Jones J. Thomas Form 4 September 19, 2011

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

7. Nature of

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

Indirect

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per response...

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

SECURITIES

Form 5 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

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

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

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

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

(Check all applicable)

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE 300

(Street)

09/15/2011

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of 6. Ownership Securities Form: Direct Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial Owned (I) (Instr. 4) Following

Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

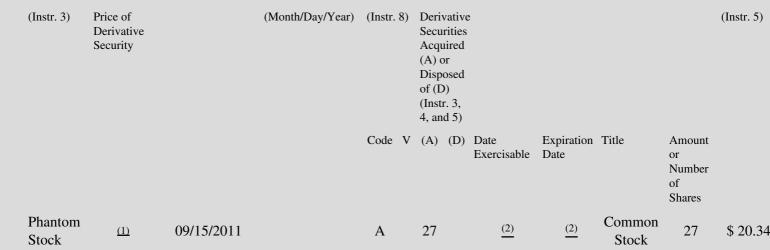
Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
1 8	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 09/19/2011

**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 certain portions of 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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