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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):

May 19, 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 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On May 19, 2006, Arch Coal, Inc. ("Arch") issued a press release announcing the adoption by Steven F. Leer, its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, of a plan to sell a portion of the Arch common stock and stock options beneficially owned by him pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). A copy of the press release is furnished with this report as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated by reference herein.

In accordance with General Instruction B.2 of Form 8-K, the information contained in Item 7.01 and the exhibits attached to this Current Report shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall they be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibit is attached hereto and filed herewith.

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press release dated May 19, 2006.

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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.

Arch Coal, Inc.

May 19, 2006

By: */s/ Robert G. Jones*

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*Name: Robert G. Jones*

*Title: Vice President - Law, General Counsel and Secretary*

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Exhibit Index

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release dated May 19, 2006

# News from Arch Coal, Inc.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

**Kim Link**  
External Affairs  
(314) 994-2936

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Friday, May 19, 2006**

## **Arch Coal Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Adopts 10b5-1 Plan**

ST. LOUIS (May 19, 2006) – Arch Coal, Inc. (NYSE:ACI) today announced that Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Steven F. Leer has adopted a plan to sell a portion of his company stock as part of a planned sales program. The program allows Mr. Leer to diversify his asset portfolio by providing for the sale of shares of Arch Coal common stock in connection with exercises of vested stock options set to expire during 2006.

Other Arch Coal officers and directors may also adopt 10b5-1 plans at their discretion. Arch Coal does not undertake to report 10b5-1 plans that may be adopted by its officers or directors in the future, or to report any modifications or terminations of any publicly announced plan, except to the extent required by law.

St. Louis-based Arch Coal is the second largest coal producer in the United States. Through its subsidiary operations in Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, West Virginia, Kentucky and Virginia, Arch Coal provides the fuel for approximately 6% of the electricity generated in the United States.

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