SEC Form 4	
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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

OWR APPRO	VAL
OMB Number:	3235-0287
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1 I Nume and Address of Reporting Leson			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ARCH COAL INC</u> [ACI]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)					
					Director	10% Owner			
(Last)	(First) (Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/15/2011		Officer (give title below)	Other (specify below)			
ONE CITYPL.	ACE DRIVE								
			4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)					
(Street)	МО	63141		X	Form filed by One Re	porting Person			
31. LOUI3	WIO	03141			Form filed by More the	an One Reporting			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			Person				

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

. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	str. 3) 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deem. (Month/Day/Year) if any (Month/Day/Year)				4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	(D) or Indirect	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 Deriv Secu Acqu (A) o Disp of (D	r osed) r. 3, 4	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)	12/15/2011		Α		251		(2)	(2)	Common Stock	251	\$14.08	32,366	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 amounts held in the phantom stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.

Remarks:

<u>/s/ Robert G. Jones, Attorney-</u> in-Fact

12/16/2011

** 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.