POTTER ROBERT G

Form 5

February 14, 2006

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0362 Number: January 31,

no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

Check this box if

Expires: 2005 Estimated average

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

burden hours per response...

1.0

may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 1(b). Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported

Form 4

(Last)

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * POTTER ROBERT G

(First)

(Middle)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

below)

ARCH COAL INC [ACI]

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended

(Check all applicable)

(Month/Day/Year)

X Director Officer (give title

10% Owner Other (specify

12/31/2005

ONECITYPLACE DRIVE

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

below)

ST. LOUIS, MOÂ 63141

X Form Filed by One Reporting Person Form Filed by More than One Reporting

(City)

(State)

(Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

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

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

3. Transaction Code

(Instr. 8)

4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)

(Instr. 4)

Indirect Beneficial Ownership

(Instr. 4)

(A) or Amount (D) Price of Issuer's Fiscal Year

(Instr. 3 and 4)

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

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

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

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	Security			(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)							
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Phantom Stock	Â	03/15/2005	Â	A	28	Â	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	28	\$ 4
Phantom Stock	Â	03/31/2005	Â	A	334	Â	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	334	\$ 4
Phantom Stock	Â	06/15/2005	Â	A	23	Â	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	23	\$ 5
Phantom Stock	Â	07/01/2005	Â	A	204	Â	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	204	\$ 5
Phantom Stock	Â	09/14/2005	Â	A	20	Â	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	20	\$ 6
Phantom Stock	Â	10/01/2005	Â	A	226	Â	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	226	\$6
Phantom Stock	Â	12/14/2005	Â	A	16	Â	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	16	\$8
Phantom Stock	Â	12/30/2005	Â	A	212	Â	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	212	\$ 7

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
1 8	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
POTTER ROBERT G ONECITYPLACE DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MO 63141	ÂX	Â	Â	Â			

Signatures

/s/ Gregory A. Billhartz, Attorney-in-Fact

02/14/2006

**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).
- (1) 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 director through the Arch Coal, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the "Plan") and represent past compensation that the director elected to defer under the Plan into a hypothetical investment in shares of Arch Coal,

Reporting Owners 2

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Inc. common stock and/or dividends attributable to such deferred amounts.

(2) Shares of phantom stock are payable in cash following termination of the director's service as a director of Arch Coal, Inc. The director may transfer certain portions 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 provided 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.