ARCH COAL INC Form 4 December 16, 2008

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per response...

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * LOCKHART THOMAS A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

X_ Director 10% Owner

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE

(Month/Day/Year)

12/15/2008

Officer (give title Other (specify below)

(Check all applicable)

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Instr. 3)

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

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

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

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.

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 Derivative Conversion Security or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

4. 5. TransactionNumber Code of (Instr. 8) Derivative

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

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

Derivative Security (Instr. 5)

Edgar Filing: ARCH COAL INC - Form 4

Derivative Securities Security Acquired (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) (2) (1) 12/15/2008 Α 76 76 \$ 15.56 Stock Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

LOCKHART THOMAS A

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE X

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Signatures

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

**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.

Reporting Owners 2