Taylor Wes M Form 4 February 27, 2012

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

Check this box if no longer

subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 Address of Reporting Person *

Taylor Wes M

(First) (Middle) (Last)

ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE

(Street)

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

ARCH COAL INC [ACI] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

02/23/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

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

below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Ownership

Form: Direct

(Instr. 4)

(D) or Indirect Beneficial

Person

5. Amount of

Securities

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Instr. 3)

(Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8)

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Beneficially Owned Following 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.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

7. Nature of

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

Indirect

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

1. Title of Derivative Conversion Security or Exercise (Instr. 3) Price of

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

5. Number 4. Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired

6. Date Exercisable and (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8. Pr **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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Derivative (A) or Security Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Code V (A) (D) Date Expiration Title Amount Exercisable Date or Number of Shares Restricted Common (1) (2) Stock \$ 13.93 02/23/2012 Α 2,500 2,500 Stock Units

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Taylor Wes M
ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE X
ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Signatures

/s/ Jon S. Ploetz, Attorney-in-Fact 02/27/2012

**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 reporting person received 2500 restricted stock units on February 23, 2012. The restricted stock units vest upon the retirement of the reporting person.
- (2) 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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