Lang Paul A Form 4 May 03, 2012

FORM 4

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.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

January 31, Expires: 2005 Estimated average

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations **SECURITIES**

burden hours per response... 0.5

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 * Lang Paul A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(Check all applicable)

(Last)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

Director 10% Owner

ONE CITY PLACE DRIVE, SUITE

(Street)

04/26/2012

(Month/Day/Year)

X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)

300

Executive VP & COO

4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Instr. 8)

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Person

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (T) (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A)

Reported Transaction(s) (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 Derivative Security

Conversion or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if any

4. 5. Number of **Transaction**Derivative Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr.	8)	Acquired (or Dispose (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	ed of				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options	\$ 9.62	04/26/2012		A		36,850		<u>(1)</u>	04/26/2022	Common Stock	36,850
Restricted Stock Units	\$ 9.62	04/26/2012		A		13,550		(2)	(3)	Common Stock	13,550

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
Renariing Owner Name / Anaress	

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Lang Paul A ONE CITY PLACE DRIVE SUITE 300

Executive VP & COO

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Signatures

/s/ Jon S. Ploetz, Attorney-in-Fact 05/03/2012

**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 options vest ratably over 3 years as follows: 12,284 shares vest on April 26, 2013; 12,283 shares vest on April 26, 2014; and 12,283 shares vest on April 26, 2015.
- (2) The reporting person received 13,550 restricted stock units on April 26, 2012. The restricted stock units vest on April 26, 2015.
- (3) The restricted stock units do not expire.

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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