

Bryant Joseph H
 Form 4
 January 05, 2009

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Bryant Joseph H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 BERRY PETROLEUM CO [BRY]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY 5201 TRUXTUN

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/31/2008

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 ____ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)

(Street)

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Class A Common Stock					0	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Nonstatutory Stock Option 12-15-05	\$ 30.645					12/15/2005	12/14/2015 Class A Common Stock
Nonstatutory Stock Option 12-15-06	\$ 32.565					12/15/2006	12/14/2016 Class A Common Stock
NSO 2007	\$ 43.61					12/14/2007	12/13/2017 Class A Common Stock
2007 Restricted Stock Unit ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0					01/01/2008 ⁽²⁾	12/13/2017 ⁽³⁾ Class A Common Stock
Phantom Stock Units ⁽⁴⁾	\$ 0	12/31/2008		A	2,021	08/08/1988	08/08/1988 Class A Common Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Bryant Joseph H
C/O BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY 5201 TRUXTUN
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

Signatures

Kenneth A Olson under POA for Joseph Bryant 01/05/2009

__Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) 1 for 1

(2)

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The RSU granted is 100% vested at the date of grant but the receipt of shares are subject to a deferral period which is generally at least four years from the grant date as per the deferral election.

- (3) The RSU is subject to a deferral election. Shares of Class A Common Stock will be delivered to the reporting person as per the terms of the deferral election.
- (4) Phantom Stock Units acquired under the Company's Non-Employee Director Deferred Compensation Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). Shares of Common Stock are issued under terms of the Plan upon resignation from the board of directors.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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