ARCH COAL INC Form 4 March 17, 2006

### FORM 4

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

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

Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* SANDS THEODORE D

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

(First) (Middle) (Last)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 03/15/2006

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE

300

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X\_ Director

Officer (give title

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

10% Owner

Other (specify

Issuer

below)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)

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

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 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 (I) Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

**OMB APPROVAL** 

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

**OMB** 

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

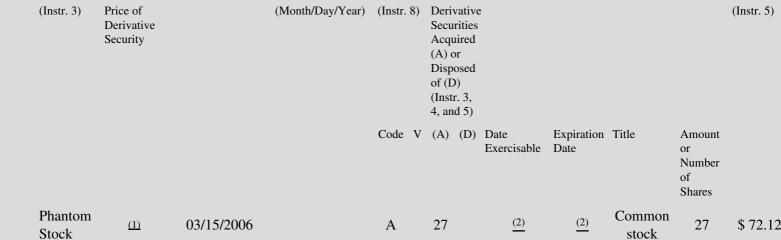
Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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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 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 5. 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of 8. Price of Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionNumber **Expiration Date Underlying Securities** Derivative Security or Exercise any Code of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4) Security

#### Edgar Filing: ARCH COAL INC - Form 4



#### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SANDS THEODORE D
ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE 300 X
ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

### **Signatures**

Gregory A. Billhartz, 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 certain portions of 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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