ARCH COAL INC Form 4 May 23, 2008

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 2005

10% Owner

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * PERRY A MICHAEL

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(Check all applicable)

(First) (Last)

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

Officer (give title Other (specify

05/20/2008

below)

(Middle)

Applicable Line)

X_ Director

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

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

(Instr. 4)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

1.Title of

Security

(Instr. 3)

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Street)

4. Securities

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially

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

(Instr. 4)

(9-02)

(Month/Day/Year)

TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

> Following Reported

Owned

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

(A)

or

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

Persons who respond to the collection of **SEC 1474** information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

Edgar Filing: ARCH COAL INC - Form 4

Derivative (A) or Security Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Code V (A) (D) Date **Expiration Title** Amount Exercisable Date or Number of Shares

Phantom Stock (1) 05/20/2008 05/23/2008 D 8,435 (2) (2) Common Stock 8,435 \$ 60

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

PERRY A MICHAEL

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE X

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Signatures

/s/ Gregory A. Billhartz, Attorney-in-Fact 05/23/2008

**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.

Reporting Owners 2