

ARCH COAL INC  
Form 8-K  
January 05, 2006

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549**

**FORM 8-K  
CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): January 5, 2006 (January 5, 2006)**

**Arch Coal, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|   |                                     |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Delaware<br>(State or other jurisdiction of<br>incorporation) | 1-13105<br>(Commission File Number) | 43-0921172<br>(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|

CityPlace One  
One CityPlace Drive, Suite 300  
St. Louis, Missouri 63141

(Address, including zip code, of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 994-2700

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On January 5, 2006, Arch Coal, Inc. announced that it had completed a reserve swap with a subsidiary of Peabody Energy and sold to Peabody a rail spur, rail loadout and idle office complex for a purchase price of \$84.6 million. A copy of the press release announcing the transaction is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is hereby incorporated by reference.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibit is attached hereto and filed herewith.

| Exhibit<br>No. | Description                          |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 99.1           | Press release dated January 5, 2006. |

**Signatures**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: January 5, 2006

Arch Coal, Inc.

By: /s/ Robert J. Messey  
Robert J. Messey  
Senior Vice President and Chief  
Financial Officer

**Exhibit Index**

| Exhibit<br>No. | Description                          |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 99.1           | Press release dated January 5, 2006. |