ARCH COAL INC Form 4 October 03, 2006

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 2005

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SANDS THEODORE D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(Check all applicable)

(First) (Middle) (Last)

(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

X_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE

09/29/2006

(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

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

below)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Security

(Instr. 3)

(City) (State) 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

(Zip)

4. Securities (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial Owned Ownership Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of		3. Transaction Date				6. Date Exercisable and		
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactionof		Expiration Date	Underlying Securities	Derivativ
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	Derivative	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)	Security
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Securities			(Instr. 5)

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Se	ecurity						sed 3, 4,					
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Phantom	(1)	09/29/2006		A		908		(2)	(2)	Common	908	\$ 28 9

Acquired

Stock

Reporting Owners

Derivative

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
reporting owner runner runners	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
SANDS THEODORE D ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	X						

Signatures

Stock

/s/ Gregory A. Billhartz,
Attorney-in-Fact

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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).
- 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 certain portions of the phantom stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space 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.

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