

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Issuer Delisting; Order Granting the Application of Arch Coal, Inc. to Withdraw its 5% perpetual cumulative convertible preferred stock (liquidation preference \$50 per share), from Listing and Registration on the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. File No. 1-13105

March 16, 2006

On February 6, 2006, Arch Coal, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Issuer"), filed an application with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 12(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 12d2-2(d) thereunder,² to withdraw its 5% perpetual cumulative convertible preferred stock (liquidation preference \$50 per share) ("Security"), from listing and registration on the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NYSE"). Notice of such application requesting comments was published in the Federal Register on February 22, 2006.³ No comments were received. As discussed below, the Commission is granting the application.

On January 6, 2006, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Issuer approved resolutions to withdraw the Security from listing and registration on NYSE. The Issuer previously commenced a conversion offer ("Offer") to pay a premium to holders of any and all of the Security who elected to convert to shares of the Issuer's common stock, par value \$.01 per share, subject to the terms of the Offer. On December 31, 2005, the Issuer accepted for conversion all shares of the Security validly tendered and not withdrawn as of the expiration date of the Offer. Upon expiration of the Offer, 150,508 shares of the Security remained outstanding. Based on information provided to the Issuer from its transfer agent, the Securities that remain outstanding

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78l(d).

² 17 CFR 240.12d2-2(d).

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53280 (February 14, 2006), 71 FR 9182.

are held by approximately 35 holders. The Board decided that it was in the best interest of the Issuer and its stockholders to delist and deregister the Security on NYSE due to the limited market for the Security.

The Issuer stated that it has complied with the requirements of NYSE's rules governing an issuer's voluntary withdrawal of a security from listing and registration by complying with all applicable rules in the State of Delaware, in which the Issuer is incorporated, and by providing NYSE with the required documents governing the removal of securities from listing and registration on NYSE. The Issuer's application relates solely to the withdrawal of the Security from listing on NYSE and from registration under Section 12(b) of the Act,⁴ and shall not affect its obligation to be registered under Section 12(g) of the Act.⁵

The Commission, having considered the facts stated in the application and having due regard for the public interest and protection of investors, orders that the application be, and it hereby is, granted, effective at the opening of business on March 17, 2006.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁶

Nancy M. Morris
Secretary

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 781(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 781(g).

⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(1).