

## **Arch Coal Continues Underwriting Teacher Recognition Program in West Virginia; Nomination Forms Available in Schools, Libraries Across the State**

September 19, 2005 12:00 AM ET

Charleston, W.Va. (Sept. 19, 2005) – The longest running, privately-sponsored teacher recognition program in West Virginia – the Arch Coal Teacher Achievement Awards - has begun again for the new school year, according to John R. Snider, vice president, external affairs, eastern region, for the company.

"These awards recognize outstanding classroom teachers who contribute everyday to the well-being of our state's children," said Snider. "We must work to keep the many dedicated and professional teachers in our state. One of the ways we can do this is to ensure that their contributions are recognized."

Arch Coal plans to make \$2,500 personal, cash awards to 12 teachers. In addition, Snider said that the West Virginia Foundation for the Improvement of Education, a foundation operated by the West Virginia Education Association (WVEA) will again provide a \$1,000 grant to the school of each recipient for use with at-risk students.

"WVEA and the West Virginia Department of Education have been partners with us in this program since its inception," said Snider. "Their support has meant much to the program's credibility and longstanding. The program has a new partner this year, the West Virginia Library Commission. Its support means that libraries across the state will provide nomination forms and publicize the program to thousands of West Virginians."

The public is asked to nominate teachers who they know are outstanding. Completed applications are judged by a blue ribbon panel of previous recipients and other teachers and the top 12 are determined, Snider explained. The public also may nominate on the Internet at [www.archteacherawards.com](http://www.archteacherawards.com).

Arch Coal is the nation's second largest coal producer. Nearly 2,000 people are employed at Arch's operations in West Virginia. The company is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: ACI) and maintains its corporate headquarters in St. Louis, Mo.