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

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**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): April 24, 2008 (April 24, 2008)**

**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))
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**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On April 24, 2008, Steven F. Leer, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Arch Coal, Inc. (the "Company"), will deliver a presentation at the Company's 2008 annual stockholders' meeting. The slides from the presentation are attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and are hereby incorporated by reference.

A copy of the slides will be available at <http://investor.archcoal.com/events.cfm> for 30 days.

**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On April 24, 2008, the board of directors of Arch Coal, Inc. authorized an increase in the quarterly common stock cash dividend of 29% from \$0.07 per share to \$0.09 per share. A quarterly cash dividend of \$0.09 per share of common stock will be paid on June 13, 2008 to stockholders of record on May 30, 2008. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.2 hereto and is hereby incorporated by reference.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibits are attached hereto and filed herewith.

| Exhibit No. | Description   |
|-------------|---|
| 99.1        | Slides from the presentation at the 2008 annual stockholders' meeting.        |
| 99.2        | Press release dated April 24, 2008 announcing increase in quarterly dividend. |

**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.

Dated: April 24, 2008

Arch Coal, Inc.

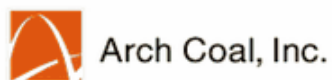
By: /s/ Robert G. Jones

Robert G. Jones

Vice President — Law, General Counsel and Secretary

## Exhibit Index

| Exhibit<br>No. | Description   |
|----------------|---|
| 99.1           | Slides from the presentation at the 2008 annual stockholders' meeting.        |
| 99.2           | Press release dated April 24, 2008 announcing increase in quarterly dividend. |



## Annual Shareholder Meeting

Steve Leer, Chairman and CEO  
Arch Coal, Inc.

St. Louis, Missouri  
April 24, 2008

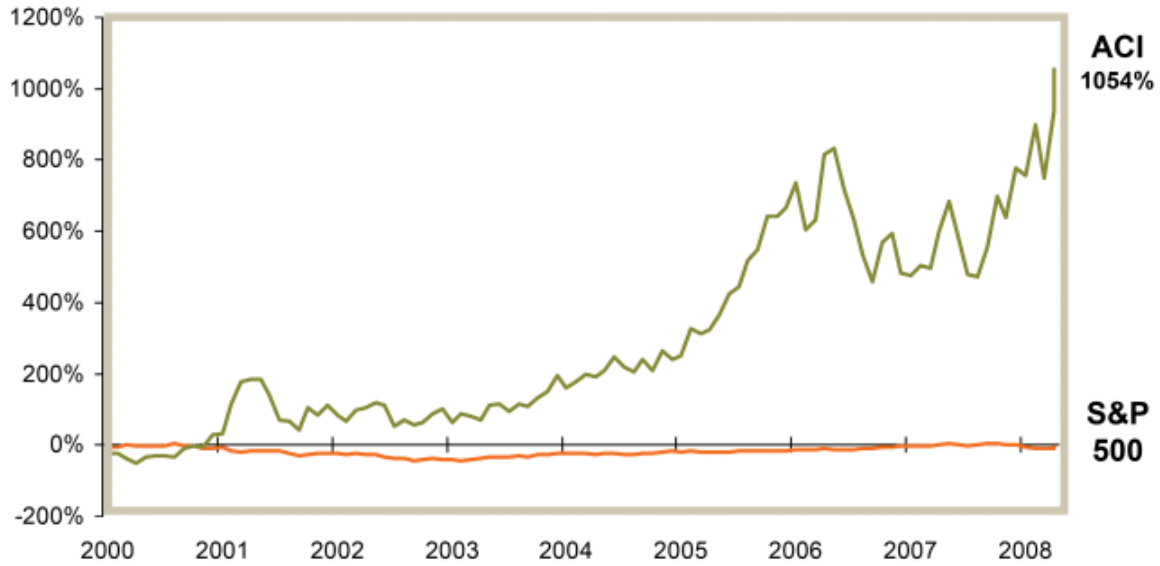
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## Forward-Looking Information

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.

This presentation includes certain non-GAAP financial measures, including Adjusted EBITDA. These non-GAAP financial measures are not measures of financial performance in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and may exclude items that are significant in understanding and assessing our financial results. Therefore, these measures should not be considered in isolation or as an alternative to net income from operations, cash flows from operations, earnings per fully-diluted share or other measures of profitability, liquidity or performance under generally accepted accounting principles. You should be aware that our presentation of these measures may not be comparable to similarly-titled measures used by other companies. A reconciliation of these financial measures to the most comparable measures presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles has been included at the end of this presentation.

## ACI has outperformed the S&P 500 dramatically since 2000

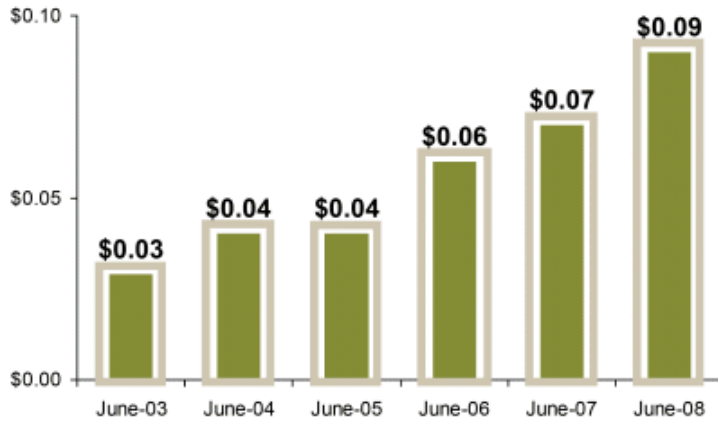




## ACI rewards shareholders with four dividend increases during past five years

### ACI Quarterly Dividend

(common stock dividend on June payable date)

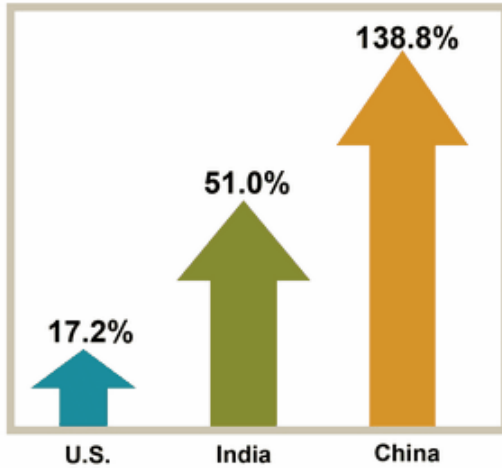


- Regular **increases** in quarterly dividend convey board's continued confidence in Arch's future earnings potential
- Beginning this quarter, shareholders will enjoy an increase of nearly **29%** or \$0.02 per share

## Energy demand soaring in developing world

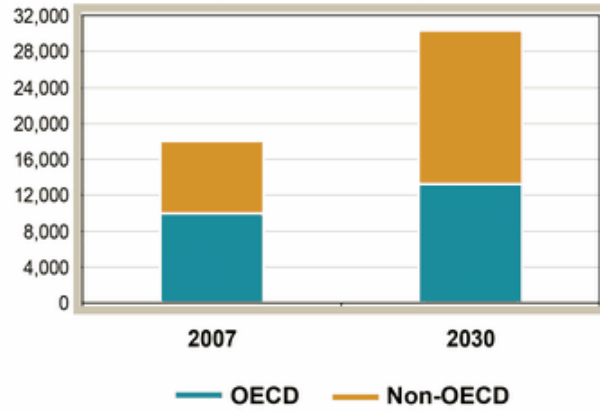
### Electricity Consumption 1995-2005

(percent change, billion kilowatt hours)



### Worldwide Electric Generation & Forecast

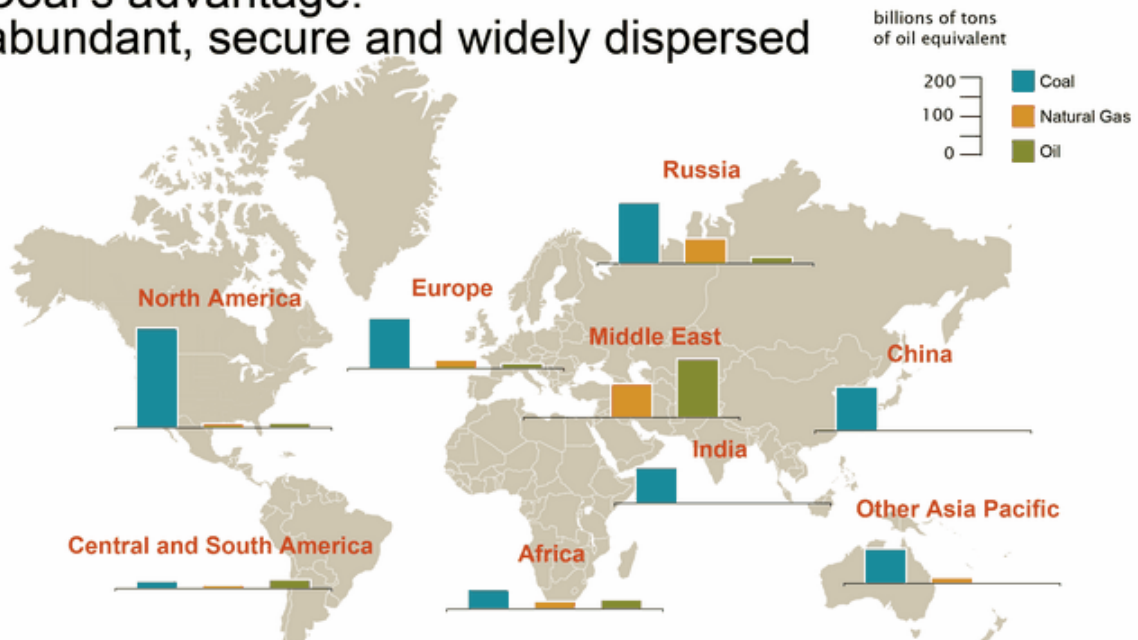
(billion kilowatt hours)



Electricity demand in developing nations will nearly **triple the growth rate** of the developed nations by 2030, as defined by membership in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)



## Coal's advantage: abundant, secure and widely dispersed

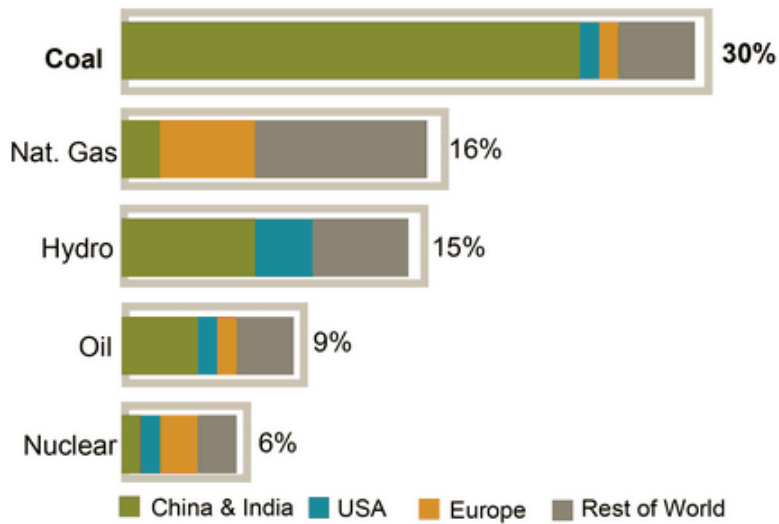


Based on current production levels and proven reserves, coal should outlast both gas supplies and oil reserves by **roughly 4 times**



## Coal has been the world's fastest-growing fuel source during the past five years

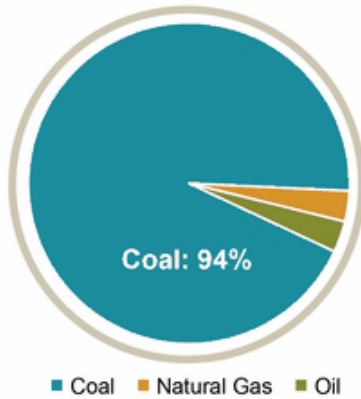
**Global Energy Consumption  
Cumulative Percent Change  
2001 – 2006**  
*(in million tonnes of oil equivalent)*



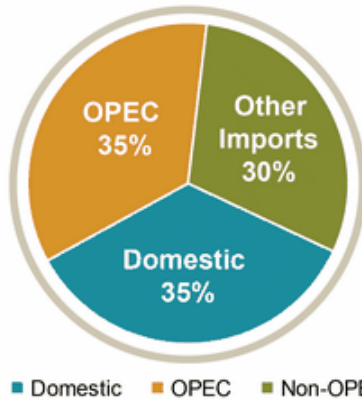
- **Fossil fuels** are expected to remain dominant global energy sources through 2030
- Growth in **coal demand** will be driven by energy consumption in the developing world, as well as with gains in the developed world

# Coal has a vital role in America's energy future

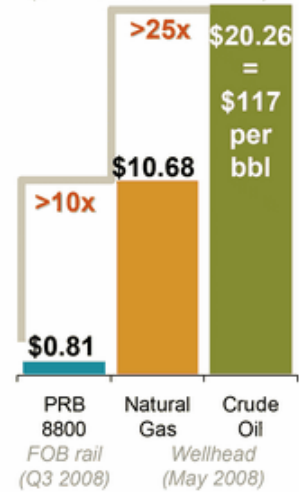
**U.S. Energy Reserves**  
(in trillion Btu)



**U.S. Petroleum Supply**  
(million barrels per day)

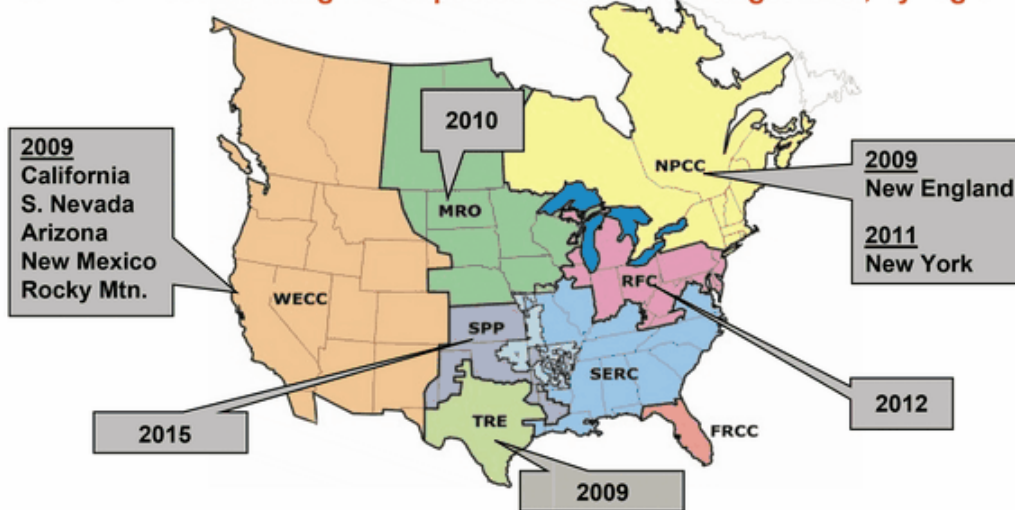


**U.S. Fuel Prices**  
(\$/million Btu at 4/18/08)



## Reserve margins for the U.S. power grid will fall below target levels without adequate investment

Year when reserve margin is expected to fall below target level, by region



America has long had one of the **world's most reliable power systems**. Without investment, that could soon change.



## Clean-coal technologies can broaden market demand for coal in the long term



A plug-in hybrid is one entry for coal into the transportation market

- Likely to create significant off-peak demand for electricity



Coal can be converted into transportation fuel

- At current oil prices, coal-to-liquids facilities are economically feasible



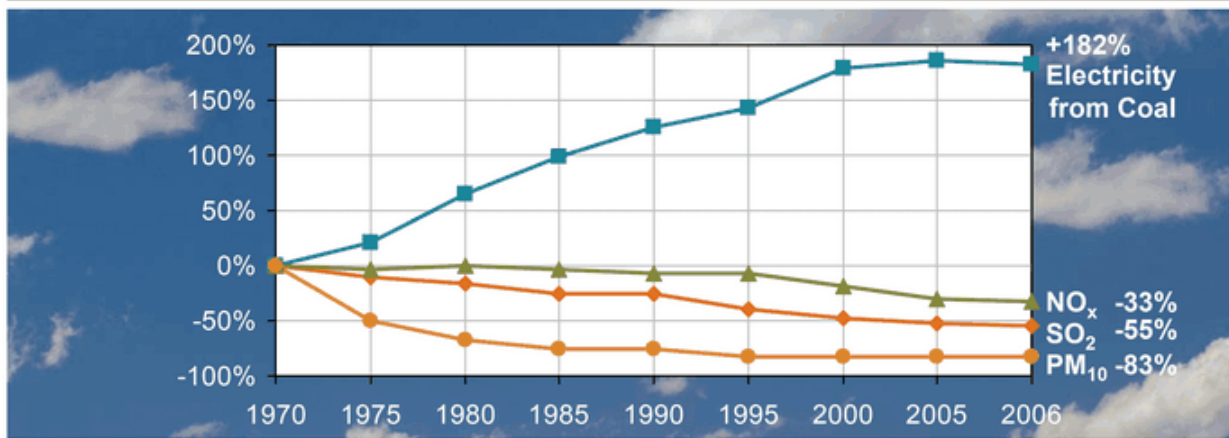
Gasification can reduce emissions and transform coal into pipeline-quality natural gas

- IGCC and CCS should enable coal to prosper in a carbon-constrained world

Public policy initiatives aimed at domestic energy security are spurring **debate** on energy legislation and **incentives** for clean-coal technology development



## Since 1970, coal has been used in increasingly clean ways in the United States



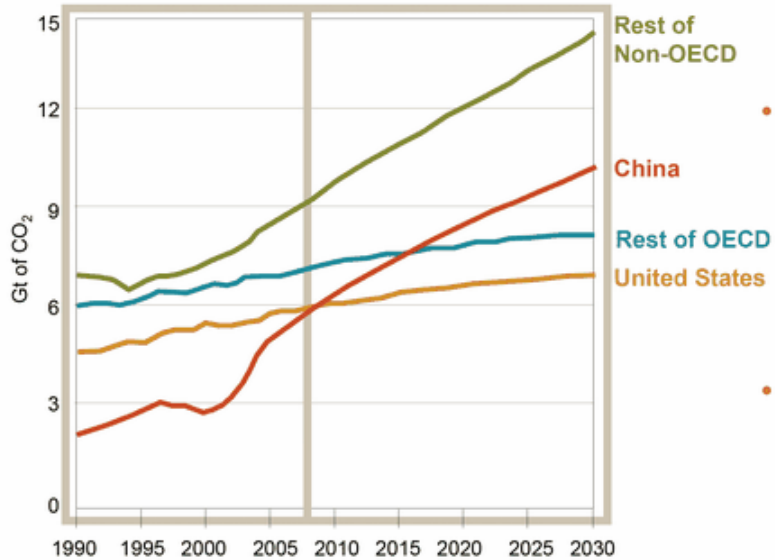
- More **progress** is expected under existing regulations
- Higher efficiency rates and **carbon capture technologies** create opportunities for reducing carbon intensity as well





## Developed nations must adopt climate solutions and export them to developing nations

**CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Trends**  
(1990 – 2030)



- China surpassed the U.S. in **GHG emissions** in 2007
- The growth rate of GHG emissions in **developing nations** is likely to significantly exceed that of developed nations
- Developed nations must invest in more **clean coal** technology research & development



## Explosive growth in international coal markets underscores the shortage of energy around the globe

### Americas

Americas expected to almost double net coal exports in 2008

- Driven by increase in exports from USA

Americas imports expected to decline from 2007 levels

- Driven by lower import levels into USA

### Europe/Africa

Europe/Africa should increase its net imports in 2008

- Significant export declines from South Africa
- Large switch from domestic to imported coal in Europe
- Coal production declines in Europe

### Asia/Pacific

Asia's net exports projected to decline significantly in 2008

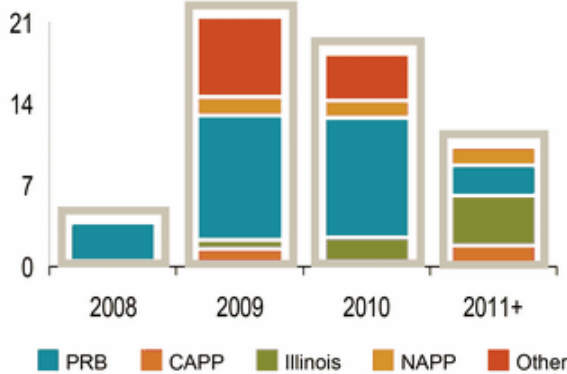
- Driven by strong economic growth in developing nations
- Severe supply constraints in traditional coal export nations

Global coal supply and demand flows suggest that the world is **short of coal** by 25 million to 35 million metric tonnes in 2008, with continued significant supply deficits through 2010



## Largest coal plant build-out since 1980 will meaningfully expand coal demand

**Anticipated Supply Region for Coal Plants Under Construction**  
(in millions of tons)



- Build-out of approximately 16.5 GW translates into **59 million** tons of new annual coal demand over next five years, with substantial increases in 2009 and 2010
- Arch's reserve base strategically positioned to service nearly **two-thirds** of these new plants
- Another 8 GW, representing an additional incremental **25 million** tons, is currently in advanced permitting stages



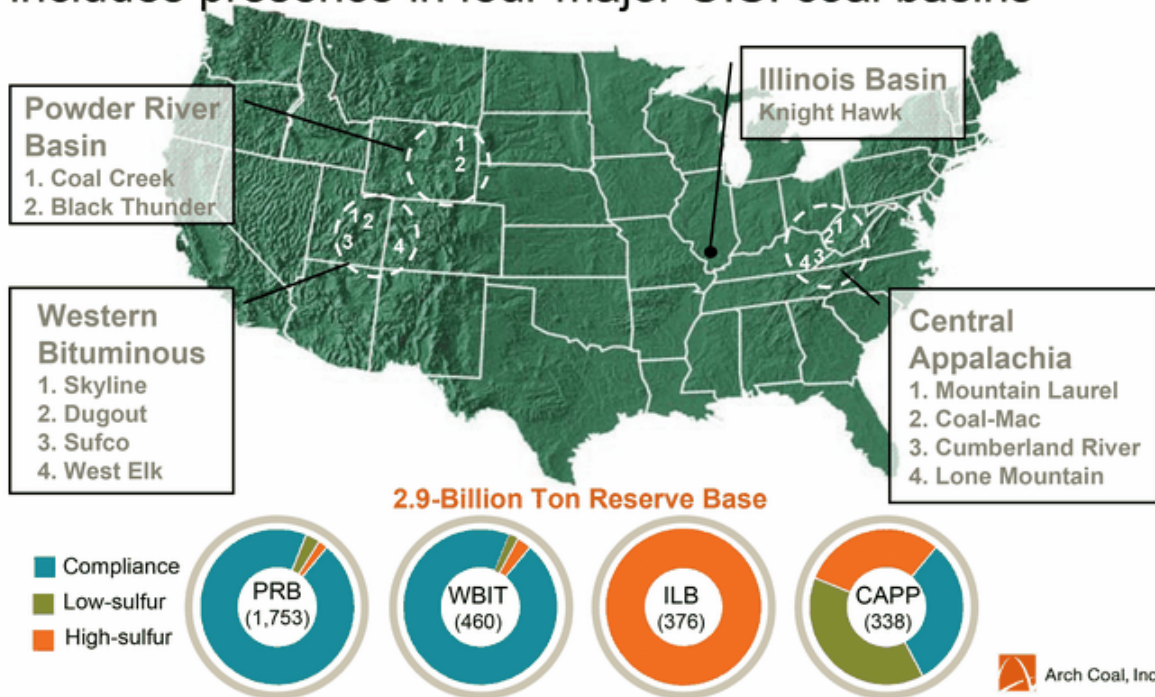
## Arch Coal is positioned for the future



- One of the **largest** coal producers in the U.S.
- Core business is **providing U.S. power generators** with cleaner-burning, low-sulfur coal for electric generation
  - Supplies roughly 12% of U.S. coal needs
  - Provides source fuel for roughly 6% of U.S. electricity
- Talented **workforce** operates large, modern mines
- Industry **leader** in mine safety, productivity and reclamation



## Arch's national scope of operations and reserve base includes presence in four major U.S. coal basins



## Arch's future success hinges on three key pillars of performance



### Operating the world's safest coal mines

- Awarded MSHA's Sentinels of Safety honor for operating the nation's safest underground coal mines in 2006 and 2007
- Ranked first among coal industry peers for safety performance last year
- 2007 was second-best year on record for total incident rate



### Acting as responsible citizens and good environmental stewards

- 2007 was best year for compliance in Arch history and best among peers
- Earned three National Good Neighbor Awards in past four years
- U.S. Department of Interior Award in 2007 for best surface reclamation



### Achieving superior financial results

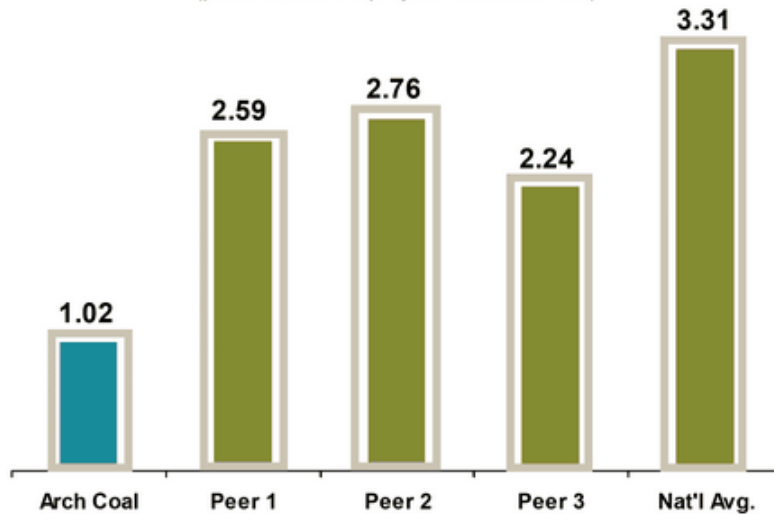
- 2007 was Arch's second-best financial performance on record
- Operated three of top eight most productive longwall mines last year
- Surface mines produced 170% more tons per employee shift than industry average in 2007



Arch Coal, Inc.

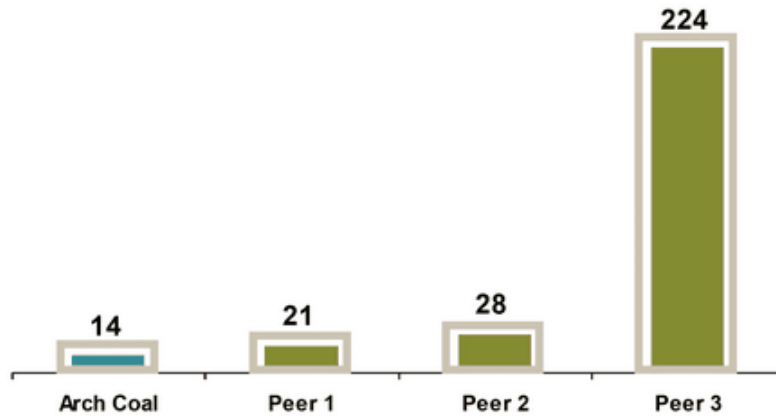
## Arch's safety performance is the best among the largest public coal companies

**Lost-Time Safety Incident Rate in 2007**  
(per 200,000 employee-hours worked)



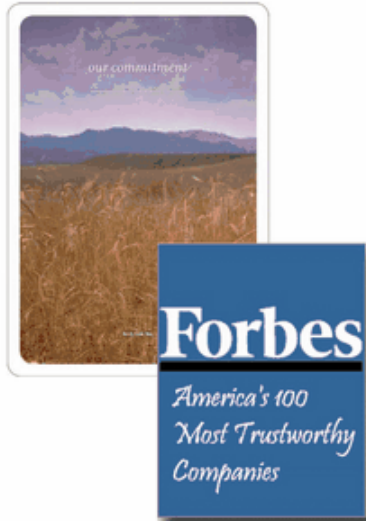
## Arch is committed to rigorous environmental compliance company-wide

**SMCRA Violations in 2007**  
*(notice of violation comparator group)*





## We're continuing to advance our goals and enhance our reputation



- **Good governance** provides a foundation for ethical practices and promotes corporate sustainability and shareholder trust
- Forbes recognized Arch as one of the 100 most **trustworthy** U.S. companies of 2008
- Arch Coal established the Arch Coal **Foundation** in 2006 with \$5 million
- Arch Coal's first social responsibility report was published in 2007 to elevate awareness of our efforts to **build a better tomorrow**
- Acting responsibly and with integrity is the **right thing to do** – for us and for future generations – and it's a central tenet in our long-term success



## Arch's mines are strategically positioned to capitalize on dynamic trends in coal markets

### Central Appalachia



- Timing of start-up of Mountain Laurel longwall in 2007 was advantageous
- Expect to ship 4.5 million tons into the global and domestic metallurgical and PCI markets in 2008

### Western Bituminous



- Export growth and supply pressures in eastern U.S. are boosting demand
- Arch benefits as largest producer
- Have signed significant export business

### Powder River Basin

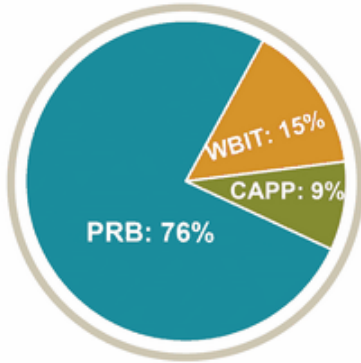


- Supply constraints in other regions and sufficient PRB rail capacity should pull coal east
- Arch will benefit from rising domestic prices
- In discussions to export PRB coal

## Arch's mine portfolio underscores value of diversity

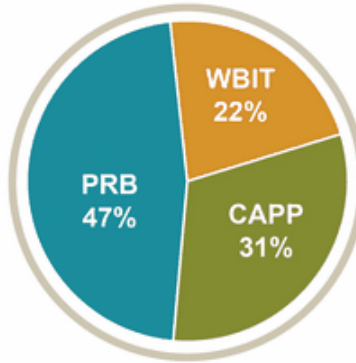
### 2007 ACI Coal Production

(percent of total tons by region)



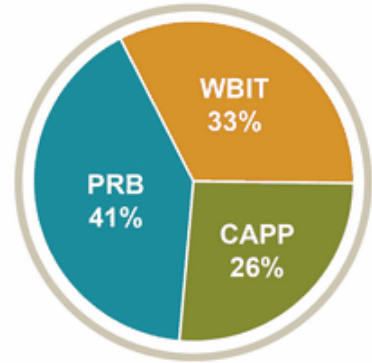
### 2007 ACI Revenue

(percent of total revenue by region)

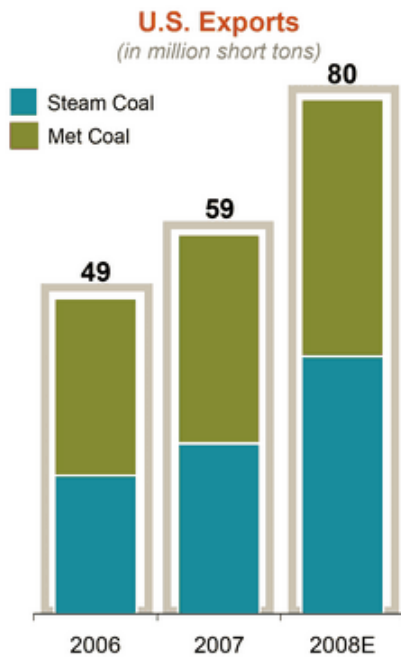


### 2007 ACI Income

(percent of segment income by region)



## Arch is taking decisive steps to capitalize on robust international coal markets



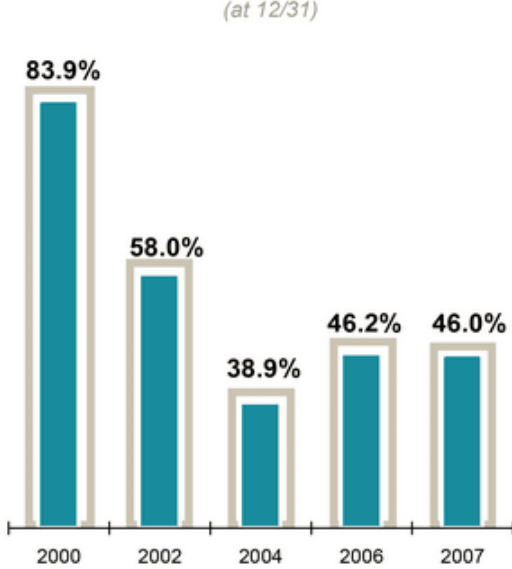
- Arch expects U.S. coal exports to **increase** meaningfully in 2008
  - U.S. coal increasingly valued for purposes of supply diversification
- Arch is well positioned to seize new opportunities in global markets
  - Leverage **diversity** of shipping options
  - Currently serving customers on **five continents**
  - Pursuing **high growth** opportunities
  - Selective approach to signing new contracts retains **upside** potential



## Arch has one of the industry's strongest and cleanest balance sheets

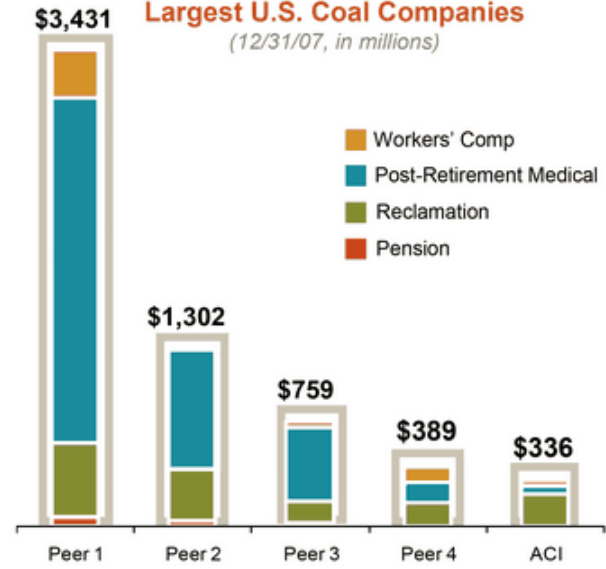
### Net Debt as Percentage of Capitalization

(at 12/31)



### Legacy Liabilities of Largest U.S. Coal Companies

(12/31/07, in millions)



 Arch Coal, Inc.

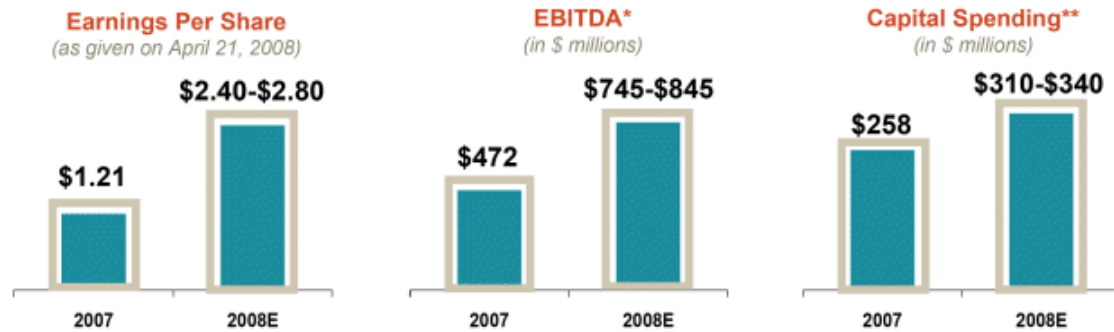
## Arch delivers strong first quarter 2008 results



- **Meaningful expansion** in revenues, earnings per share and adjusted EBITDA over prior-year period
  - Earnings per share increased 180%
  - Consolidated revenues increased 22%
  - EBITDA increased 75%



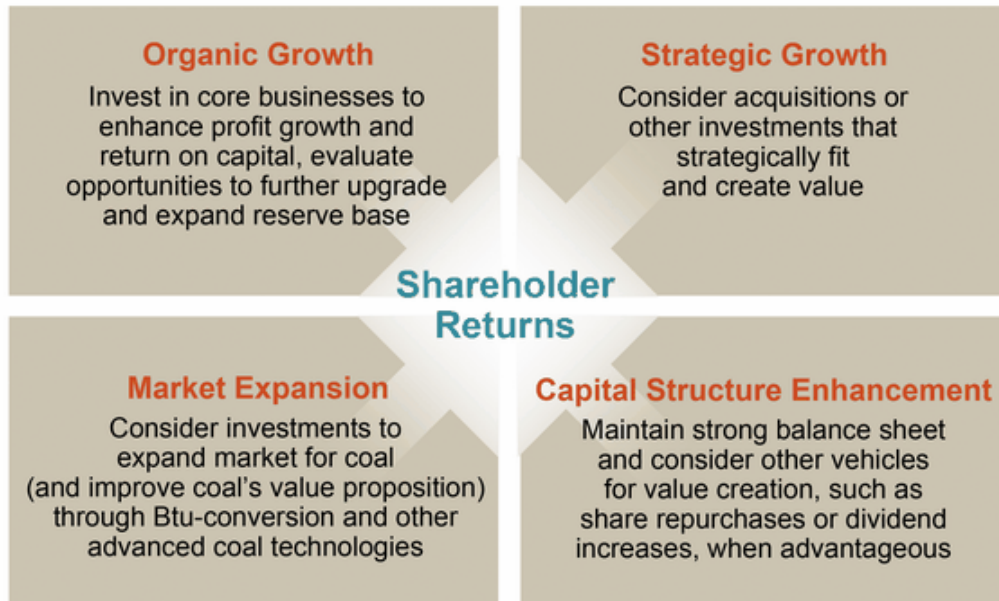
## For 2008, Arch expects a record performance and continued re-investment in core business



- Arch expects a **record performance** in 2008
- Continue to execute a **market-driven approach** with leverage to the upside potential in coal markets
  - Spend low-level of capital
  - Drive business efficiency



## Arch continuously evaluates all avenues for value creation





## EBITDA Reconciliation Chart

Included in the accompanying presentation, we have presented certain non-GAAP measures as defined by Regulation G. The following reconciles these items to net income as reported under GAAP.

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as net income before the effect of net interest expense; income taxes; our depreciation, depletion and amortization; expenses resulting from early extinguishment of debt; and other non-operating expenses. Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of financial performance in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and items excluded to calculate Adjusted EBITDA are significant in understanding and assessing our financial condition. Therefore, Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered in isolation nor as an alternative to net income, income from operations, cash flows from operations or as a measure of our profitability, liquidity or performance under generally accepted accounting principles. We believe that Adjusted EBITDA presents a useful measure of our ability to service and incur debt based on ongoing operations. Furthermore, analogous measures are used by industry analysts to evaluate operating performance. Investors should be aware that our presentation of Adjusted EBITDA may not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies. The table below shows how we calculate Adjusted EBITDA.

|  | Three Months Ended |            | Year Ended   | Targeted Results  |            |
|--|--------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------|------------|
|  | March 31,          |            | December 31, | Year Ended        |            |
|  | 2008               | 2007       | 2007         | December 31, 2008 |            |
|  |                    |            |              | Low               | High       |
| <i>(in \$000s)</i>                       |                    |            |              |                   |            |
| Net income                               | \$ 81,147          | \$ 28,724  | \$ 174,929   | \$ 348,000        | \$ 406,000 |
| Income tax expense                       | 15,240             | 4,650      | (19,850)     | 34,000            | 71,000     |
| Interest expense, net                    | 20,063             | 16,587     | 72,265       | 78,000            | 73,000     |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 73,042             | 57,620     | 242,062      | 285,000           | 295,000    |
| Non-operating expense                    | -                  | 902        | 2,273        | -                 | -          |
| Adjusted EBITDA                          | \$ 189,492         | \$ 108,483 | \$ 471,679   | \$ 745,000        | \$ 845,000 |



Source: ACI



Arch Coal, Inc.



## Annual Shareholder Meeting

Steve Leer, Chairman and CEO  
Arch Coal, Inc.

St. Louis, Missouri  
April 24, 2008

# News from Arch Coal, Inc.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:  
Media — Kim Link (314) 994-2936

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Arch Coal Announces Fourth Dividend Increase in Five Years**

ST. LOUIS (April 24, 2008) — Arch Coal, Inc. (NYSE:ACI) today announced that its board of directors has approved an increase in the quarterly cash dividend from \$0.07 per common share to \$0.09 per common share. The dividend is payable June 13, 2008 to shareholders of record on May 30, 2008.

“I’m pleased to announce Arch’s fourth dividend increase in the past five years,” said Steven F. Leer, chairman and chief executive officer of Arch Coal. “Today’s 29 percent dividend increase reflects the board’s confidence in Arch’s strong future prospects and rewards our shareholders for their continued investment.”

St. Louis-based Arch Coal is one of the nation’s largest coal producers, with revenues of \$2.4 billion in 2007. The company’s core business is providing U.S. power generators with cleaner-burning, low-sulfur coal for electric generation. Through its national network of mines, Arch supplies the fuel for roughly 6 percent of the electricity generated in the United States.

###

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