

ARCH COAL INC  
Form 8-K  
August 21, 2009

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

**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): August 21, 2009 (August 20, 2009)**

**Arch Coal, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation)

1-13105  
(Commission File Number)

43-0921172  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification  
No.)

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

(Address, including zip code, of principal executive offices)

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))

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On August 20, 2009, Arch Coal, Inc. issued a press release announcing that it had received antitrust clearance from the Federal Trade Commission in connection with its pending acquisition of the Jacobs Ranch mine in Wyoming. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibit is attached hereto and filed herewith.

| Exhibit<br>No. | Description                          |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 99.1           | Press release dated August 20, 2009. |

---

**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: August 21, 2009

Arch Coal, Inc.

By: /s/ Robert G. Jones  
Robert G. Jones  
Senior Vice President Law, General  
Counsel and Secretary

**Exhibit Index**

| Exhibit | No.                                  | Description |
|---------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 99.1    | Press release dated August 20, 2009. |             |