

ARCH COAL INC  
Form 8-K  
October 25, 2005

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 8-K  
CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 24, 2005 (October 24, 2005)**

**Arch Coal, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

1-13105

43-0921172

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

One CityPlace Drive, Suite 300, St. Louis, Missouri 63141

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 994-2700

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act

Act (17 CFR  
240.13e-4(c))

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**Item 2.02 Result of Operations and Financial Conditions**

See the Exhibit Index at page 4 of this Report.

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure**

On October 24, 2005, Arch Coal, Inc. (the Company ), announced via press release its earnings and operating results for the third quarter of 2005. A copy of the Company s press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

99.1 Press Release dated October 24, 2005

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: October 24, 2005

ARCH COAL, INC.

By: /s/ ROBERT G. JONES  
Robert G. Jones  
Vice President -- Law, General Counsel  
and Secretary

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release dated as of October 24, 2005  
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