EAVES JOHN W Form 4 January 03, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

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SECURITIES may continue.

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **EAVES JOHN W** Issuer Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) _X__ Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title _ Other (specify ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE 12/30/2011 below) President & COO (Street) 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 ST. LOUIS, MO 63141 Person

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	le I - Non-D	Derivative S	Securi	ties Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securition(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	sposed	of (D)	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)
Common Stock	12/30/2011		$M_{\underline{(1)}}$	71,900	A	\$ 9.08	179,507	D	
Common Stock	12/30/2011		S <u>(1)</u>	71,900	D	\$ 14.23	107,607	D	
Common Stock							9,567	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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number.

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 onDerivative 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)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 9.08	12/30/2011		M <u>(1)</u>	71,900	(2)	02/29/2012	Common Stock	71,900

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
toporting of their runner, reducess	Director	Director 10% Owner Officer		Other			
EAVES JOHN W ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	X		President & COO				

Signatures

/s/ Jon S. Ploetz, Attorney-in-Fact 01/03/2012

**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) The transactions were made pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person.
- The reporting person received 71,900 stock options on February 28, 2002. The stock options vested as follows: 17,975 stock options (2) vested on February 28, 2003; 17,975 stock options vested on February 29, 2004; 17,975 stock options vested on February 28, 2005; and 17,975 stock options vested on February 28, 2006.

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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