#### 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): December 3, 2008



# **BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

**DELAWARE** (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization) **1-9735** (Commission File Number) 77-0079387 (IRS Employer Identification Number)

**1999 Broadway, Suite 3700 - Denver, CO** (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**80202** (Zip Code)

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

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))

#### Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement

On December 3, 2008, Berry Petroleum Company (the "Company") entered into a Joinder Agreement (the "Joinder Agreement") with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and Calyon New York Branch ("Calyon"). The Joinder Agreement adds Calyon as an additional Lender under the Company's Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated as of July 15, 2008, (the "Credit Agreement"). Pursuant to the terms of the Joinder Agreement, Calyon agreed to provide a \$75 million commitment under the Credit Agreement.

The Joinder Agreement contains usual and customary conditions, representations, and warranties. A copy of the Joinder Agreement has been attached to this report as Exhibit 10.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

#### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure

In addition to the information provided under Item 1.01 of this Form 8-K, the Company entered into agreements with two banks currently participating in the Credit Agreement to increase commitments by an additional \$12 million, bringing total new commitments to \$87 million.

Including the Calyon commitment set forth in Item 1.01 of this Form 8-K and the \$12 million set forth above, the bank commitments under the Credit Agreement now total \$1.21 billion.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

10.1 Joinder Agreement dated December 2, 2008 by and among Berry Petroleum Company, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., and Calyon New York Branch.

99.1 Press Release dated December 3, 2008, titled "Berry Petroleum Increases Bank Commitments to \$1.21 Billion."

# 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/ Kenneth A. Olson Kenneth A. Olson Corporate Secretary

Date: December 3, 2008

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#### JOINDER AGREEMENT

This JOINDER AGREEMENT (the "Joinder Agreement") is made as of the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2008 by and among BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY, a Delaware corporation ("Borrower"), WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, individually and as LC Issuer, Swing Line Lender and Administrative Agent (in such capacity, "Administrative Agent"), and CALYON NEW YORK BRANCH ("New Lender").

#### RECITALS

Borrower, Administrative Agent, LC Issuer, Swing Line Lender and the Lenders named therein are parties to that certain Amended and Restated Credit Agreement dated as of July 15, 2008 (as amended to the date hereof and as otherwise amended, supplemented, restated, increased, extended or otherwise modified from time to time, the "<u>Credit Agreement</u>"). All terms used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the same meaning given to them in the Credit Agreement.

Pursuant to <u>Section 2.10</u> of the Credit Agreement, Borrower has the right to cause from time to time an increase in the Commitments and the Aggregate Commitment by adding to the Credit Agreement, subject to the approval of the Administrative Agent, LC Issuer and Swing Line Lender, an additional Lender which is an Eligible Assignee; provided however (i) no Default shall exist, (ii) no such increase shall result in the Aggregate Commitments exceeding \$1,250,000,000, and (iii) no such increase shall be in an amount less than \$5,000,000.

## AGREEMENT

1. Borrower and New Lender hereby agree that, from and after the date hereof, New Lender shall have the Commitment as set forth on the attached <u>Supplement to Schedule 1</u>. By its execution and delivery of this Joinder Agreement, New Lender hereby assumes all of the rights and obligations of a Lender under the Credit Agreement to the extent of such Commitment. Such Commitment of New Lender shall represent an increase in the Commitments and the Aggregate Commitment pursuant to <u>Section 2.10</u> of the Credit Agreement.

2. Administrative Agent, LC Issuer, Swing Line Lender and Borrower hereby consent to and approve the Commitment of New Lender and such resulting increase in the Aggregate Commitment pursuant to <u>Section 2.10</u> of the Credit Agreement.

3. New Lender hereby represents and warrants as follows: (a) it has full power and authority, and has taken all action necessary to execute and deliver this Joinder Agreement, to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby and to become a Lender under the Credit Agreement, (b) it meets all requirements of an Eligible Assignee under the Credit Agreement (subject to receipt of any consents that may be required under the Credit Agreement), (c) from and after the Increase Effective Date (hereinafter defined), it shall, to the extent of its Commitment, be bound by the provisions of the Credit Agreement as a Lender thereunder, and, to the extent of its Commitment, shall have the obligations of a Lender thereunder, (d) it has

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4. received a copy of the Credit Agreement, together with copies of the most recent financial statements delivered pursuant to <u>Section 6.2</u> (a) and (b) thereof, as applicable, and such other documents and information as it has deemed appropriate to make its own credit analysis and decision to enter into this Joinder Agreement on the basis of which it has made such analysis and decision independently and without reliance on Administrative Agent or any other Lender, and (e) if it is a Foreign Lender, attached to this Joinder Agreement is any documentation required to be delivered by it pursuant to the terms of the Credit Agreement, duly completed and executed by New Lender; and agrees that (1) it will, independently and without reliance on Administrative Agent, or any other Lender, and based on such documents and information as it shall deem appropriate at the time, continue to make its own credit decisions in taking or not taking action under the Loan Documents, and (2) it will perform in accordance with their terms all of the obligations which by the terms of the Loan Documents are required to be performed by it as a Lender.

5. This Joinder Agreement shall be effective on the date (the "<u>Increase Effective Date</u>") that (i) Borrower and New Lender each execute a counterpart hereof and deliver the same to Administrative Agent, (ii) Administrative Agent, LC Issuer and Swing Line Lender execute and deliver a counterpart hereof and (iii) each of the conditions to the increase in the Aggregate Commitment in <u>Section 2.10</u> of the Credit Agreement shall have occurred. From and after the Increase Effective Date, New Lender shall be a "Lender" under the Loan Documents.

6. Upon any increase in the Aggregate Commitment pursuant to <u>Section 2.10</u>, Lenders have authorized Administrative Agent and Borrower to make non-ratable borrowings and prepayments of the Loans, and if any such prepayment would result in payments being due under <u>Section 3.4</u>, Borrower shall pay any such required amounts in order to keep the outstanding Loans ratable with any revised Percentage Shares arising from the Commitment under this Joinder Agreement. On the Increase Effective Date, New Lender shall make a Loan for the account of Borrower to the extent necessary to implement such provisions of <u>Section 2.10</u> of the Credit Agreement.

7. Borrower (a) represents and warrants that, on and as of the Increase Effective Date, before and after giving effect to the increase in Aggregate Commitment resulting hereunder, (i) the representations and warranties contained in <u>Article V</u> of the Credit Agreement and the other Loan Documents made by it are true and correct in all material respects on and as of the Increase Effective Date, except to the extent that such representations and warranties specifically refer to an earlier date, in which case they are true and correct in all material respects as of such earlier date, and (ii) no Default exists. Borrower hereby certifies that attached hereto is a true and correct copy of resolutions of the Board of Directors of Borrower authorizing the increase in the Commitments and the Aggregate Commitment as set forth in this Joinder Agreement.

8. Borrower hereby (i) consents to the provisions of this Joinder Agreement and the transactions contemplated herein and (ii) agrees that all of its respective obligations and covenants thereunder shall remain unimpaired by the execution and delivery of this Joinder Agreement and the other documents and instruments executed in connection herewith.

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9. This Joinder Agreement may not be amended, changed, waived or modified, except by a writing executed by the parties hereto.

10. This Joinder Agreement embodies the entire agreement among New Lender, Borrower, LC Issuer, Swing Line Lender and Administrative Agent with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all other prior arrangements and understandings relating to the subject matter hereof.

11. This Joinder Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts each of which shall be deemed to be an original. Each such counterpart shall become effective when counterparts have been executed by all parties hereto. Delivery of an executed counterpart of this Joinder Agreement by telecopier shall be effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart of this Joinder Agreement.

12. This Joinder Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of New Lender and Borrower and their respective successors and permitted assigns, except that neither party may assign or transfer any of its rights or obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of the other party.

13. This Joinder Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California.

Borrower shall execute and deliver to New Lender, as of the Increase Effective Date, a Note in the form attached to the Credit Agreement to evidence the Commitment of New Lender.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Administrative Agent, LC Issuer, Swing Line Lender, Borrower and New Lender have executed this Joinder Agreement as of the date shown above.

WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Administrative Agent, LC Issuer and Swing Line Lender

By: Name: Title:

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# CALYON NEW YORK BRANCH, as New Lender

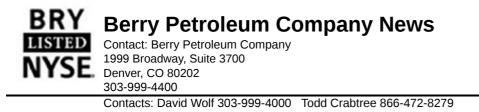
By: Name: Title:

# BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY, as Borrower

By: Name: Title:

# SUPPLEMENT TO SCHEDULE 1 OF THE CREDIT AGREEMENT

| Lender                 | Percentage Share | Commitment   |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Calyon New York Branch | 6.26043405676    | \$75,000,000 |





## Berry Petroleum Increases Bank Commitments to \$1.21 Billion

**Denver, Colorado -- (BUSINESS WIRE) – December 3, 2008** - Berry Petroleum Company (NYSE:BRY) has increased its bank commitments to \$1.21 billion. Since the October 17, 2008 amendment to Berry's \$1.5 billion credit facility, Berry has secured an additional \$130 million of bank commitments under the accordion feature.

On a pro forma basis at November 30, 2008, Berry's liquidity was \$288 million, which includes the \$130 million of new bank commitments. The borrowing base remains at \$1.25 billion.

#### About Berry Petroleum Company

Berry Petroleum Company is a publicly traded independent oil and gas production and exploitation company with operations in California, Colorado, Texas and Utah.

The Company uses its web site as a channel of distribution of material company information. Financial and other material information regarding the Company is routinely posted on and accessible at http://www.bry.com/index.php?page=investor.

#### Safe harbor under the "Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995"

Certain statements in this news release, including but not limited to statements regarding the credit facility and other statements that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Although Berry believes that its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that these expectations will prove correct. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements include our results of operations, general market conditions and other risks described in PART 1, Item 1A. Risk Factors of Berry's 2007 Form 10-K/A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 27, 2008 under the heading "Other Factors Affecting the Company's Business and Financial Results" in the section titled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and all material changes are updated in Part II, Item 1A within our Form 10-Qs filed subsequent to that date and specifically in the Form 10-Q for the period ending September 30, 2008 filed on October 29, 2008.

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Contact: Berry Petroleum Company 1999 Broadway, Suite 3700 Denver, Colorado 80202 Internet: <u>www.bry.com</u> Investors and Media David Wolf, 1-303-999-4400 Todd Crabtree, 1-866-472-8279 SOURCE: Berry Petroleum Company