

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* WOODRING KENNETH G (Last) (First) (Middle) ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE (Street) ST. LOUIS MO 63141 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Exec. VP-Mining Operations
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 10/21/2004	
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/21/2004		M		18,550	A	\$22.6	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/21/2004		S		16,400	D	\$34	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/21/2004		S		2,150	D	\$33.5	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/21/2004		M		9,300	A	\$21.95	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/21/2004		S		9,300	D	\$33.5	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/21/2004		M		21,350	A	\$18.15	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/21/2004		S		16,400	D	\$33.25	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/21/2004		S		4,950	D	\$33.5	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/22/2004		M		13,600	A	\$22.875	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/22/2004		S		13,600	D	\$34.5	0	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/22/2004		M		2,800	A	\$22.6	11,107	D	
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	10/22/2004		S		2,800	D	\$34.5	2,378	I	By 401(k) plan

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Employee Stock Options	\$22.6	10/21/2004		M			18,550	04/25/2003	04/25/2012	Common Stock	18,550	\$22.6	0	D	
Employee Stock Options	\$21.95	10/21/2004		M			9,300	02/22/2004	02/22/2011	Common Stock	9,300	\$21.95	0	D	
Employee Stock Options	\$18.15	10/21/2004		M			21,350	02/29/2004	02/29/2012	Common Stock	21,350	\$18.15	21,350	D	
Employee Stock Options	\$22.875	10/22/2004		M			13,600	07/22/2001	07/22/2008	Common Stock	13,600	\$22.875	1,400	D	
Employee Stock Options	\$22.6	10/22/2004		M			2,800	04/25/2004	04/25/2012	Common Stock	2,800	\$22.6	0	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. Cashless exercise of employee stock options pursuant to pre-existing 10b5-1 plan

Remarks:

/s/ Janet L. Horgan, Attorney-
in-Fact

10/25/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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 Number.