
UNITED STATES
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):

December 11, 2006

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) 994-2725

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

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 (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

On December 7, 2006, the Board of Directors of Arch Coal, Inc. (the "Company") elected Paul A. Lang as Senior Vice President – Operations. Mr. Lang has led the Company's western operations as President of Arch Western Resources, LLC since 2005. Mr. Lang joined the Company in 1984, serving as general manager for the Company's Powder River Basin and southern Wyoming operations from 1998 to 2005.

Prior to his election, Mr. Lang was already party to an employment agreement with the Company. The material terms of the employment agreement have been described by the Company in Item 5.02 of its Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 16, 2006, which description is incorporated herein by this reference.

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On December 11, 2006, the Company issued a press release announcing the election described above. A copy of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and is hereby incorporated by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

The following exhibit is attached hereto and filed herewith.

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press release dated December 11, 2006

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.

Arch Coal, Inc.

December 11, 2006

By: *Robert G. Jones*

Name: Robert G. Jones

Title: Vice President - Law, General Counsel and Secretary

Exhibit Index

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press release dated December 11, 2006.

News from Arch Coal, Inc.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Kim Link 314/994-2936

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, December 11, 2006

Arch Coal Elects Lang as Senior Vice President of Operations

ST. LOUIS – Arch Coal, Inc. (NYSE:ACI) today announced that its board of directors has elected Paul A. Lang as senior vice president of operations. Lang most recently led Arch’s western operations as president of Arch Western Resources LLC.

“Paul has done an outstanding job leading Arch’s western operations during a period of tremendous growth and change,” said John Eaves, president and chief operating officer of Arch Coal. “We think Paul is ideally suited to help Arch extend its industry leading position in safety, environmental stewardship and productivity.”

Lang will continue to report to Eaves. Reporting to Lang are Bob Shanks, president of Eastern operations; Gene DiClaudio, president of Arch Western Bituminous Region; Ken Cochran, president of Thunder Basin Coal Co.; and Jim Kliche, director of operations support.

Lang joined Arch in 1984 and has held various engineering, operations and management positions at the company’s operations in both the eastern and western United States, including general manager of Arch’s Powder River Basin and southern Wyoming operations from 1998-2005. He graduated from the University of Missouri-Rolla in 1983 with a B.S. in mining engineering and is a licensed professional engineer in several states. He also is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University.

St. Louis-based Arch Coal is the nation’s second largest coal producer. The company’s core business is providing U.S. power generators with clean-burning, low-sulfur coal for electric generation. Through its national network of mines, Arch supplies the fuel for approximately 6 percent of the electricity generated in the United States.

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