Cochran Kenneth D. Form 3 August 13, 2012 FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0104

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and A Person <u>*</u> Cochran	1	U	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI]				
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	08/09/2012	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	
ONE CITYI	PLACE						× • • •	
DRIVE, S	UITE 300			(Check all applicable)				
(Street) ST. LOUIS, MO 63141				Director 10% Owner Officer Other (give title below) (specify below) Sr. VP - Operations			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One	
							Reporting Person	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - N	Non-Derivat	tive Securiti	ies Bei	neficially Owned	
1.Title of Secu (Instr. 4)	rity		2. Amount o Beneficially (Instr. 4)		3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nat Owne (Instr.	.	
Common St	ock		17,500		D	Â		
Reminder: Rep owned directly	-	ate line for ea	ach class of securities benefic	ially S	SEC 1473 (7-02	2)		
	inform	nation conta	pond to the collection of ained in this form are not and unless the form displ					

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

currently valid OMB control number.

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of	5. Ownership Form of Derivative	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
		Title	Derivative	Security:	
			Security	Direct (D)	

January 31,

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Options	(1)	02/22/2017	Common Stock	7,500	\$ 32.99	D	Â
Employee Stock Options	(2)	02/21/2018	Common Stock	7,850	\$ 52.69	D	Â
Employee Stock Options	(3)	02/19/2019	Common Stock	10,050	\$ 14.05	D	Â
Employee Stock Options	(4)	02/18/2020	Common Stock	7,600	\$ 22.65	D	Â
Employee Stock Options	(5)	02/24/2021	Common Stock	5,200	\$ 32.49	D	Â
Employee Stock Options	(6)	02/23/2022	Common Stock	21,650	\$ 13.93	D	Â
Restricted Stock Units	(7)	(8)	Common Stock	8,600	\$ 13.93	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Cochran Kenneth D. ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE SUITE 300 ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	Â	Â	Sr. VP - Operations	Â		
Signatures						
/s/ Ion S Plaetz						

/s/ Jon S. Ploetz,

08/13/2012 Attorney-in-Fact **Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- The reporting person received 7,500 stock options on February 22, 2007. The stock options vested ratably over 3 years as follows: 2,500 (1)shares vested on February 22, 2008; 2,500 shares vested on February 22, 2009; and 2,500 shares vested on February 22, 2010.
- The reporting person received 7,850 stock options on February 21, 2008. The stock options vested ratably over 3 years as follows: 2,617 (2)shares vested on February 21, 2009; 2,617 shares vested on February 21, 2010; and 2,616 shares vested on February 21, 2011.

The reporting person received 10,050 stock options on February 19, 2009. The stock options vest ratably over 4 years as follows: 2,513 (3) shares vested on February 19, 2010; 2,513 shares vested on February 19, 2011; 2,512 shares vested on February 19, 2012; and 2,512 shares will vest on February 19, 2013.

The reporting person received 7,600 stock options on February 18, 2010. The stock options vest ratably over 4 years as follows: 1,900 (4) shares vested on February 18, 2011; 1,900 shares vested on February 18, 2012; 1,900 shares will vest on February 18, 2013; and 1,900 shares will vest on February 18, 2014.

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- (5) The reporting person received 5,200 stock options on February 24, 2011. The stock options vest ratably over 3 years as follows: 1,734 shares vested on February 24, 2012; 1,733 shares will vest on February 24, 2013; and 1,733 shares will vest on February 24, 2014.
- (6) The reporting person received 21,650 stock options on February 23, 2012. The stock options vest ratably over 3 years as follows: 7,217 shares will vest on February 23, 2013; 7,217 shares will vest on February 23, 2014; and 7,216 shares will vest on February 24, 2015.
- (7) The reporting person received 8,600 restricted stock units on February 23, 2012. The restricted stock units vest on February 23, 2015.
- (8) The resricted stock units do not expire.

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.