

ARCH COAL INC
Form 4
August 17, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BESTEN C HENRY JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE 300

(Street)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
08/15/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)

Senior VP-Strategic Dev.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 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

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. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D) Price		
Common Stock	08/15/2005		M		21,075 A \$ 22.6 0	D	
Common Stock	08/15/2005		M		13,600 A \$ 21.95 0	D	
Common Stock	08/15/2005		M		13,250 A \$ 22.875 0	D	
Common Stock	08/15/2005		M		3,690 A \$ 18.15 0	D	
Common Stock	08/15/2005		M		13,250 A \$ 27.875 5,826	D	

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Common Stock 08/15/2005 S 64,865 D \$ 61.711 14 I By 401(k) plan

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

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(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options	\$ 22.6	08/15/2005		M	21,075	<u>(1)</u> 04/25/2012	Common Stock 21,075
Employee Stock Options	\$ 21.95	08/15/2005		M	13,600	<u>(2)</u> 02/22/2011	Common Stock 13,600
Employee Stock Options	\$ 22.875	08/15/2005		M	13,250	<u>(3)</u> 07/22/2008	Common Stock 13,250
Employee Stock Options	\$ 18.15	08/15/2005		M	3,690	02/28/2005 02/29/2012	Common Stock 3,690
Employee Stock Options	\$ 27.875	08/15/2005		M	13,250	<u>(4)</u> 07/23/2007	Common Stock 13,250

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
BESTEN C HENRY JR ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE SUITE 300	Senior VP-Strategic Dev.

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Signatures

/s/ Janet L. Horgan,
Attorney-in-Fact

08/17/2005

__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).

(1) 7,025 shares vested on April 25, 2003; 7,025 shares vested on April 25, 2004; and 7,025 shares vested on April 25, 2005.

(2) 4,534 shares vested on February 22, 2002; 4,533 shares vested on February 22, 2003; and 4,533 shares vested on February 22, 2004.

(3) 4,417 shares vested on July 22, 1999; 4,417 shares vested on July 22, 2000; and 4,416 shares vested on July 22, 2001.

(4) 4,417 shares vested on July 23, 1998; 4,417 shares vested on July 23, 1999; and 4,416 shares vested on July 23, 2000.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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