ARCH COAL INC Form 4 January 02, 2008

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Expires: January 31, 2005

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

Check this box

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BESTEN C HENRY JR			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last)	(First) (Middle)		3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)			
ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE 300 (Street) ST. LOUIS, MO 63141			(Month/Day/Year) 01/02/2008	Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specification) below) Senior VP-Strategic Dev.			
			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Chec			
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zin)					

(City)	(State)	Tabl	e I - Non-D	Derivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securi	ties A	cquired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of	
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect Beneficial	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code				Beneficially	(D) or		
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)				Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership	
							Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)	
					(4)		Reported			
					(A)		Transaction(s)			
			C + V	A	or	ъ.	(Instr. 3 and 4)			
~			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price				
Common stock (1)	01/02/2008		S	2,000	D	\$ 45.14	24,775	D		

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

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

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

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	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Titl		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Transact Code (Instr. 8)	orNumber of Derivativ Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	:		Amou Under Securi (Instr.	lying	Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BESTEN C HENRY JR ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE SUITE 300 ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Senior VP-Strategic Dev.

Signatures

/s/ Gregory A. Billhartz Attorney-in-fact

01/02/2008

**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) The sale of shares of common stock by the executive officer reported on this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan. 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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