ARCH COAL INC Form 4 September 17, 2008

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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

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

Form 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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

BOYD JAMES R

(First) (Middle)

ONECITYPLACE DRIVE

(Street)

ARCH COAL INC [ACI] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Symbol

(Month/Day/Year) 09/15/2008

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Ownership

Form: Direct

(Instr. 4)

(D) or Indirect Beneficial

Person

5. Amount of

Securities

Owned

Beneficially

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

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

(City) (State) (Zip)

1.Title of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Following Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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

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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 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Security or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year)

4. Transactionof Code Derivative (Instr. 8) Securities

5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8. Price **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

7. Nature of

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

(9-02)

Indirect

Derivati Security (Instr. 5)

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Derivative Acquired 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) (1) 09/15/2008 182 (2) 182 \$ 35.7 Α Stock Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BOYD JAMES R

ONECITYPLACE DRIVE X

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Signatures

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

09/17/2008

**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"). The shares of phantom stock acquired by the director represent dividends attributable to amounts that the director elected to defer under the Plan into a hypothetical investment in shares of Arch Coal, Inc. common stock.
- (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 amounts held in the phantom stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.

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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