Form	SON JOHI n 5 uary 14, 20								
	DRM (OMB AF	PPROVAL		
	Check this boy no longer subj	UNIT	ED STATES	OMB Number: Expires:	3235-0362 January 31, 2005				
	to Section 16. Form 4 or For 5 obligations may continue. <i>See</i> Instruction		NNUAL ST	Estimated a burden hour response	verage				
	1(b).	Filed	17(a) of the	Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchang Public Utility Holding Company Act of of the Investment Company Act of 19	of 1935 or Section	1			
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>*</u> LORSON JOHN W			ting Person <u>*</u>	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer				
	(Last) E CITYPL	(First)	(Middle) √E	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2004	Director XOfficer (give below)		Owner er (specify		
		(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joi (check	int/Group Repo	-		
	LOUIS, Ì				_X_ Form Filed by C Form Filed by M Person				
((City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Ac	auired Disposed of	or Beneficial	ly Owned		

(City)	(State) (A	Table	e I - Non-Deri	vative Sec	uritie	s Acqui	ired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi Acquired Disposed (Instr. 3, Amount	l (A) o l of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/31/2004 <u>(1)</u>	Â	А	38	А	\$ <u>(1)</u>	198	I	By Plan

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information SEC 2270 contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5.6. Date Exercisable andNumberExpiration Dateof(Month/Day/Year)DerivativeSecuritiesSecuritiesAcquired(A) orDisposedof (D)(Instr. 3,4, and 5)		ate	Amou Unde Secur	rlying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. of D S B O Eı Is Fi (I
				(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
LORSON JOHN W ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	Â	Â	Controller	Â			
Signatures							
/s/ Janet L. Horgan, Attorney-in-Fact		02/14/200	5				

Signature of Reporting Person **Explanation of Responses:

- 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).

Date

Acquired on various dates in 2004 pursuant to periodic investments in Arch Coal Inc.'s 401(k) plan at prices from \$26.36 to \$39.00 per (1) share.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.