Jones J. Thomas Form 4 January 04, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB

3235-0287 Number: January 31,

2005 Estimated average

0.5

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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, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Jones J. Thomas

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Last)

(Middle)

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(Check all applicable)

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

12/31/2010

X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE

(Street)

(First)

300

4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Instr. 8)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

below)

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)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (I)

Following Reported

Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A) or

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

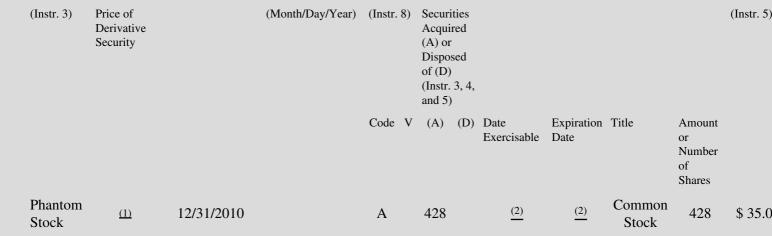
Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of 8. Price Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transactionof **Expiration Date Underlying Securities** Derivati Security or Exercise any Code Derivative (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4) Security

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Jones J. Thomas ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE SUITE 300 ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	X			

Signatures

/s/ Jon S. Ploetz, Attorney-in-Fact

**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).
- Each share of phantom stock represents a right to receive the value in cash of one share of Arch Coal, Inc. common stock. The shares of phantom stock are held by the director through the Arch Coal, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the "Plan") and represent past compensation that the director elected to defer under the Plan into a hypothetical investment in shares of Arch Coal, Inc. common stock and/or dividends attributable to such deferred amounts.
- (2) Shares of phantom stock are payable in cash following termination of the director's service as a director of Arch Coal, Inc. The director may transfer amounts held in the phantom stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.

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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