

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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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 Price (D)		
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
BESTEN C HENRY JR ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE SUITE 300	Director 10% Owner Officer Senior VP-Strategic Dev. Other

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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