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ARCH COA	L INC										
Form 4											
November 0.											
FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION										3 APPROVAL	
	washington, D.C. 20549 s box er STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF 5. SECURITIES								OMB Number:	3235-0287	
Check thi if no long subject to Section 1 Form 4 o Form 5									Expires:January 31200Estimated averageburden hours perresponse0.		
Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b). 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											
(Print or Type F	Responses)										
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>*</u> BESTEN C HENRY JR			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Least)	(Einst)							(Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle) ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE 300			3. Date of Earliest Transaction(Month/Day/Year)10/31/2008					Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Senior VP-Strategic Dev.			
	(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person					
ST. LOUIS, MO 63141 — Form filed by More than One Reporting Person									porting		
(City)	(State) ((Zip)	Table	e I - Non-D	erivative S	Securit	ies Acq	uired, Disposed of	, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution E any (Month/Day	Date, if	Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit on(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4	sposed 4 and 5 (A) or	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)		
Common Stock Common	10/31/2008			Code V I	Amount 14,082	(D) A	Price \$ 21.5	29,777	I	By 401(k) plan	
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)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		ate	7. Titl Amou Under Secur (Instr.	int of rlying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secu Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(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		11/03	3/2008				
**Signature of Reporting Person		Da	te				

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.