

ARCH COAL INC  
Form 8-K  
February 10, 2005

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

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**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 10, 2005 (February 8, 2005)

**Arch Coal, Inc.**

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

1-13105

43-0921172

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

One CityPlace Drive, Suite 300, St. Louis, Missouri 63141

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(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 994-2700

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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**Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.**

On February 8, 2005, Arch Coal, Inc. ( Arch Coal ) issued a press release setting forth Arch Coal s fourth quarter 2004 earnings and providing guidance on Arch Coal s 2005 forecasted results. A copy of Arch Coal s press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

The information contained in this Current Report shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(c) Exhibits.

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description of Exhibit</b>
99.1	Press Release of Arch Coal, Inc. dated February 8, 2005.

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Exhibit Index begins on page 4.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: February 10, 2005

ARCH COAL, INC.

By: /s/ Janet L. Horgan

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Janet L. Horgan  
Assistant General Counsel and  
Assistant Secretary

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press Release dated as of February 8, 2005

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