BESTEN C HENRY JR

Form 4 April 22, 2008

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Section 16.
Form 4 or
Form 5
obligations
obligations
obligations
SECURITIES

SECURITIES

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

may continue. *See* Instruction

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

(Ctata)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BESTEN C HENRY JR			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)			
ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE 300		E, SUITE	(Month/Day/Year) 04/18/2008	Director 10% Owner _X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Senior VP-Strategic Dev.			
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
ST. LOUIS, M	IO 63141		Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			

(City)	(State) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned								
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date		3.	4. Securi		•	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	
Security (Instr. 3)	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any	Code	Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D)			Securities Beneficially	Form: Direct (D) or	Indirect Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3,	4 and	5)	Owned Following	Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)
					(A) or		Reported Transaction(s)		
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock (1)	04/18/2008		M	7,025	A	\$ 9.08	37,867	D	
Common Stock (1)	04/18/2008		S	7,025	D	\$ 58	30,842	D	

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

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(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number on Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee stock options (right to buy) (1)	\$ 9.08	04/18/2008		M	7,025	(2)	02/29/2012	Common Stock	7,025

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BESTEN C HENRY JR ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE SUITE 300 ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Senior VP-Strategic Dev.

Signatures

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

04/22/2008 Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

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).
- (1) The exercise of employee stock options and sale of underlying shares of common stock by the executive officer reported on this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan.
- The reporting person received 56,200 stock options on February 28, 2002. The stock options vested ratably over a four year period as (2) follows: 14,050 stock options vested on February 28, 2003; 14,050 stock options vested on February 28, 2004; 14,050 stock options vested on February 28, 2005; and 14,050 stock options vested on February 28, 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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