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BERRY PETROLEUM CO Form 8-K February 18, 2004

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) February 18, 2004

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

Delaware 1-9735 77-0079387 (State or other (Commission IRS Employer jurisdiction of File 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)

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Item 7. Regulation FD Disclosure

(c) Exhibits

The following Exhibits are hereby filed as part of this Current Report on Form 8-K:

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated February 18, 2004 regarding the Registrant's financial and operating results for the three months and fiscal year ended December 31, 2003.

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and

Item 12. Disclosure of Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

The information in this Form 8-K and the Exhibit attached hereto shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Act of 1934, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

On February 18, 2004, Berry Petroleum Company (Berry) announced financial results for the three months and fiscal year ended December 31, 2003. A copy of the news release announcing Berry's earnings results for three months and twelve months ended December 31, 2003 is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

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

February 18, 2004

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