

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549**

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): **August 7, 2012 (August 7, 2012)**

Arch Coal, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)

1-13105
(Commission File Number)

43-0921172
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**CityPlace One
One CityPlace Drive, Suite 300
St. Louis, Missouri 63141**
(Address, including zip code, of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(314) 994-2700**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

Beginning August 7, 2012, and at other times thereafter, members of the senior management team of Arch Coal, Inc. (the "Company"), will use the attached slides in various investor presentations. The slides from the presentation are attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and are hereby incorporated by reference.

The information contained in Item 7.01 and the exhibits attached hereto shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall they be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibits are attached hereto and filed herewith.

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Arch Coal, Inc. Investor Presentation Slides

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: August 7, 2012

Arch Coal, Inc.

By: /s/ Robert G. Jones
Robert G. Jones
Senior Vice President — Law, General Counsel and Secretary

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Exhibit Index

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Arch Coal, Inc. Investor Presentation Slides

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Powering the Working World.

Arch Coal, Inc. Investor Presentation

August 2012



Forward-Looking Information

This presentation contains “forward-looking statements” – that is, statements related to future, not past, events. In this context, forward-looking statements often address our expected future business and financial performance, and often contain words such as “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” or “will.” Forward-looking statements by their nature address matters that are, to different degrees, uncertain. For us, particular uncertainties arise from changes in the demand for our coal by the domestic electric generation industry; from legislation and regulations relating to the Clean Air Act and other environmental initiatives; from operational, geological, permit, labor and weather-related factors; from fluctuations in the amount of cash we generate from operations; from future integration of acquired businesses; and from numerous other matters of national, regional and global scale, including those of a political, economic, business, competitive or regulatory nature. These uncertainties may cause our actual future results to be materially different than those expressed in our forward-looking statements. We do not undertake to update our forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required by law. For a description of some of the risks and uncertainties that may affect our future results, you should see the risk factors described from time to time in the reports we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Slide 2

Arch’s leadership position in the U.S. coal industry will drive future value creation

1	Low-cost mine portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large, low-cost producer in all major U.S. coal basins • Leading and low-cost western thermal coal portfolio • Strong, scalable Appalachian met/thermal coal platform
2	Growing met coal franchise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shifting focus in Appalachia to higher-margin met assets • Upgrading met product slate with expansion projects • Enhancing efficiencies at existing met mines
3	Expanding export platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct stakes in ports on East and West Coast • Expanding throughput capacity in the Gulf Region • Opened sales offices in Singapore and London
4	Low legacy liabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowest legacy liabilities of major, diversified producers • Nearly 75% of liabilities are reclamation obligations • Substantial annual expense and cash flow savings
5	Major upside as markets recover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-quality, unused spare capacity in PRB • Growing, higher-quality met coal production in Appalachia • Undeveloped, low-cost reserves in Illinois

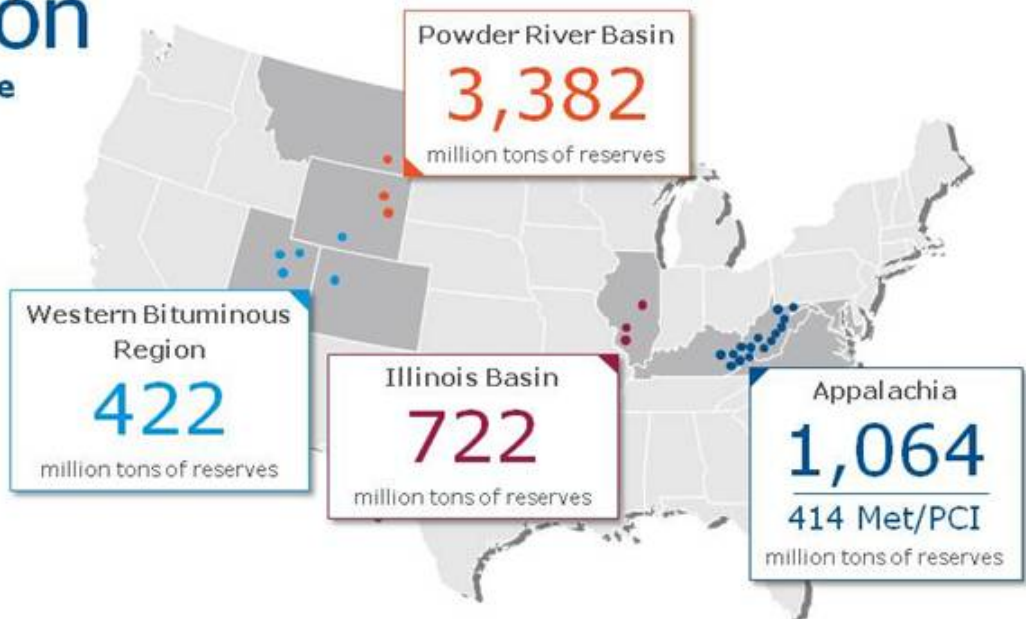
Slide 3

Arch is the most diversified U.S. coal producer, and the No. 2 reserve holder in the nation

5.6 Billion*

Ton Reserve Base

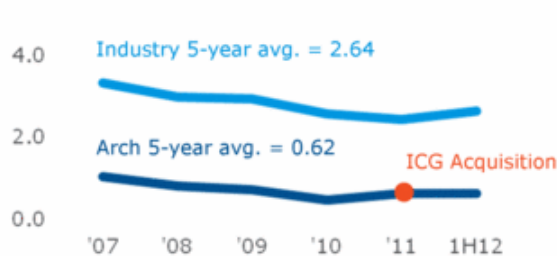
Operations extend to every major coal supply basin



* Pro forma reserves at 12/31/11

Arch leads the coal industry in safety and environmental compliance

Lost-Time Safety Incident Rate
(per 200,000 employee-hours worked)



ACI Environmental Compliance
(SMCRA violations based on state reports)

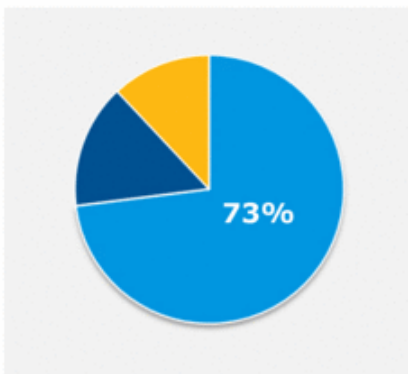


- Arch's safety performance is four times better than the U.S. coal industry average
 - Arch is deeply committed to further improving its industry-leading safety and environmental performances since integrating ICG into the fold

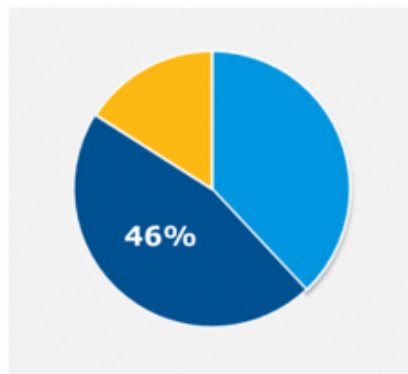
Arch has a balanced and diversified mine portfolio

While Arch’s sales volumes are skewed toward low-cost Powder River Basin coal, the company’s revenue stream is diversified between eastern (increasingly metallurgical) and western regions – and cash margins are very well balanced among all core operating regions.

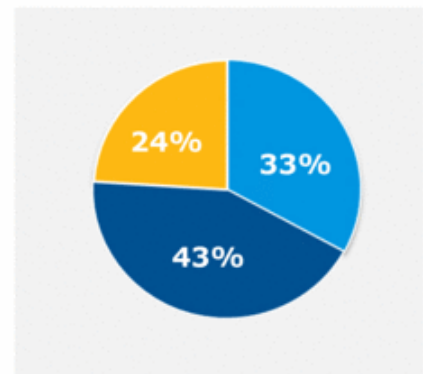
Sales Volumes
(1H12, in percent)



Revenues
(1H12, in percent)



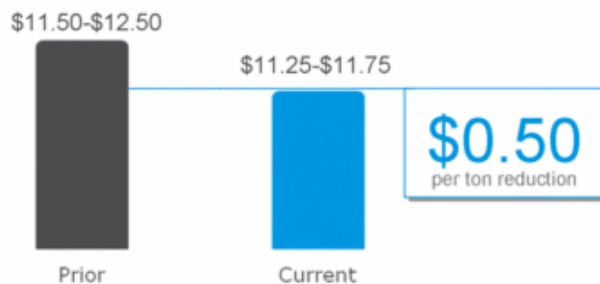
Cash Margins
(1H12, in percent)



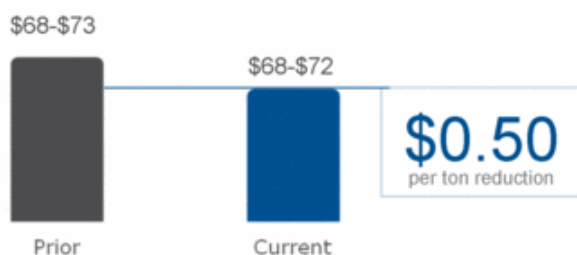
■ Powder River Basin
 ■ Appalachia
 ■ Western Bituminous & other thermal

Arch is holding the line on cost escalation despite running at lower volume levels

Powder River Basin Cost Guidance* (2012E, cash costs per ton)



Appalachian Cost Guidance* (2012E, cash costs per ton)



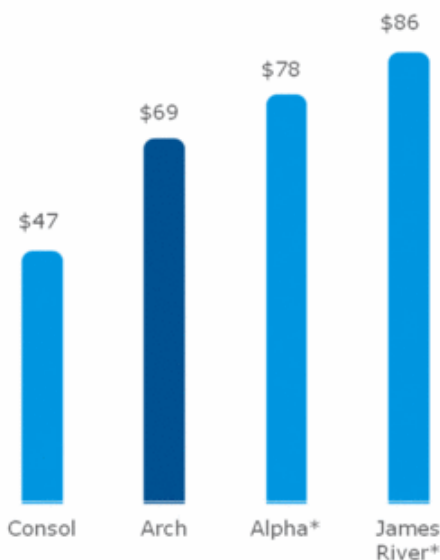
- Controlling consumable costs (i.e. diesel, explosives)
- Reducing headcount, contractors and labor costs
- Decreasing parts & supplies expense as well as repair costs due to idled equipment
- Working with alliance and strategic suppliers
- Right-sizing operations
- Idling high-cost thermal capacity (Appalachia)

*As given on 7/27/12

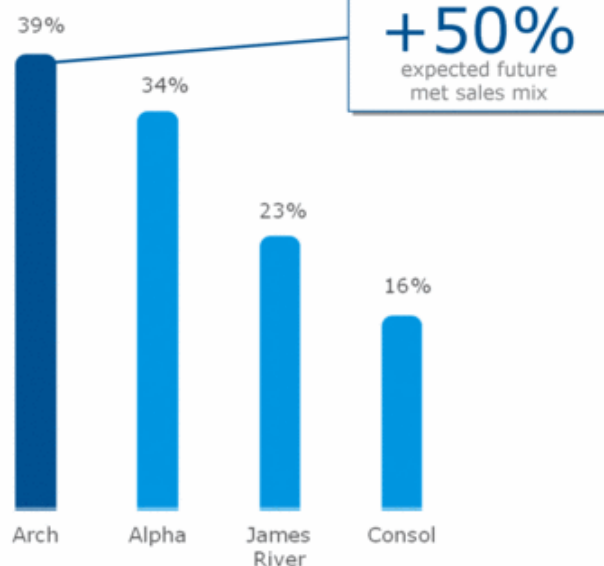
Slide 7

Arch's Appalachian portfolio is low in cost — and is geared toward higher-margin met assets

Appalachian Cash Costs (1H12 reported costs, \$/ton)



Appalachian Metallurgical Sales Mix (Based on 2011 production)

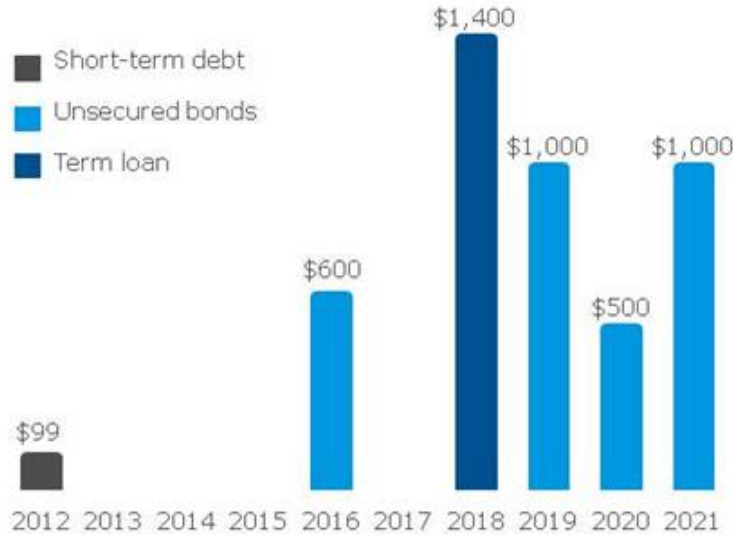


Arch has increased its financial flexibility and enhanced its liquidity

Cash on Hand*

\$513 million

Debt Maturity Profile*
(In millions)



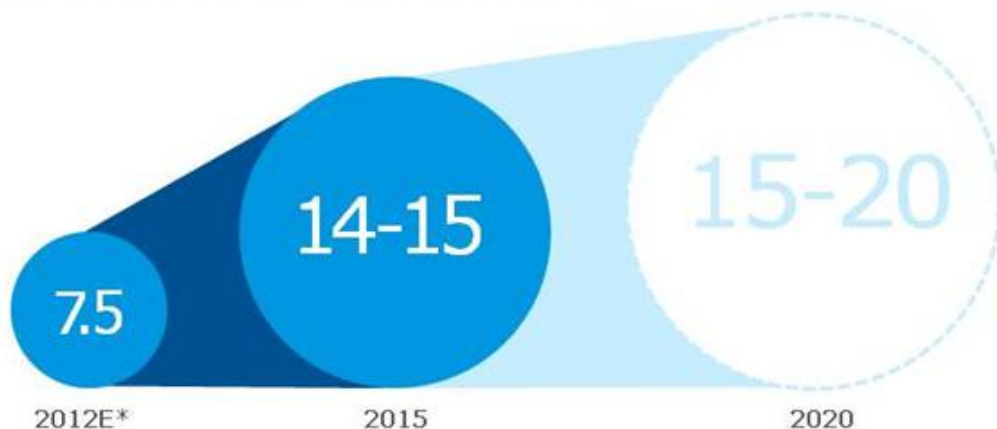
- Arch has no long-term debt maturities until 2016
- Relaxed financial maintenance covenants until late 2014
- \$860 million of liquidity available

*Balances as of 6/30/2012

Slide 9

Arch's long-term growth plans are focused on higher-return organic expansions

- Leer metallurgical mine adds 3.5 million tons, starting in mid-2013
- 414 million tons of low-cost met reserves support incremental and greenfield expansion, should market conditions warrant



*As given on 7/27/12

Slide 10

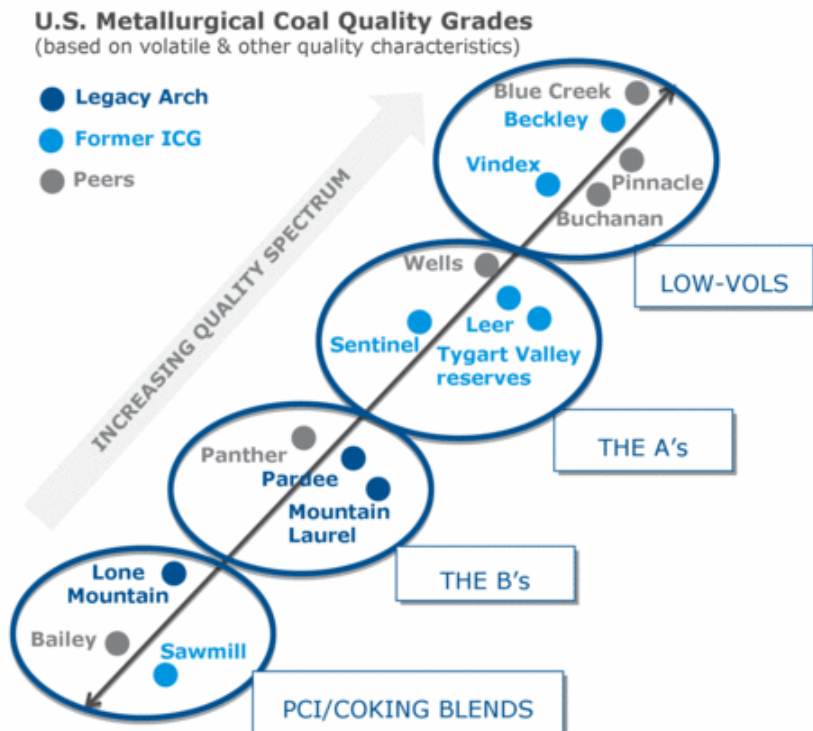
Arch's Leer mine represents an outstanding growth opportunity

- One of the industry's most promising metallurgical projects
- Mine development is advancing
- Cash costs expected within Arch's current cost range — with anticipated premium high-vol A pricing in domestic and global coal markets



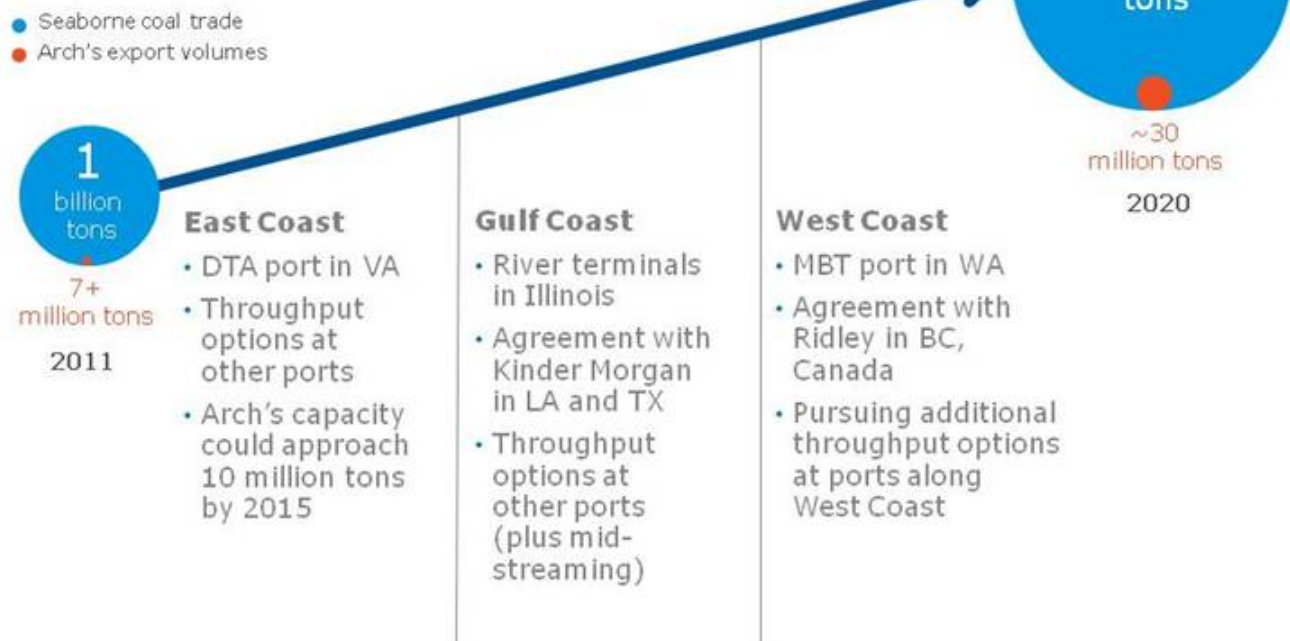
Arch's metallurgical coal build-out will expand platform and upgrade overall product slate

- With the acquisition of ICG in 2011, Arch gained low-vol and high-vol A met assets, immediately upgrading its product slate
- With the build-out of Leer, Shelby Run and other reserves in Tygart Valley, Arch's met coal quality mix will increase further



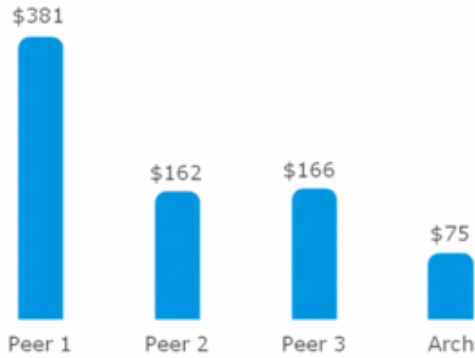
Slide 12

Arch's long-term goal is to play a larger role in the expanding seaborne coal trade

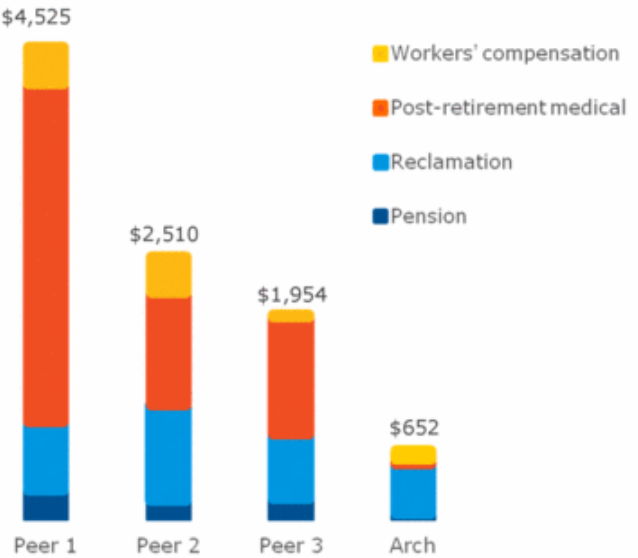


Arch maintains very low legacy liabilities versus major peers

Annual Expense of Legacy Liabilities
(12/31/11, in millions)



Legacy Liabilities of Largest U.S. Coal Companies
(12/31/11, in millions)



Sources: ACI, peer SEC filings



Outlook for Coal Markets



Metallurgical coal markets represent a compelling long-term opportunity

CURRENT GLOBAL MARKET

- Met markets are soft currently due to global macro uncertainty
- Global steel production declined month-over-month in June 2012
- Utilization rates at U.S. steel mills have fallen below 75%
- Seaborne coal markets were slightly oversupplied by roughly 25 million tonnes in 1H12

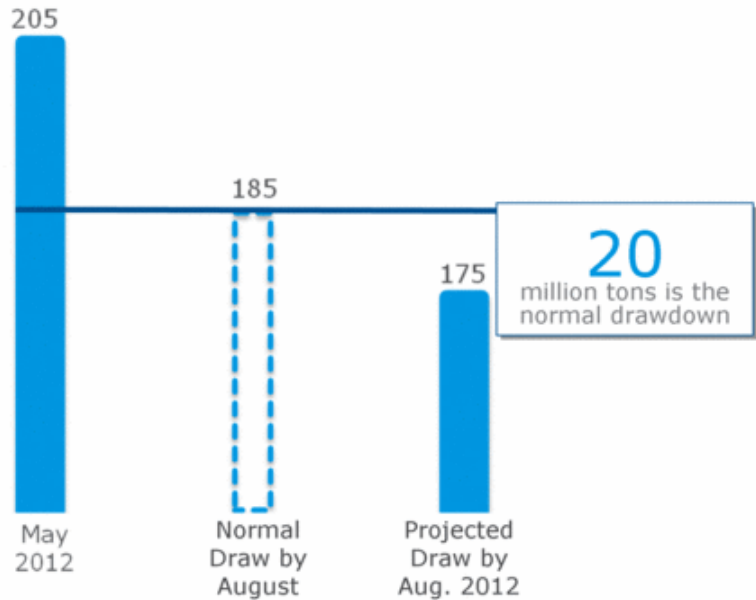
LONG-TERM GLOBAL MARKET

- World steel consumption is projected to increase +50% by 2020
- World population to top 8 billion by 2030 — with substantial growth in the middle class
- China and India are expected to import 1.5 billion tonnes by 2030
- Long-term met market strength driven by demand growth — and supply constraints

U.S. thermal market has reached an inflection point — and coal stockpiles are beginning to liquidate

- Stockpiles peaked in May 2012, slightly above the record set in 2009
- Hot weather and higher natural gas prices are drawing down stocks meaningfully
- Domestic thermal market is trending toward better balance in the second half of the year

Estimated Coal Stockpiles Levels at U.S. Power Generators
(in million of tons)



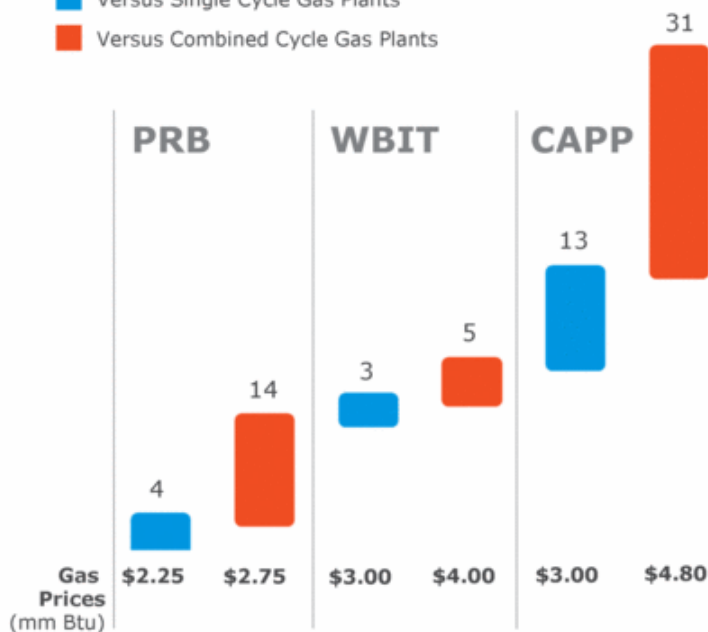
Sources: ACI and Energy Venture Analysis

Slide 17

Incremental increases in natural gas prices should allow coal to move back into the money

Cumulative Loss to Natural Gas since 2008
(in millions of tons)

- Versus Single Cycle Gas Plants
- Versus Combined Cycle Gas Plants



70 million tons of opportunity for coal consumption

- Illustrative example of estimated coal burn loss, and highly dependent on individual plant economics
- At natural gas prices above \$3, roughly half of coal's lost tons can be regained

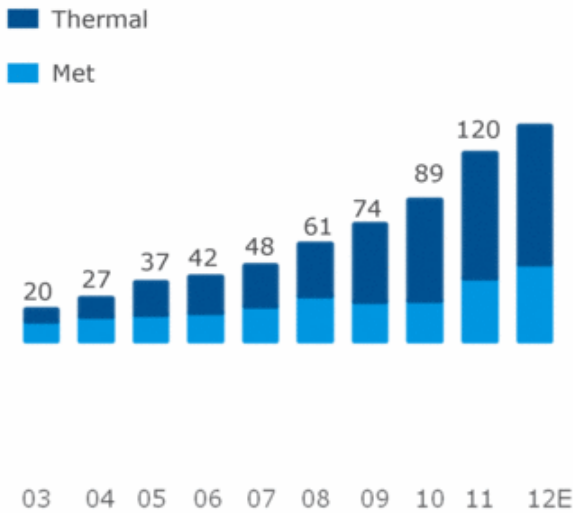
Price assumptions per ton: PRB: \$15, WBIT: \$40, CAPP: \$75
Heat rate assumptions: single cycle gas: 11,000, combined cycle gas: 7,000, PRB coal plant: 10,000

Slide 18

The trend line in seaborne coal demand is clear ... with little reason to believe it will change soon

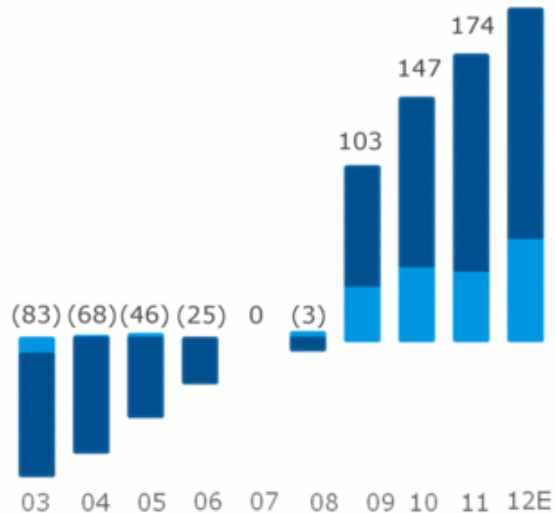
India net imports

(in millions of tonnes)



China net imports


(in millions of tonnes)




Sources: ACI, McCloskey and India Coal Market Watch Data


Slide 19

Traditional supply sources are struggling to keep pace with demand, making U.S. coal increasingly competitive

 **China** is depleting reserves at an unprecedented (and accelerating) rate and production is migrating further from population centers. Imported coal often offers significant quality and environmental advantages.

 **Australia** will experience higher costs in new reserve areas. Government, regulatory and community impediments are on the rise.

 **Indonesia** coal quality is declining and infrastructure is a huge challenge. Substantial capital is required to open new reserve areas, and growing domestic demand could ultimately constrain export growth.

 **India** faces quality, land use, environmental and infrastructure challenges.



Other Supply Regions
South Africa is increasingly mature and infrastructure needs are great. **Russia** faces reserve depletion in the West and infrastructure needs in the East. **Mongolia** and **Mozambique** have coal but no roads, rail, ports or miners.

Supply Pressures

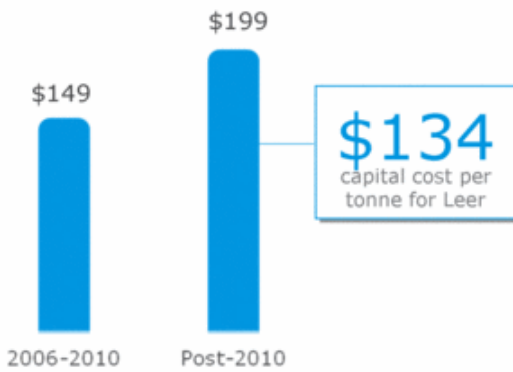
Source: Public sources

Slide 20

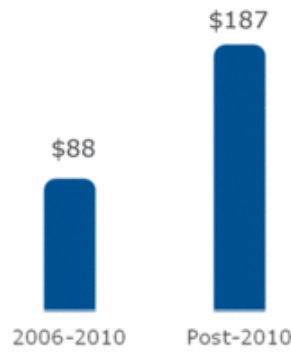
U.S. coal should become increasingly competitive in world markets over time

As pressures mount in the fastest growing supply regions, U.S. coal should become even more competitive on the global stage. With Arch’s exceptional reserve base, we expect far lower capital requirements for incremental met and thermal volumes.

New Australian Metallurgical Coal Capacity*
(Capital cost per tonne, in A\$)



New Australian Thermal Coal Capacity*
(Capital cost per tonne, in A\$)



Sources: Wood Mackenzie, ACI

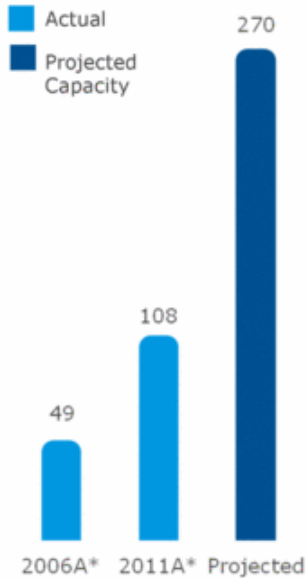
*Projects that began construction prior to 2010 versus post-2010 (or expected post-2010)



Planned U.S. port expansions will support a more than doubling of coal exports over the next five years or so

U.S. Exports

(in millions of tons)



West Coast	
50	Ridley** 4
	Westshore** 4
	MBT 15
	SSA Marine 15
	Other Northwest 10
	CA 2

East Coast	
100	NS/Lamberts 32
	DTA 20
	CNX Marine 16
	Pier IX 14
	PA 9
	CSX/Curtis Bay 9

Southwest	
15	Deepwater 10
	Other Texas 5

Midwest	
8	Great Lakes 8

Gulf Coast	
66	IMT 17
	United 11
	Burnside 10
	Convent 8
	Mid-streaming 20

Southeast	
31	Mobile 18
	Other AL 5
	Charleston 8

Sources: ACI, NMA, Port Terminal Presentations

*Includes overland shipments to Canada/Mexico
**Capacity available for U.S. sourced volumes



Coal continues to gain more of the world's energy share

Coal's Share of Global Energy Market



- Coal has been the largest and fastest-growing major fuel source for power generation in the world
- Coal is projected to supplant oil as the world's most prominent energy source by 2015
- By 2020, coal consumption should increase 2 billion tons if trends continue ... and could increase 4 billion tons if some forecasts prove true



Powering the Working World.

Arch Coal, Inc. Investor Presentation

August 2012

