ARCH COAL INC Form 4 July 07, 2006

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 2005 Estimated average

Form 4 or Form 5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

burden hours per response... 0.5

obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * POTTER ROBERT G

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

X_ Director

below)

10% Owner Other (specify

7. Nature of

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

Indirect

ONECITYPLACE DRIVE

06/30/2006

Officer (give title

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Security

(Instr. 3)

(City) (State) (Zip) 1.Title of

(Street)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of 6. Ownership Securities Form: Direct Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial Owned Following (Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s) or

Code V Amount (D) Price

(Instr. 3 and 4)

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of **SEC 1474** information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of 8. Price 4. Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transactionof **Expiration Date Underlying Securities** Derivati Security or Exercise Code Derivative (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4) Security (Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Securities (Instr. 5)

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Security (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Code V (A) (D) Date **Expiration Title** Amount Exercisable Date or Number of Shares Phantom Common (2) 06/30/2006 07/06/2006 561 (2) 561 \$ 42.3 (1) Α Stock stock

Acquired

Reporting Owners

Derivative

Signatures

/s/ Gregory A. Billhartz,
Attorney-in-Fact

07/07/2006

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations, See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- Each share of phantom stock represents a right to receive the value in cash of one share of Arch Coal, Inc. common stock. The shares of phantom stock are held by the director through the Arch Coal, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the "Plan") and represent past compensation that the director elected to defer under the Plan into a hypothetical investment in shares of Arch Coal, Inc. common stock and/or dividends attributable to such deferred amounts.
- (2) Shares of phantom stock are payable in cash following termination of the director's service as a director of Arch Coal, Inc. The director may transfer certain portions of the phantom stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.
- (3) The director's phantom stock account has been adjusted for the two-for-one stock dividend in the form of a 100% stock dividend, payable by Arch Coal, Inc. on May 15, 2006 to all holders of record of common stock on May 5, 2006.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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