

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) August 28, 2003

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

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

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Item 9. Regulation FD Disclosure

On August 28, 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.

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release of Berry Petroleum Company dated  
August 28, 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

August 28, 2003



News Release

Berry Petroleum Company  
5201 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 300  
Bakersfield, California 93309-0640

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Ralph J. Goehring, SVP & CFO

BERRY PETROLEUM COMPLETES SALE OF AN INTEREST IN KANSAS ACREAGE

Bakersfield, CA - August 28, 2003 - Berry Petroleum Company (NYSE:BRY) announced it closed the sale of approximately 43,000 net acres of non-producing leases to Evergreen Resources, Inc. (NYSE:EVG). The acreage, which contains coalbed methane potential and is located in the Forest City Basin of eastern Kansas, was sold for an undisclosed amount. Under the terms of the sale, Berry will retain an overriding royalty interest.

In a separate transaction, Berry purchased approximately 2,200 net acres in the northern portion of the Green River Basin in Sublette County, Wyoming, from a private party. The acreage is in the Mickleson Creek Field and Berry intends to develop this acreage to increase its natural gas production through its 2004 drilling program. Terms were not disclosed.

Berry Petroleum Company is an independent oil and gas production and exploitation company headquartered in Bakersfield, California. Berry has other coalbed methane interests in Kansas, Illinois and Wyoming and recently established an office in Denver to develop a portfolio of oil and gas assets in the Rockies.

"Safe harbor under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:" This release may contain descriptions of the Company's expectations regarding future business activities. These forward-looking statements are made in reliance upon safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Accordingly, actual results may differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements.

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