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**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): July 1, 2005 (June 29, 2005)

**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)

**5201 TRUXTUN AVE., STE. 300, BAKERSFIELD, CA**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**93309**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(661) 616-3900**

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:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure**

On July 1, 2005 Berry Petroleum Company issued a news release announcing the implementation of additional hedging.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K and Exhibit 99.1 is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release of Berry Petroleum Company dated July 1, 2005.

**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: July 1, 2005

**Berry Petroleum Company**  
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Contacts: Robert F. Heinemann, President and CEO - - Ralph J. Goehring, Executive Vice President and CFO

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## **BERRY PETROLEUM IMPLEMENTS ADDITIONAL HEDGING**

Bakersfield, CA - July 1, 2005 - Berry Petroleum Company (NYSE:BRY) has entered into zero-cost collars for approximately 10,000 barrels of oil per day for the period January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2009. Based on WTI pricing, the floor is \$47.50 and the ceiling is \$70.00.

Robert Heinemann, chief executive officer and president, stated, "Crude oil futures prices have increased substantially in recent months and we believe it is prudent for Berry to lock in a floor price on a portion of the Company's production while also retaining significant upside. The volume of 10,000 barrels per day currently represents slightly less than half of our oil production. Strategically, we intend to continue growing Berry through a combination of asset development and acquisitions. The use of collars supports this strategy by protecting our future cash flows if oil prices decline significantly while allowing us to participate in the upside of our assets if oil prices run up."

### **Drilling Rig Purchase**

Separately, to assist in achieving its growth plans, Berry has purchased a drilling rig that is rated to a depth of approximately 7,000 feet. A Rocky Mountain-based drilling company under contract with Berry will begin drilling with the rig at the Company's Brundage Canyon property by mid-July. This rig will be dedicated to Berry's shallow drilling program in the Uinta Basin.

Berry Petroleum Company is a publicly traded independent oil and gas production, exploration and exploitation company located in Bakersfield, California.

This release contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 involving risks and uncertainties discussed in detail in the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filing and reports, including the Company's 2004 Annual Report to shareholders. Actual results may vary due to these or other risks and uncertainties. Details of the Company's hedging program, including discussion of the risks, will be contained in the Company's upcoming second quarter 2005 Form 10-Q to be filed by August 9, 2005.

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