SANDS THEODORE D

Form 4

December 16, 2009

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or 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)

(City)

1.Title of

Security

(Instr. 3)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

SANDS THEODORE D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(First) (Middle)

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

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

(Check all applicable)

12/15/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

below)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE

(State) (Zip)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Code (Month/Day/Year)

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

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

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

(9-02)

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 5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of 8. Price 4. Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transactionof **Expiration Date Underlying Securities** Derivati Security or Exercise Code Derivative (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4) Security (Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Securities (Instr. 5)

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~,	011 / 6661 / 6												
Se	Security				(A) or								
·					Dispo	sed							
					of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,								
					and 5))							
			Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date	Expiration	Title	Amount			
							Exercisable	Date		or			
										Number			
										of			
										Shares			
Phantom	(1)	12/15/2009	A		159		(2)	(2)	Common	159	\$ 21 2		

Acquired

Stock

Reporting Owners

Derivative

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
reporting owner runner runners	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
SANDS THEODORE D ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	X						

Signatures

Stock

/s/ Robert G. Jones, 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.
- (3) Since the date of the reporting person's last ownership report, he transferred 32,986 shares to his ex-wife pursuant to a domestic relations order. The reporting person no longer reports as beneficially owned any securities owned by his ex-wife.

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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