

ARCH COAL INC  
Form 15-12B  
March 17, 2006

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549  
FORM 15**

**CERTIFICATION AND NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION UNDER SECTION 12(g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 OR SUSPENSION OF DUTY TO FILE REPORTS UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Commission file number: 1-13105

**Arch Coal, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**One CityPlace Drive, Suite 300  
St. Louis, Missouri 63141  
(314) 994-2700**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

**5% Perpetual Cumulative Convertible Preferred Stock**

(Title of each class of securities covered by this Form)

**Common Stock, \$.01 par value  
Preferred Share Purchase Rights**

(Titles of all other classes of securities for which a duty to file reports under Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) remains)

Please place an X in the box(es) to designate the appropriate rule provision(s) relied upon to terminate or suspend the duty to file reports:

Rule 12g-4(a)(1)(i) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rule 12h-3(b)(1)(i) <input type="checkbox"/>
Rule 12g-4(a)(1)(ii) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rule 12h-3(b)(1)(ii) <input type="checkbox"/>
Rule 12g-4(a)(2)(i) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rule 12h-3(b)(2)(i) <input type="checkbox"/>
Rule 12g-4(a)(2)(ii) <input type="checkbox"/>	Rule 12h-3(b)(2)(ii) <input type="checkbox"/>
	Rule 15d-6 <input type="checkbox"/>

Approximate number of holders of record as of the certification or notice date: 35

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Arch Coal, Inc. has caused this certification/notice to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned duly authorized person.

Date: March 17, 2006

Arch Coal, Inc.

By: /s/ Robert J. Messey  
Robert J. Messey  
Senior Vice President and Chief  
Financial Officer