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BERRY PETROLEUM CO  
Form 8-K  
August 31, 2004

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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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 31, 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 7.01. Regulation FD

(c) Exhibits

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

Exhibit 99 - News Release dated August 31, 2004 regarding the Registrant's announcing the increase in the annual dividend and capital budget.

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 31, 2004