

EAVES JOHN W
 Form 4
 February 22, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 EAVES JOHN 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)
 02/21/2012

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)
 President & COO

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 Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price |
| Common Stock | 02/21/2012 | | A | | 10,850 | A | 14.15 (1) |
| Common Stock | | | | | 9,597 | I | By 401(k) plan |

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

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 (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 (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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Restricted Stock Units | (2) | 02/21/2012 | | M | 10,850 | (3) (4) | Common Stock | 10,850 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| EAVES JOHN W ONE CITYPLACE DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MO 63141 | X | | President & COO | |

Signatures

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

02/22/2012

**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).
- (1) The reporting person received 21,700 restricted stock units on February 21, 2008. The restricted stock units vested as follows: 10,850 units vested on February 21, 2011 and 10,850 units vested on February 21, 2012. Upon vesting of 10,850 restricted stock units on February 21, 2012, the reporting person received 10,850 shares of common stock.
 - (2) Each restricted stock unit represents a right to receive one share of common stock unless otherwise deferred, at the reporting person's election, pursuant to the Arch Coal, Inc. Executive Deferred Compensation Plan.
 - (3) The reporting person received 21,700 restricted stock units on February 21, 2008. The restricted stock units vested ratably over a two-year period. On February 21, 2011, 10,850 restricted stock units vested and on February 21, 2012, 10,850 restricted stock units vested.
 - (4) The restricted stock units do not expire.

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.