PERRY A MICHAEL

Form 4

December 16, 2011

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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may continue.

Check this box

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

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

below)

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(Check all applicable)

(First) (Middle) (Last)

(Street)

(State)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

X_ Director Officer (give title

10% Owner Other (specify

(Month/Day/Year)

12/15/2011

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

Person

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

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

(Zip)

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

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

(City)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

or Code V Amount (D) Price

(A)

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 Derivative Conversion Security or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

4. Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

Transactionof Code Derivative (Instr. 8) Securities

5. Number 6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8. Price **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

Derivati Security (Instr. 5)

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S	ecurity				(A) or Dispo of (D) (Instr. and 5)	sed 3, 4,					
			Code	V	(A)		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Phantom	<u>(1)</u>	12/15/2011	A		250		(2)	(2)	Common	250	\$ 14.0

Acquired

Stock

Reporting Owners

Derivative

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
PERRY A MICHAEL ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	X							

Signatures

Stock

/s/ Robert G. Jones,
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"). The shares of phantom stock acquired by the director represent dividends attributable to amounts that the director elected to defer under the Plan into a hypothetical investment in shares of Arch Coal, Inc. common stock.
- (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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