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BERRY PETROLEUM CO Form 8-K May 08, 2003

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 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) May 8, 2003

Berry Petroleum Company (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 1-9735 77-0079387 (State or other (Commission File IRS Employer jurisdiction of Number) Identification No. incorporation)

5201 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 300 Bakersfield, CA 93309 (Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (661) 616-3900

N/A

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Item 5. Other Events

On May 8, 2003, Berry Petroleum Company, a Delaware corporation, issued a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Proforma Financial Information and $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Exhibits}}$

- (c) Exhibits
- 99.1 Press Release of Berry Petroleum Company dated

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May 8, 2003.

SIGNATURE

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 thereunto duly authorized.

BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY

By /s/ Kenneth A. Olson Name: Kenneth A. Olson Title: Corporate Secretary

and Treasurer

May 8, 2003