

Strobel Jeffrey W.  
Form 4  
December 18, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Strobel Jeffrey W.

(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]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/14/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Vice Pres, Bus Dev & Strategy

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_ 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 Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |     |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code  | V  | Amount                            | (D) | Price |

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

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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|---|---------------------------------|

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| (Instr. 3)       | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | (Instr. 5) |     |                     |                    |                 |  |         |
|------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------|---|------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|---------|
|                  |                                    |                  | Code       | V   | (A)        | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |         |
| Phantom<br>Stock | (1)                                | 12/14/2012       | A          |   | 1          |     | (2)                 | (2)                | Common<br>Stock | 1                                      | \$ 7.66 |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                   | Relationships |           |                               |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                       | Other |
| Strobel Jeffrey W.<br>ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE<br>ST. LOUIS, MO 63141 |               |           | Vice Pres, Bus Dev & Strategy |       |

## Signatures

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

12/18/2012

\_\_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).

Each share of phantom stock represents a right to receive the value in cash of one share of Arch Coal, Inc. common stock. The shares of phantom stock are held by the Executive Officer through the Arch Coal, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan") and represent past

- (1) compensation, the vested portion of restricted stock awards and/or payouts under other incentive compensation arrangements that the Executive Officer elected to defer under the Plan into a hypothetical investment in shares of Arch Coal Common stock and/or dividends paid with respect to such deferral amounts.
- (2) Shares of phantom stock are payable in cash on the date or dates elected by the executive officer, subject to the terms of the Plan. The executive officer may transfer any and all of the phantom stock account into an alternative investment account at any time.

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

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