

BESTEN C HENRY JR

Form 4

January 18, 2005

FORM 4
UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(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)

01/14/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)

Senior VP-Strategic Dev.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
__X__ 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price		
Common Stock	01/14/2005		A		913	A	\$ 34.9	913	D
Common Stock	01/14/2005		A		0	A	\$ 0	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)

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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 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)	8. Price or Value of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)
Restricted Stock Units	(1)	01/14/2005		M	913	(2) (3)	Common Stock	913 \$ 34

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
BESTEN C HENRY JR ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE SUITE 300 ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	Director 10% Owner Officer Other Senior VP-Strategic Dev.

Signatures

/s/ Janet L. Horgan,
Attorney-in-Fact
01/18/2005
**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) 1-for-1
- (2) Vested on January 14, 2005 based on the closing price of Arch Coal, Inc.'s common stock on January 14, 2005.
- (3) There is no expiration date for the Restricted Stock Units.

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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