## FORM 4

obligations may continue. See

Instruction 1(b)

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington,	D.C.	20549
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STATEMENT OF CHA	ANGES IN BENEFICIA	L OWNERSHIP
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	OMB APPROVAL										
	OMB Number:	3235-0287									
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Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
The paradant to Section 10(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 133-
or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1040

Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Drexler John T.						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ ACI ]									5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)						
<u>Drexlei</u>	r John T.				1	···	1 00		110	2 [ 7101	. ]						Direct			10% Ov	
(Last)	(F	irst)	(Middle)		3. [	Date o	f Earlie	st Trar	nsacti	ion (Mon	nth/D	av/Year)			$\dashv$	X	below	r (give title )		Other (s	specily
(Last) (First) (Middle) ONE CITY PLACE							3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/15/2010								Sr. V.P. and CFO						
SUITE 3	300																				
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)												6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)									
(Street)	uc M		CD1 41												["	X	Form	filed by One	Rep	orting Perso	n
ST. LOU	015 M	.0	63141																e tha	n One Repo	rting
(City)	(S	tate)	(Zip)			Person															
		Tah	le I - Nor	n-Deriv	ative	Sec	ruriti		cani	ired D	ien	nsed (	of or	Bei	neficia	llv	Owner				
1 Title of 9	Security (Ins		10 1 - 1101	2. Trans		_	A. Dee			3.	7136				ed (A) or	<b>y</b>	5. Amou		6. O\	wnership	7. Nature
Date						ar) E	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Yea		e,	Transact	Fransaction Dispos Code (Instr. 5)		sed Of (D) (Instr. 3,			d	Securities Beneficially Owned Following		Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
									-	Code	,	Amount	nt (A) or (D)		Price		Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)				(Instr. 4)
		Т	able II - I	Derivat (e.g., p												y O	wned				
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Da	Date,		ansaction of		6. Date Exercisable a Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)				and 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)		Security	De	Price of rivative curity str. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	,	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Natur of Indirec Beneficia Ownersh (Instr. 4)	
		Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exe	e rcisable	Ex	piration te	Title		Amount or Number of Shares									
Phantom Stock	(1)	12/15/2010			A		6			(2)		(2)	Comn		6	\$	31.92	3,026		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 executive officer through the Arch Coal, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan"). The shares of phantom stock acquired by the executive officer represent dividends attributable to amounts that the executive officer 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 on the date or dates elected by the executive officer, subject to the terms of the Plan. The executive officer may transfer any and all of the phantom stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.

## Remarks:

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

**Fact** 

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

12/16/2010 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.