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## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See
Instruction 1(b).

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

OMB APPROVAL										
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			or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940				
	ress of Reporting Pe		2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ARCH COAL INC</u> [ ACI ]		ationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer < all applicable) Director 10% Owner		
(Last) ONE CITYPL	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/15/2010		Officer (give title below)	Other (specify below)	
(Street) ST. LOUIS (City)	MO (State)	63141 (Zip)	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Indiv Line) X	vidual or Joint/Group Fil Form filed by One Re Form filed by More th Person	eporting Person	

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

L. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	if any	Transaction Code (Instr.		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Securities Beneficially	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(1130. 4)

# 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. Transa Code ( 8)		of I		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Phantom Stock	(1)	12/15/2010		A		63		(2)	(2)	Common Stock	63	\$31.92	20,141	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"). 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.

### **Remarks:**

### /s/ Jon S. Ploetz, Attorney-in-

Fact

12/16/2010

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.