Cochran Kenneth D. Form 4 August 13, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

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

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Cochran Kenneth D.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

below)

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE

(Street)

300

Security

(Instr. 3)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Sr. VP - Operations 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

08/09/2012

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

below)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

(City) (State) (Zip) 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year)

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

5. Amount of 6. Ownership Securities Form: Direct Beneficially Owned (T) Following

7. Nature of Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

(A)

Reported Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)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 4. 5. Number of 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if **Transaction**Derivative **Expiration Date Underlying Securities** Security or Exercise any Code Securities (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr.	8)	Acquired (or Dispose (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	ed of				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options	\$ 7.42	08/09/2012		A		27,650		<u>(1)</u>	08/08/2022	Common Stock	27,650
Restricted Stock Units	\$ 7.42	08/09/2012		A		14,550		(2)	(3)	Common Stock	14,550

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Officer Other Director 10% Owner

Cochran Kenneth D.

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE

Sr. VP - Operations **SUITE 300**

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Signatures

/s/ Jon S. Ploetz, 08/13/2012 Attorney-in-Fact

**Signature of Reporting Person

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).
- The options vest ratably over 3 years as follows: 9,217 shares vest on August 9, 2013; 9,217 shares vest on August 9, 2014; and 9,216 shares vest on August 9, 2015.
- (2) On August 9, 2012, the reporting person received 14,550 restricted stock units. All of these restricted stock units vest on August 9, 2015.
- (3) The restricted 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.

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