

BERRY PETROLEUM CO  
Form 8-K  
September 03, 2009

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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): August 30, 2009

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,  
COLORADO  
(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:

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

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- 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 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

Berry Petroleum Company (“Company”) regrets to announce that on August 30, 2009, Ronald J. Robinson, a member of the Company’s Board of Directors passed away suddenly at the age of 63. Mr. Robinson, a director since 2006, was also a member of the Company’s Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee and also had recently been added to the Company’s Compensation Committee.

Martin H. Young, Jr., the Company’s Chairman, stated “All of us at Berry Petroleum Company extend our deepest sympathy to Ron’s wife, Bonnie, their children, family and friends. Ron was a valuable member of our Board and we are grateful for his service to the Company. He will be deeply missed not only as a director but also as a friend.”

The Company has not made any decision regarding a replacement for Mr. Robinson.

#### 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: September 3, 2009