BESTEN C HENRY JR

Form 4

December 08, 2010

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB Number:

3235-0287 January 31,

2005

0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Expires: Estimated average

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Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BESTEN C HENRY JR			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ARCH COAL INC [ACI]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
			(Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% Owner		
ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE, SUITE			12/07/2010	_X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)		
300				Senior VP-Strategic Dev.		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line)		
ST. LOUIS, MO 63141				_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reportin Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	e I - Non-D	erivative (Securi	ities Acqu	iired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securit	ies Ac	quired	5. Amount of	6.	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	n(A) or Di	sposed	of (D)	Securities	Ownership	Indirect
(Instr. 3)		any	Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Beneficially	Form: Direct	Beneficial	
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)				Owned	(D) or	Ownership
							Following	Indirect (I)	(Instr. 4)
					(A)		Reported	(Instr. 4)	
					or		Transaction(s)		
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	12/07/2010		M	11,650	A	\$ 14.05	11,650	D	
Common Stock	12/07/2010		S	11,650	D	\$ 34.08	0	D	

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

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative 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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Options (right to buy)	\$ 14.05	12/07/2010		M	11,650	<u>(1)</u>	02/19/2019	Common Stock	11,650

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

BESTEN C HENRY JR ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE SUITE 300 ST. LOUIS, MO 63141

Senior VP-Strategic Dev.

Signatures

/s/ Jon S. Ploetz, Attorney-in-Fact

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).

The reporting person received 46,600 stock options on February 19, 2009. The stock options vested as follows: 11,650 stock options (1) vested on February 19, 2010; 11,650 stock options vested on February 19, 2011; 11,650 stock options vested on February 19, 2012; and 11,650 stock options vested on February 19, 2013.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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