

**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): **February 15, 2012 (February 15, 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 in February, 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

**Signatures**

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.

By: /s/ Robert G. Jones

Robert G. Jones

Senior Vice President — Law, General Counsel and Secretary

**Exhibit Index**

**Exhibit  
No.**

**Description**

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99.1	Arch Coal, Inc. Investor Presentation Slides
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THE **POWER** WITHIN

# Arch Coal Investor Presentation

February 2012



Arch Coal, Inc.

## 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 (including the ICG business); 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.

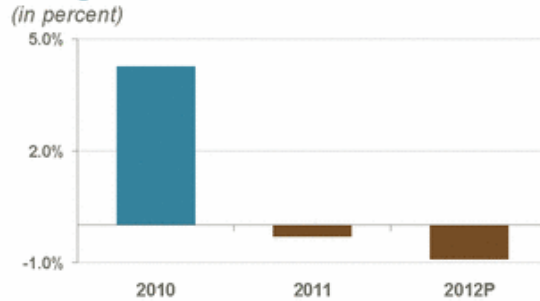
# Outlook for Coal Markets



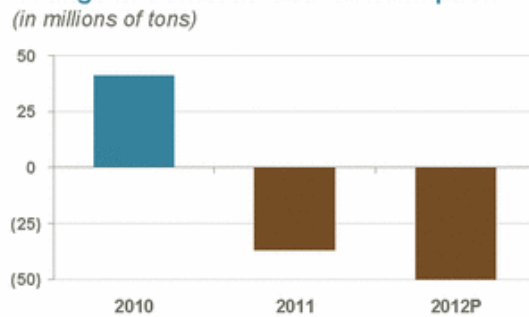
## Power generation and coal consumption are likely to be down in the near term, but so will supply

- Muted U.S. economic growth, mild winter weather and low-priced natural gas are impacting coal use
- A swift and deep correction may lead to a **stronger and longer rebound**
- Some signposts suggesting that market turn is coming:
  - Coal supply cuts
  - U.S. economic recovery
  - Weather normalizes
  - Drop in rig counts

Change in U.S. Power Generation

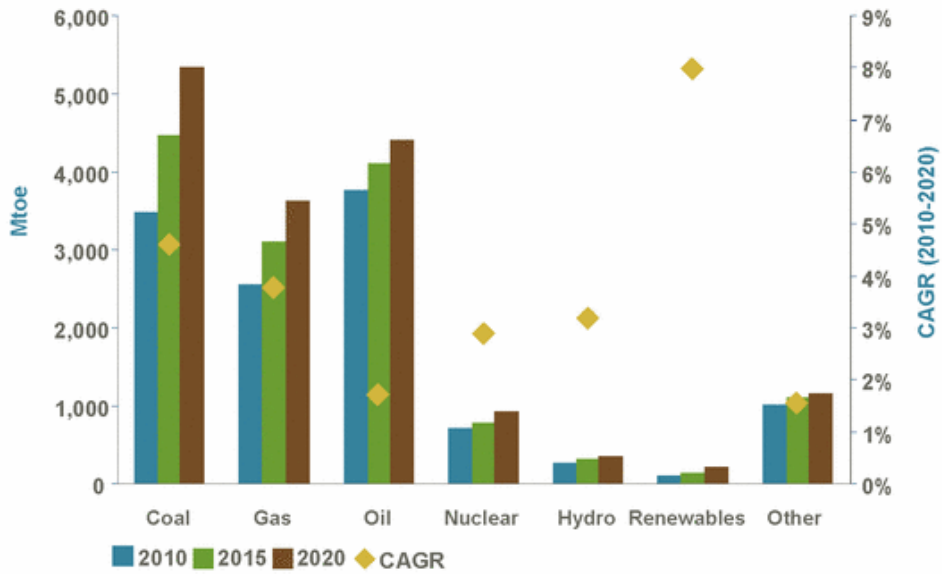


Change in Domestic Coal Consumption



Sources: EIA and ACI

# Wood Mackenzie projects that coal will supplant oil as the world's leading fuel source by 2015



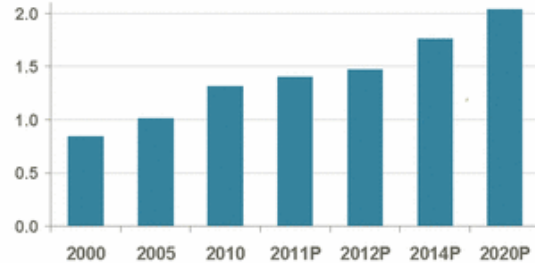
Slide 5

Source: Wood Mackenzie Energy Markets Service

## We expect continued strength in met coal markets – based on projected growth in steel consumption globally

- Growth in world steel consumption is projected to increase nearly **60 percent** during the next decade
- Met coal demand growth will come from increased utilization at existing steel plants along with a **build out of new steel capacity**
  - Asia-Pacific market is leading the steel capacity build out
  - Robust growth is also projected in Atlantic Basin market (Brazil, Eastern Europe)

**Total Growth in World Steel Consumption**  
(in billions of tonnes of finished steel)



**Iron & Steel Capacity Build Out\* Through 2015**

(in millions of tonnes of raw steel, blast & basic oxygen furnaces)

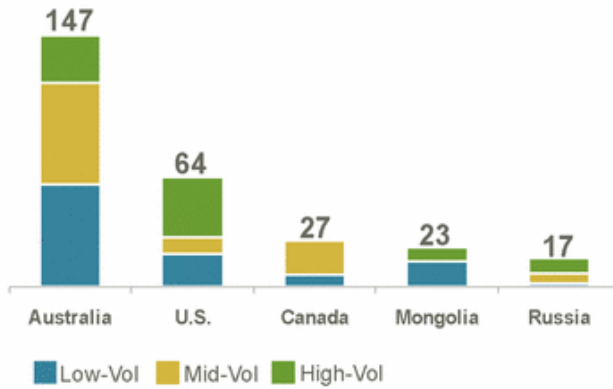


Sources: ACI, World Steel Association and Steel Business Briefing  
\*Excludes electric arc furnace capacity



# The U.S. already plays a sizable and increasingly essential role in global met markets

**2011 Metallurgical Export Coal Supply**  
(in millions of tonnes)



- The U.S. is **already an essential source** of seaborne metallurgical coal – second only to Australia
- U.S. output of low-vol and mid-vol coals is **comparable to that of Canada**

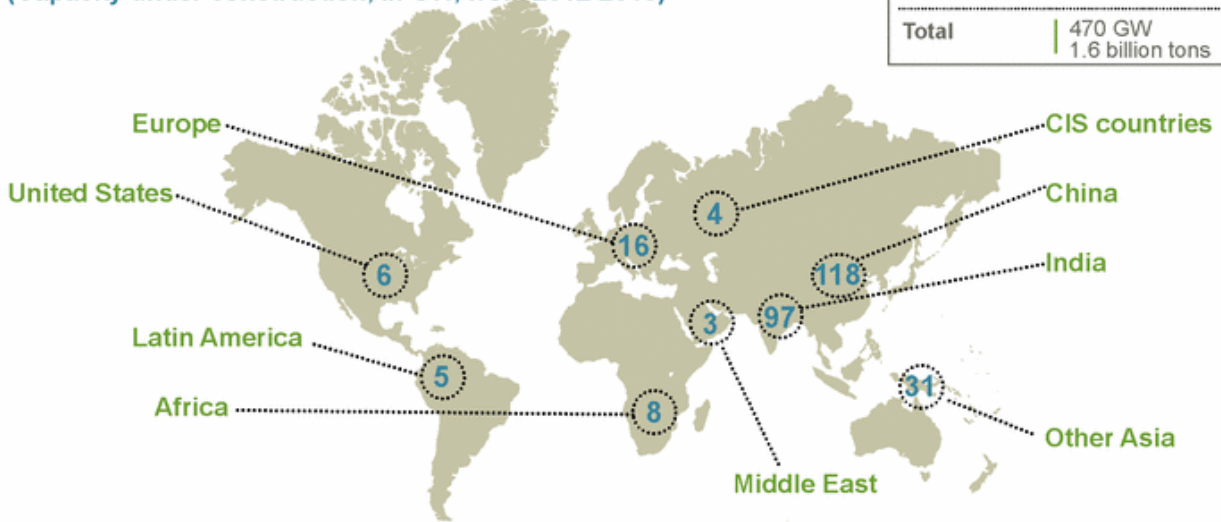


Sources: Wood-Mac and ACI

# Nations around the world are building coal plants to fuel electricity needs

**New Coal-Fueled Generation Coming Online by 2015**  
 (Capacity under construction, in GW, from 2012-2015)

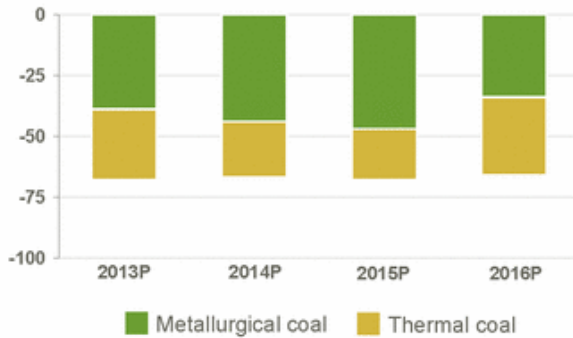
Under Construction	288 GW 950 million tons
Total	470 GW 1.6 billion tons



**470 GW of total coal-fueled capacity is planned to be online by 2015 ... and will be fueled by 1.6 billion tons of coal**

## Growth in seaborne coal demand should outpace growth in seaborne coal supply over the next four years

**Projected Deficit in Seaborne Coal Supply Trade**  
(in millions of metric tonnes)



- We project **growing coal consumption worldwide** – and ongoing production and transportation constraints in traditional coal export nations
- Internal forecasts suggest that global seaborne coal markets will be **under-supplied** through at least 2016
  - Cumulative deficit of nearly 300 million short tons from 2013-2016
  - Roughly 60 percent of projected deficit is in met coal markets; 40 percent relates to thermal coal

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



### Australia

- New reserve areas have higher costs – and greater infrastructure needs
- Demand continuously runs ahead of investment
- Government, regulatory and community impediments are on rise



### Indonesia

- Coal quality is declining and infrastructure is a huge challenge
- Capital required to open new reserve areas is substantial
- Growing domestic demand could ultimately constrain export growth

### Supply pressures



### China

- Depleting own reserves at unprecedented (and accelerating) rate
- Production is migrating further from population centers
- Imported coal often offers significant quality and environmental advantages

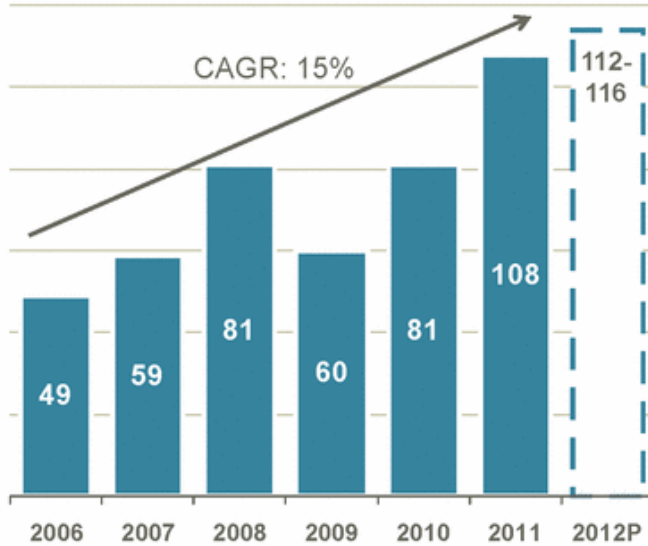


### Other Supply Regions

- India faces quality, land use, environmental and infrastructure challenges
- South Africa is increasingly mature and infrastructure needs are great
- Russia faces reserve depletion in West and infrastructure needs in East
- Mongolia and Mozambique have coal but no roads, rail, ports or miners

## Despite briefly retracing during global financial crisis, U.S. exports appear to be on clear upward trend

U.S. Coal Exports  
(in millions of tons)



- We expect U.S. exports to **continue to climb** during next five years
- We project U.S. export growth of **10-15 million tons** annually

# Planned U.S. port expansions could support a more than doubling of coal exports by 2016

## West Coast Capacity

Port	2015P
Ridley**	4
Westshore**	4
MBT	15
SSA Marine	15
Other Northwest	10
CA	2
<b>West Coast</b>	<b>50</b>

\*\* Capacity available for U.S. sourced volumes

## Midwest Capacity

Port	2015P
Great Lakes	8



## East Coast Capacity

Port	2015P
NS/Lamberts	32
DTA	20
CNX Marine	16
Pier IX	14
PA	9
CSX/Curtis Bay	9
<b>East Coast</b>	<b>100</b>

## Southwest Capacity

Port	2015P
Deepwater	10
Other Texas	5
<b>Southwest</b>	<b>15</b>

## Gulf Capacity

Port	2015P
IMT	17
United	11
Burnside	10
Convent	8
Mid-streaming	20
<b>Gulf</b>	<b>66</b>

## Southeast Capacity

Port	2015P
Mobile	18
Other AL	5
Charleston	8
<b>Southeast</b>	<b>31</b>



Slide 12

Sources: ACI, NMA, Port Terminal Presentations

## We expect U.S. coal to play an increasingly important role in the Pacific Basin in the coming decade

### U.S. West Coast Port Potential



- Approximately 10 million tons of coal moved off the West Coast into Asia in 2011
- Most of that tonnage moved through Canada, but plans are underway to **add U.S. throughput capacity**
- We expect West Coast exports to **grow significantly** over the next five years
- Two major port projects – and several smaller ones – are in the permitting process
- We believe the **appetite for U.S. coal in Asia is immense**



# The New Arch Coal

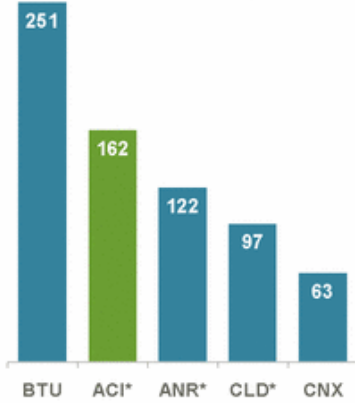


# We're building a U.S. coal industry powerhouse – and a world-class global and metallurgical coal franchise

<b>1. Leading Met Coal Supplier</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> largest U.S. (top 10 global) met producer</li> <li>Blending synergies will optimize met franchise</li> <li>Significant reserve expansion opportunities</li> </ul>
<b>2. Growth Profile</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boost in reserves to become #2 U.S. coal reserve holder</li> <li>Met coal volumes to grow to 15 million tons by 2015</li> <li>Build out of thermal platform in new basins and for export</li> </ul>
<b>3. Market Leverage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Major producer in under-supplied met markets</li> <li>Growing player in robust seaborne thermal markets</li> <li>Levered to domestic thermal markets</li> </ul>
<b>4. Most Diversified U.S. Producer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operations in every major supply basin</li> <li>Strategically balanced met/thermal portfolio</li> <li>#1 or #2 position in core operating regions</li> </ul>
<b>5. Low-Cost Operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low-cost mines in every major domestic supply basin</li> <li>Leader in safety and environmental performance</li> <li>Productive workforce with minimal legacy liabilities</li> </ul>
<b>6. Compelling Valuation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free cash flow generation</li> <li>Focused on reducing leverage</li> <li>Trough multiples and equity price</li> </ul>

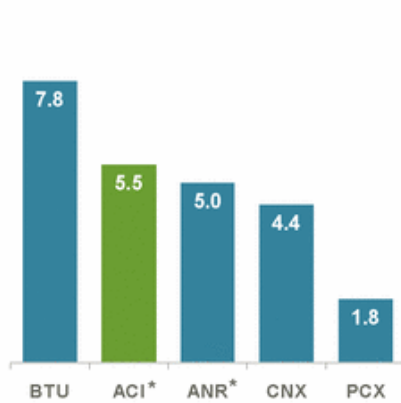
# Arch is one of the largest coal producers in the U.S. and the world

**Top Five U.S. Coal Producers**  
(2011, in millions of tons)



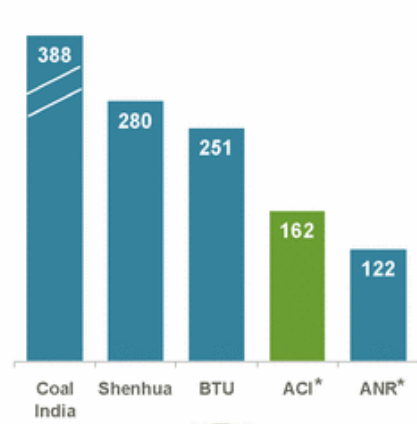
#2

**Top Five U.S. Reserve Holders**  
(2010, in billions of tons)



#2

**Top Five Global Coal Producers**  
(2011, in millions of tons)



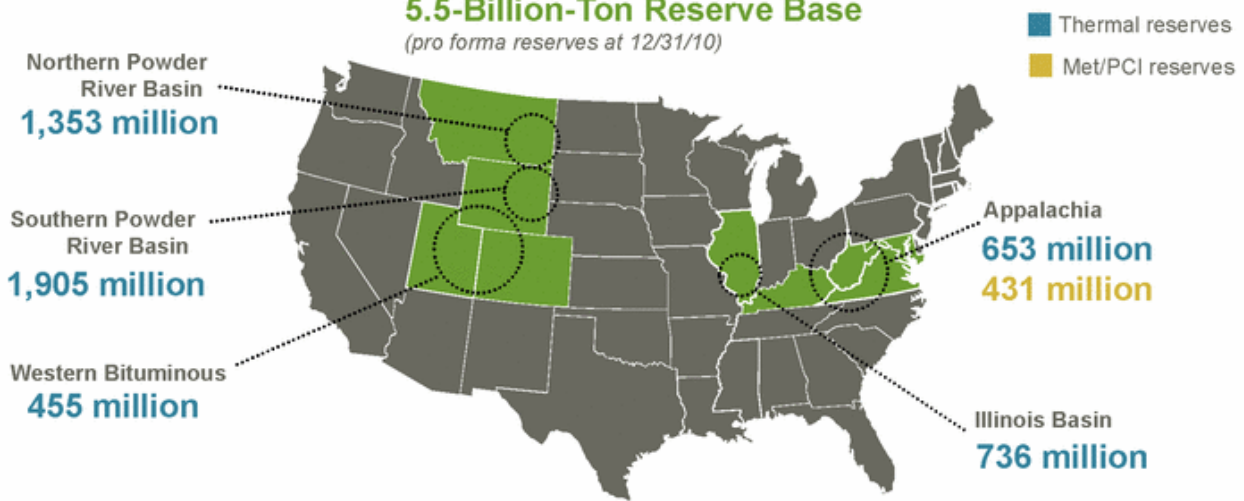
#4



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

## 5.5-Billion-Ton Reserve Base

(pro forma reserves at 12/31/10)



- Operations now extend to every major coal-supply basin
- Control a robust U.S. product slate, with representation in all major segments

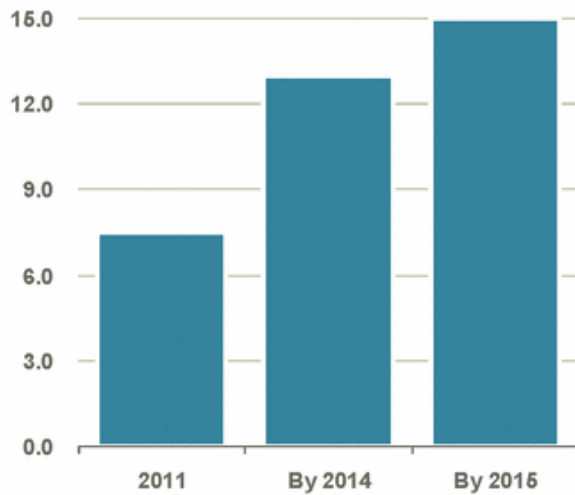
## In the near term, Arch is reducing thermal production and capital spending, while expanding its met portfolio

- Reduce **production targets** during weak market cycles to preserve the future value of reserve base
- Lower **capital spending** levels on thermal assets to match with our current view of market demand
- Diligently **manage controllable costs** while maintaining flexibility to respond as market conditions evolve
- **Highly committed** in the near term – with opportunities to sell into **seaborne markets**, and domestic markets given Arch's cost structure



## Our “15 by ’15” plan – to grow met volumes to at least 15 million tons by 2015 – is well underway

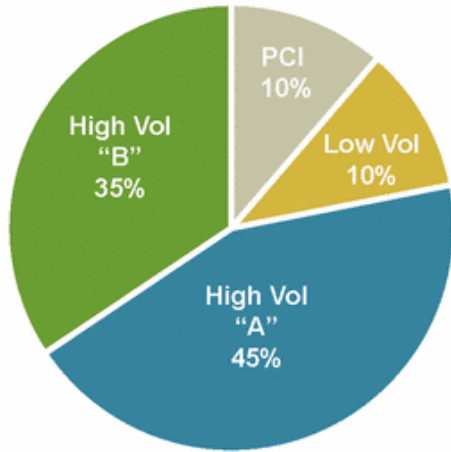
ACI Expected Metallurgical Coal Volumes  
(in millions of tons)



- Accelerated development of **Tygart Valley** (longwall production expected in mid-2013) will add 3.5 million tons to our met production profile
- Upgrades to Beckley and Sentinel preparation plants will **increase efficiencies and yield** of higher-quality met coal
- **Increased PCI sales** from the expanded Lone Mountain complex
- Other opportunities for expansion on existing reserves

# Arch is building a world-class, high-vol “A” mining complex on former ICG reserves

Expected Future Metallurgical Quality



- Large, undeveloped reserve block could support build-out of multiple low-cost, high-vol “A” met coal mines



## Arch will play a growing role in the global seaborne met and thermal coal trade

### East Coast



- Own 22% interest in DTA in Newport News, VA which has throughput capacity of ~20 million tpy
- In final discussions with Kinder Morgan for port space at KMP-owned facilities on East Coast

### Gulf Coast



- Ownership and throughput rights at river facilities in Kentucky and Illinois
- Long-term throughput agreement with Kinder Morgan that supports expansion of Gulf Coast export facilities

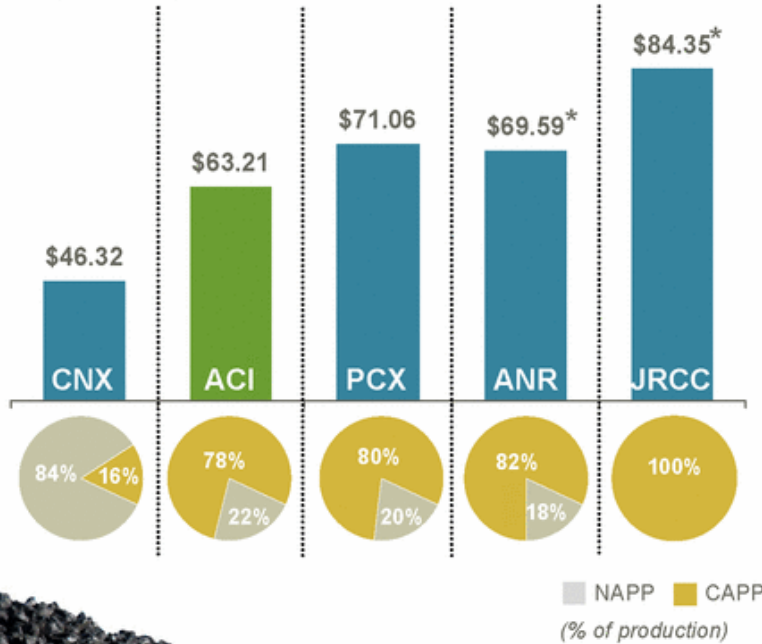
### West Coast



- Own 38% interest in Millennium Bulk Terminals in Washington state
- Agreement with Ridley Terminals in Canada
- Commitments to move Western Bituminous coals through ports in California

# Arch's cash cost structure remains one of the lowest in the Appalachian region

**Public Companies' Reported Appalachian Cash Costs**  
 (Weighted average, last 12 months ended 12/31/11, \$/ton)



- **Lowest cost producer** among predominantly CAPP operators
- One of the lowest cost producers in the overall Appalachian region
- Combined with ICG, Arch's cost structure remains advantageous – despite continued pressures in the region



Slide 22

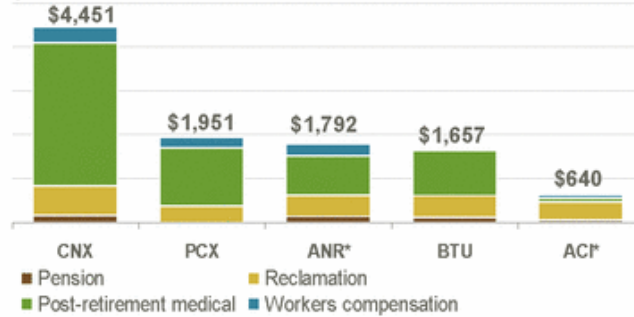
Sources: SEC filings, MSHA  
 \* Twelve months ended 9/30/11



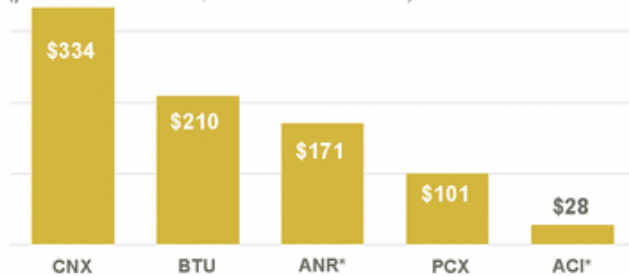
# Post acquisition, Arch continues to maintain one of the cleanest balance sheets in the U.S. coal industry

- Low level of **legacy liabilities** versus peers
  - Roughly two-thirds of Arch's legacy liabilities consist of reclamation liabilities
- **Available liquidity** is more than **\$1 billion**
- Arch expects to generate **free cash flow** in 2012, with a priority for debt repayment

**Legacy Liabilities of Largest U.S. Coal Companies**  
(pro forma 12/31/10, in millions of dollars)



**Legacy Liabilities Annual Cash Outflow**  
(pro forma 12/31/10, in millions of dollars)



Sources: ACI and Public Data, \* Pro Forma



THE **POWER** WITHIN

# Arch Coal Investor Presentation

February 2012



Arch Coal, Inc.