BERRY PETROLEUM CO Form 8-K February 23, 2012

UNITED STATES 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 23, 2012

BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| Delaware  | 1-9735                   | 77-0079387                           |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (State or Other Jurisdiction of<br>Incorporation or Organization) | (Commission File Number) | (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) |

1999 Broadway, Suite 3700, Denver, Colorado80202(Address of Principal Executive Offices)(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (303) 999-4400

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

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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## Item 2.02 RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

On February 23 2012, Berry Petroleum Company (the "Company") issued a news release announcing its financial and operational results for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2011. These results are discussed in the news release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety.

## ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(d) Exhibits.

#### EXHIBIT NUMBER DESCRIPTION

News Release by Berry Petroleum Company dated February 23, 2012 titled "Berry Petroleum
99.1 Reports 2011 Results" announcing the Registrant's results for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2011.

### SIGNATURES

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 hereto duly authorized.

## BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY

By: /s/ Davis O. O'Connor Davis O. O'Connor Corporate Secretary

Date: February 23, 2012

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