ARCH COAL INC Form SC 13G April 01, 2004

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

SCHEDULE 13G										
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (AMENDMENT) (1)										
ARCH COAL, INC.										
(Name of Issuer)										
COMMON STOCK										
(Title of Class of Securit	ies)									
039380100										
(CUSIP Number)										
MARCH 25, 2004										
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of	this St	taten	nent)							
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:										
SCHEDULE 13G										
CUSIP No. 039380100	Page	2	of	11	Pages					
1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON /I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE Appaloosa Investment limited pa		 ip I								

	2	CHECK THE AF	PROPRIA.	TE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) _ (b) _
_				3 SEC USE ONLY
	4	CITIZENSHIP delawar		E OF ORGANIZATION
			5	SOLE VOTING POWER
	NUM	BER OF		
	SH	ARES		-0-
			6	SHARED VOTING POWER
	BENEF	ICIALLY		1,519,051
	OWN	ED BY		
	Е	ACH	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
	REP	ORTING		-0-
	PE	RSON		
	TA7	TTU	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
	WITH			1,519,051
	1,519,051			NEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
				GREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
	11 PERCENT OF CLAS		CLASS RE	PRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 2.8%
	12 TYPE OF REPORTING F			ERSON* PN
			:	SCHEDULE 13G
CUSIP	No.	039380100	-	Page 3 of 11 Pages
	1			ION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
	2	CHECK THE AE	PROPRIA	TE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) _ (b) _

				3 SEC USE ONLY
_	4			E OF ORGANIZATION islands
_			5	SOLE VOTING POWER
	NUM	BER OF		
	SH	ARES		-0-
	BENEF	ICIALLY	6	
		ED BY		1,330,949
	E	ACH	 7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
	REP	ORTING		
	PE	RSON		-0-
			8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
	W	ITH		1,330,949
_	9	AGGREGATE A		NEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) CERTAIN SHARES*				1_1
_	11	PERCENT OF		PRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 2.5%
_	12	TYPE OF REP	ORTING P	ERSON*
				SCHEDULE 13G
USIP	No.	039380100	 - 	Page 4 of 11 Pages
_		NAME OF DED		
	Ţ		NTIFICAT	ION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON gement 1.p.
_	2	CHECK THE A	PPROPRIA	TE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) _ (b) _
_				3 SEC USE ONLY
_				

CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

		delawar	е					
			5	SOLE VOTING POWE	ER			
	NUM	BER OF						
SHARES				-0-				
			6	SHARED VOTING PO	DWER			
BENEFICIALLY				2,850,000				
	OWN	ED BY						
	E	ACH	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE	POWER			
		ORTING RSON		-0-				
	T-7	ITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITI	VE POWER			
	VV	1111		2,850,000				
	9	2,850,0		NEFICIALLY OWNED	BY EACH REPORTING PERSON			
	10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES* _						
	11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 5.3%						
12 TYPE OF REPORTIN			RTING P	ERSON* PN				
				SCHEDULE 13G				
CUSIP	No.	039380100			Page 5 of 11 Pages			
	 1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON /I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON Appaloosa partners Inc.						
	2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) _ (b) _						
		3 SEC USE ONLY						
_	4	CITIZENSHIP delawar		E OF ORGANIZATION				
			 5	SOLE VOTING POWE	 IR			

		BER OF ARES		-0-			
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY		6	SHARED VOTING POWER 2,850,000				
EACH			 7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE	 POWER		
	REP	ORTING					
	PEI	RSON		-0-			
	W	ITH	8				
	9	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 2,850,000					
	10	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*					
	11	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 5.3%					
	12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*					
 CUSIP	No.	039380100		SCHEDULE 13G 	 Page 6 	of 11 Pages	
	1	NAME OF REPORTING PERSON /I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON David A. Tepper					
	2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) _ (b) _					
				3 SEC USE ONLY			
	4	CITIZENSHIP CUNITED S		E OF ORGANIZATION			
			5	SOLE VOTING POWER			
	NUMBER OF			-0-			
	SHARES			U			

		6	SHARED VOTING POWER	
BENEF	'ICIALLY		2,850,000	
NWO	IED BY			
E	LACH	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	
REP	PORTING			
PE	RSON		-0-	
		8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER	
V	/ITH		2,850,000	
9	AGGREGATE A 2,850,		NEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON	
10	CHECK BOX I		GREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES	
11	11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 5.3%			
12	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON* IN			

Item 1.

(a) NAME OF ISSUER:

Arch Coal, Inc.

(b) ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES:

One City Place Drive Suite 300 St. Louis, MO 63141

Item 2.

(a) NAME OF PERSON FILING:

This Statement is being filed by and on behalf of Appaloosa Investment Limited Partnership I ("AILP"), Palomino Fund Ltd. ("Palomino"), Appaloosa Management L.P. ("AMLP"), Appaloosa Partners Inc. ("API") and David A. Tepper ("Mr. Tepper" and, together with AILP, Palomino, AMLP and API, the "Reporting Persons"). Mr. Tepper is the sole stockholder and the President of API. API is the general partner of, and Mr. Tepper owns a majority of the limited partnership interests in, AMLP. AMLP is the general partner of AILP and acts as investment adviser to Palomino.

(b) ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE:

The business address of each of the Reporting Persons is c/o Appaloosa Management L.P., 26 Main Street, Chatham, NJ 07928.

(c) CITIZENSHIP:

AILP is a Delaware limited partnership. Palomino is a British Virgin Islands corporation. AMLP is a Delaware limited partnership. API is a Delaware corporation. Mr. Tepper is a citizen of the United States.

- (d) TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES:
 - Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share.
- (e) CUSIP NUMBER: 039380100
- Item 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULES 13d-1(b), OR 13-2(b), CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS A:
 - (a) [] Broker or Dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 780);
 - (b) [] Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);
 - (c) [] Insurance Company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);
 - (d) [] Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act (15 U.S.C. 80a-8);
 - (e) [] An investment advisor in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
 - (f) [] An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
 - (g) [] A parent holding company or control person, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
 - (h) [] A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
 - (i) [] A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);
 - (j) [] Group, in accordance with Section 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(H)

If this statement is filed pursuant to ss. 240.13d-1(c), check this box. |X|

Item 4. OWNERSHIP:

The percentages set forth in this Item 4 are based on there being 53,950,004 shares of Common Stock outstanding as of March 1, 2004 as disclosed in Arch Coal, Inc.'s Form 10-K

filed on March 8, 2004 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

AILP

- (a) AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED: 1,519,051
- (b) PERCENT OF CLASS: 2.8%
- (c) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 1,519,051
 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: -0-
 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 1,519,051

Palomino

- (a) AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED: 1,330,949
- (b) PERCENT OF CLASS: 2.5%
- (c) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 1,330,949
 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: -0-
 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 1,330,949

AMLP

- (a) AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED: 2,850,000
- (b) PERCENT OF CLASS: 5.3%
- (c) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 2,850,000
 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: -0-
 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 2,850,000

API

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- (a) AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED: 2,850,000
- (b) PERCENT OF CLASS: 5.3%

- (c) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 2,850,000
 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: -0-
 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 2,850,000

David A. Tepper

- (a) AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED: 2,850,000
- (b) PERCENT OF CLASS: 5.3%
- (c) NUMBER OF SHARES AS TO WHICH SUCH PERSON HAS:
 - (i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote: 2,850,000
 - (iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: -0-
 - (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 2,850,000

Item 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS:

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following: $\mid \ \mid$

- Item 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON:

 Not applicable.
- Item 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY:

Not applicable.

Item 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

Not applicable.

Item 9. NOTICES OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP:

Not applicable.

Item 10. CERTIFICATION:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a

participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURE PAGE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: April 1, 2004

APPALOOSA INVESTMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP I

By: APPALOOSA MANAGEMENT L.P.,
Its General Partner

By: APPALOOSA PARTNERS INC.,
Its General Partner

By: /s/ David A. Tepper

Name: David A. Tepper

Title: President

PALOMINO FUND LTD.

By: APPALOOSA MANAGEMENT L.P.,
Its Investment Adviser

By: APPALOOSA PARTNERS INC.,
Its General Partner

By: /s/ David A. Tepper

Name: David A. Tepper Title: President

APPALOOSA MANAGEMENT L.P.

By: APPALOOSA PARTNERS INC.,
Its General Partner

By: /s/ David A. Tepper

Name: David A. Tepper

Title: President

APPALOOSA PARTNERS INC.

By: /s/ David A. Tepper

Name: David A. Tepper

Title: President

/s/ David A. Tepper

David A. Tepper

EXHIBIT A

JOINT FILING AGREEMENT

The undersigned agree that the foregoing Statement on Schedule 13G (including any and all amendments thereto) is being filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on behalf of each of the undersigned pursuant to Rule 13d-1(k) under the Act and further agree that this Joint Filing Agreement be included as an Exhibit to such joint filings.

Dated: April 1, 2004

APPALOOSA INVESTMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP I

By: APPALOOSA MANAGEMENT L.P.,
Its General Partner

By: APPALOOSA PARTNERS INC.,
Its General Partner

By: /s/ David A. Tepper

Name: David A. Tepper

Title: President

PALOMINO FUND LTD.

By: APPALOOSA MANAGEMENT L.P.,
Its Investment Adviser

By: APPALOOSA PARTNERS INC.,
Its General Partner

By: /s/ David A. Tepper

Name: David A. Tepper

Title: President

APPALOOSA MANAGEMENT L.P.

By: APPALOOSA PARTNERS INC.,
Its General Partner

By: /s/ David A. Tepper

Name: David A. Tepper

Title: President

APPALOOSA PARTNERS INC.

By: /s/ David A. Tepper

Name: David A. Tepper

Title: President

/s/ David A. Tepper

David A. Tepper