FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

l	OMB APPROVAL									
	OMB Number:	3235-0287								
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* SANDS THEODORE D						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI]								5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner					
(Last) (First) (Middle) ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2006									Office below	r (give title)		Other (s below)	specify
(Street) ST. LOUIS MO 63141 (City) (State) (Zip)				4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ne) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
		Tab	le I - Nor	n-Deriv	ative	Sec	curitie	es Ao	cquired,	Disp	osed	of, or B	enefic	ially	Owne	d			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Da						Execution Da			e, Transaction Dispos Code (Instr. 5)		rities Acqui ed Of (D) (Ir			5. Amou Securiti Benefic Owned Reporte	ties For cially (D) d Following (I) (: Direct Indirect str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
										v	Amount	(A) or (D)		се			Transac		
	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. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Day	Date,	I. Fransaction Code (Instr. 3)				6. Date Exe Expiration (Month/Day	Date		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secur (Instr. 3 and 4)		De Se (Ir	Price of erivative ecurity estr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	,	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable		opiration	Title	Amou or Numb of Share	er					
Phantom Stock	(1)	03/31/2006	04/03/2	006	A		329		(2)		(2)	Common Stock	329		\$75.94	25,136		D	

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. 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") and represent past compensation that the director elected to defer under the Plan into a hypothetical investment in shares of Arch Coal, Inc. common stock and/or dividends attributable to such deferred amounts.
- 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 certain portions of the phantom stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.

Remarks:

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

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

04/04/2006

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

- * 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.

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