

DALE DONALD A
Form 4
December 16, 2005

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
DALE DONALD A

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY, 5201 TRUXTUN AVE., SUITE 300

(Street)

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
BERRY PETROLEUM CO [BRY]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/15/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
Controller

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Amount or Price | | |
| Class A Common Stock | | | | | 7,841 | D | |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code V (A) (D) | | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Title | |
| Nonstatutory Stock Option (Right to Buy) NSO | \$ 16.3 | | | | | 12/07/2002 12/07/2011 | Class A Common Stock | 2,250 |
| Nonstatutory Stock Option (Right to Buy) NSO | \$ 16.5 | | | | | 12/06/2003 12/06/2012 | Class A Common Stock | 2,250 |
| Nonstatutory Stock Option (Right to Buy) NSO | \$ 19.94 | | | | | 12/05/2004 12/05/2013 | Class A Common Stock | 5,000 |
| Nonstatutory Stock Option (Right to Buy) NSO | \$ 43.16 | | | | | 11/23/2005 11/23/2014 | Class A Common Stock | 6,000 |
| Nonstatutory Stock Option (Right to Buy) NSO | \$ 61.29 | 12/15/2005 | | A ⁽¹⁾ | 2,500 | 12/15/2006 12/15/2015 | Class A Common Stock | 2,500 |
| Restricted Stock Units (RSU) ⁽²⁾ | <u>(2)</u> | 12/15/2005 | | A ⁽⁴⁾ | 800 | <u>(3)</u> <u>(3)</u> | Class A Common Stock | 800 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| DALE DONALD A C/O BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY 5201 TRUXTUN AVE., SUITE 300 BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309 | | | Controller | |

Signatures

Kenneth A. Olson under Power of Attorney
on file

12/16/2005

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Grant of Nonstatutory Stock Option under the Company's 2005 Equity Incentive Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). Shares vest at 25% annually from date of grant.
- (2) Each RSU represents a contingent right to receive one share of Berry Petroleum Company Class A Common Stock.
- (3) The restricted stock units vest in four equal annual installments beginning December 15, 2006. Shares of Class A Common Stock will be delivered to the reporting person at the time of vesting.
- (4) Grant of Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) under the Company's 2005 Equity Incentive Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). RSUs vest at 25% annually from date of grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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