

BERRY PETROLEUM CO  
 Form 4  
 December 18, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**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 \*  
**CROPPER STEVE**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O BERRY PETROLEUM  
 COMPANY 5201 TRUXTUN

(Street)

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
**12/15/2006**

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

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

**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)
Class A Common Stock				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price	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 (Instr. 8)	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 Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 8.07					12/02/2002 12/02/2012	Class A Common Stock	10,000
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 9.61					12/02/2003 12/02/2013	Class A Common Stock	10,000
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 21.77					12/02/2004 12/02/2014	Class A Common Stock	10,000
Nonstatutory Stock Option	\$ 30.645					12/15/2005 12/15/2015	Class A Common Stock	10,000
Nonstatutory Stock Option	\$ 32.565	12/15/2006		A <sup>(1)</sup>	10,000	12/15/2006 12/14/2016	Class A Common Stock	10,000

## Reporting Owners

**Reporting Owner Name / Address**

**Relationships**

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

CROPPER STEVE  
C/O BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY 5201 TRUXTUN  
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

## Signatures

Kenneth A Olson under POA for Stephen Cropper 12/18/2006

\_\_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) Grant of Non-statutory stock option under the Company's 2005 Equity Incentive Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). Options vest 100% on date of grant.

(2)

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Grant of Non-statutory stock option under the Company's 2005 Equity Incentive Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c).  
Options vest 100% on date of grant.

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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