ARCH COAL INC Form 4 October 30, 2008

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

Number:

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

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).

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

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			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of	f Earliest T	ransaction			(Check all applicable)			
ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE 300			(Month/Day/Year) 10/29/2008					Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Senior VP-Strategic Dev.			
	(Street)				ate Origina r)	1		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_Form filed by One Reporting Person			
ST. LOUIS,	, MO 63141								fore than One Rep		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tabl	e I - Non-I	Derivative	Securi	ities Acqu	uired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Dat (Month/Day/Year)	Execution any		3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit or(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	sposed	of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	10/29/2008			I	15,695	A	\$ 19.83	15,695	I	By 401(k) plan	
Common Stock								30,842	D		

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 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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3,			Amour Underl Securit	nt of lying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	4, and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

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

10/30/2008

**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).

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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