

# Alpha Natural Resources and James River Coal Shares Surge Due to Positive Forecast for Thermal Coal Demand

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## Five Star Equities Provides Stock Research on Alpha Natural Resources and James River Coal

NEW YORK, NY -- (Marketwire) -- 07/31/12 -- Coal stocks soared last Friday after [Arch Coal Inc.](#) posted a better-than-expected earnings report and a positive forecast for thermal coal demand in the U.S. The Market Vectors-Coal ETF (KOL) -- which replicates an index that provides exposure to publicly traded companies worldwide that derive greater than 50% of their revenues from the coal industry -- surged 4.03 percent. Five Star Equities examines the outlook for companies in the Coal Industry and provides equity research on [Alpha Natural Resources, Inc.](#) (NYSE: ANR) and [James River Coal Company](#) (NASDAQ: JRCC).

**Access to the full company reports can be found at:**

[www.FiveStarEquities.com/ANR](http://www.FiveStarEquities.com/ANR)

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Many coal companies have been forced to scale back production as a result of dwindling demand. The low demand has seen Arch Coal idled five of their mines in the Appalachian region and forced Patriot Coal Corp. to recently file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. Yet coal companies soared last week after comments from Arch Coal's President and CEO noted a bullish outlook for thermal coal.

"Summer has arrived... bringing heat, power load and increased coal burn," Arch Coal's President and CEO John Eaves said in a statement. "With improving coal demand and ongoing supply rationalization, we could end the year with domestic stockpiles below 175 million tons, the level at which we entered 2012."

Five Star Equities releases regular market updates on the Coal Industry so investors can stay ahead of the crowd and make the best investment decisions to maximize their returns. Take a few minutes to register with us free at [www.FiveStarEquities.com](http://www.FiveStarEquities.com) and get exclusive access to our numerous stock reports and industry newsletters.

With \$7.1 billion in total revenue in 2011, Alpha Natural Resources ranks as America's second-largest coal producer by revenue and third-largest by production. Alpha is the nation's largest supplier of metallurgical coal used in the steel-making process and is a major supplier of thermal coal to electric utilities and manufacturing industries. Shares of the company surged over 20 percent last Friday, and will release second quarter 2012 results before market open on August 8, 2012.

James River Coal Company is one of the leading coal producers in Central Appalachia and the Illinois Basin. The company sells metallurgical, bituminous steam and industrial-grade coal to electric utility companies and industrial customers both domestically and internationally. James River Coal is scheduled to release its second quarter 2012 results before market open on August 9, 2012.

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