

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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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): August 11, 1998

Arch Coal, Inc.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	1-13105 (Commission File Number)	43-0921172 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
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CityPlace One, (Address of principal executive offices)	Suite 300, Creve Coeur, Missouri	63141 (Zip code)
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Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 994-2700

Item 5. OTHER EVENTS.

Ashland, Inc. ("Ashland") has advised Arch Coal, Inc. ("Arch Coal") that due to market conditions Ashland will not offer up to 2.1 million shares of its Arch Coal common stock in an underwritten public offering. Arch Coal and Ashland earlier announced that Ashland had exercised its demand registration rights under an April 4, 1997, registration rights agreement to register the Arch Coal common stock, the sale of which would have reduced Ashland's ownership interest in Arch Coal from approximately 55% to less than 50%.

(c) The following Exhibits are filed with or incorporated by reference as part of this Current Report on Form 8-K: NONE

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: August 11, 1998 ARCH COAL, INC.

By: /s/ Jeffry N. Quinn

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Jeffry N. Quinn  
Senior Vice President -  
Law & Human Resources,  
General Counsel and Secretary