

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Arch Coal, Inc.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share

(Title of Class of Securities)

039380 10 0

(CUSIP Number)

The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

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SCHEDULE 13G

CUSIP No. 039380 10 0

1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY)	
	Hunt Coal Corporation 75-2559684 -----	
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*	(a) [] (b) [x] -----
3	SEC USE ONLY	
4	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION	Texas -----
	NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH	
	5 SOLE VOTING POWER	2,199,659
	6 SHARED VOTING POWER	--0--
	7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	2,199,659
	8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	--0--
9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY	2,199,659

OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN
ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES

[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY
AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

5.5%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

C0

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SCHEDULE 13G
CUSIP NO. 039380 10 0

Pursuant to Rule 13d-1 and 13d-2 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the undersigned hereby files this Schedule 13G.

- Item 1. (a) The name of the Issuer is Arch Coal, Inc.
- (b) The address of the Issuer's principal executive offices is CityPlace One, Suite 300, Creve Coeur, Missouri 63141.
- Item 2. (a) The name of the person filing this report is Hunt Coal Corporation (the "Reporting Person").
- (b),(c) The address of the principal place of business of the Reporting Person is 5000 Thanksgiving Tower, Dallas, Texas 75201. The Reporting Person is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas.
- (d),(e) This report relates to the Common Stock of Arch Coal, Inc. CUSIP No. 039380 10 0.

Item 3. Not applicable.

Item 4. Ownership

- (a) The Reporting Person may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of 2,199,659 shares of the Common Stock of the Issuer. The filing of this report shall not be construed as an admission that the Reporting Person is, for purposes of Section 13(d) or 13(g) of the Act, the beneficial owner of these securities.
- (b) The shares covered by this report represent 5.5% of the Common Stock of the Issuer.
- (c) The Reporting Person has sole voting and dispositive power over the 2,199,659 shares owned by it.

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

Not applicable.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on
Behalf of Another Person

Not applicable.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary
which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the
Parent Holding Company

Not applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of the Members
of the Group

Not applicable.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not applicable.

Item 10. Certification

Not applicable.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

HUNT COAL CORPORATION

February 9, 1998

By: /s/ James L. Parker

James L. Parker
President