential, could, should or the negative of these terms or similar expressions. Forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions.

Risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in forward-looking statements include economic, business, competitive and/or regulatory factors affecting the Company's business, as well as uncertainties related to the outcomes of pending or future litigation, legislation, or regulatory actions. Among such risks are: changes in levels of production, production capacity, pricing and/or margins for metallurgical coal and coke; variation in availability, quality and supply of metallurgical coal used in the cokemaking process, including as a result of non-performance by our suppliers; effects of railroad, barge, truck and other transportation performance and costs, including any transportation disruptions; changes in the marketplace that may affect supply and demand for the Company's metallurgical coal and/or coke products; relationships with, and other conditions affecting, customers; the deferral of contracted shipments of coal or coke by customers; severe financial hardship or bankruptcy of one of more of our major customers, or the occurrence of other events affecting our ability to collect payments from our customers; volatility and cyclical downturns in the carbon steel industry and other industries in which the Company's customers operate; the ability to secure new coal supply agreements or to renew existing coal supply agreements; the ability to enter into new, or renew existing, long-term agreements upon favorable terms for the supply of metallurgical coke to domestic and/or foreign steel producers; the ability to acquire or develop coal reserves in an economically feasible manner; defects in title or the loss of one or more mineral leasehold interests; effects of geologic conditions, weather, natural disasters and other inherent risks beyond the Company's control; age of, and changes in the reliability, efficiency and capacity of the various equipment and operating facilities used in the Company's coal mining and/or cokemaking operations, and in the operations of major customers, business partners and/or suppliers; changes in the expected operating levels of the Company's assets; ability to meet minimum volume requirements, coal-to-coke yield standards and coke quality requirements in coke sales

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agreements; disruptions in the quantities of coal produced by contract mine operators; ability to obtain and renew mining permits, and the availability and cost of surety bonds needed in coal mining operations; availability of skilled employees and other workplace factors; changes in the level of capital expenditures or operating expenses, including any changes in the level of environmental capital, operating or remediation expenditures; effects of adverse events relating to the operation of the Company's facilities and to the transportation and storage of hazardous materials (including equipment malfunction, explosions, fires, spills, and the effects of severe weather conditions); changes in product specifications; ability to identify acquisitions, execute them under favorable terms and integrate them into our existing businesses and have them perform at anticipated levels; ability to enter into joint ventures and other similar arrangements under favorable terms; changes in the availability and cost of equity and debt financing; the amount of, and ability to service, outstanding indebtedness and to comply with the restrictions imposed by financing arrangements; impact on our liquidity and ability to raise capital as a result of changes in the credit ratings assigned to our indebtedness; changes in credit terms required by suppliers; changes in insurance markets impacting costs and the level and types of coverage available, and the financial ability of insurers to meet their obligations; changes in accounting rules and/or tax laws or their interpretations, including the method of accounting for inventories, leases and/or pensions; changes in financial markets impacting pension expense and funding requirements; risks related to labor relations and workplace safety; nonperformance or force majeure by, or disputes with or changes in contract terms with, major customers, suppliers, dealers, distributors or other business partners; changes in, or new, statutes, regulations, governmental policies and taxes, or their interpretations; the accuracy of estimates of reclamation and other mine closure obligations; the existence of hazardous substances or other environmental contamination on property owned or used by the Company; the availability of future permits authorizing the disposition of certain mining waste; claims of noncompliance with any statutory and regulatory requirements; changes in the status of, or initiation of new litigation, arbitration, or other proceedings to which the Company is a party or liability resulting from such litigation, arbitration, or other proceedings; effects resulting from our ultimate separation from Sunoco, Inc.; and the Company's incremental costs as a stand-alone public company. Unpredictable or unknown factors not discussed in this Current Report on Form 8-K also could have material adverse effects on forward-looking statements.

In accordance with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the Company has included in its filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission cautionary language identifying important factors (but not necessarily all the important factors) that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statement made by the Company. For more information concerning these factors, see the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filings. All forward-looking statements included in this Current Report on Form 8-K are expressly qualified in their entirety by such cautionary statements. The Company undertakes no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statement (or its associated cautionary language) whether as a result of new information or future events or otherwise.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Exhibit
99.1	January 2012 Investor Slides.

SIGNATURE

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 thereunto duly authorized.

SUNCOKE ENERGY, INC.

By: /s/ Mark E. Newman
Mark E. Newman

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial

Officer

Date: January 10, 2012

EXHIBIT INDEX

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