BERRY PETROLEUM CO

Form S-8

August 20, 2002

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 20, 2002

Registration No. 333-

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

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

77-0079387 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

5201 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 300 Bakersfield, California 93309 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

> Berry Petroleum Company 1994 Stock Option Plan (Full Title of the Plan)

Jerry V. Hoffman Chairman of the Board, Laura K. McAvoy, Esq. Officer

Bakersfield, California 93309 (661) 616-3900

(Name, Address, and Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to: President and Chief Executive Jackson DeMarco & Peckenpaugh 2815 Townsgate Road, Suite 200 5201 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 300 Westlake Village, California 91361

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Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1) (2)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Share (3)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (4)	Amount of Registration Fee
Class A Common Stock, \$.01 par value	1,000,000 shares	\$16.65	\$16,650,000	\$1,531.80
Rights to Purchase Shares of Class A Common Stock	1,000,000 shares			

- (1) This Registration Statement also covers such additional number of shares, presently indeterminable, as may become issuable in the event of stock dividends, stock splits, recapitalizations or other changes in the Class A Common Stock.
- (2) Includes Rights to purchase shares of Class A Common Stock upon the occurrence of certain events pursuant to the Berry Petroleum Company Rights Agreement dated December 8, 1999 ("Rights Agreement").
- (3) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the amount of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h) and Rule 457 (c) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). The Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share has been computed on the basis of the price of securities of the same class using the average of the high and low prices of the Common Stock as reported by the New York Stock Exchange of \$16.65 per share on August 16, 2002.
- (4) Amount to be Registered multiplied by the Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share.

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The Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 33-61337) filed with the Commission on July 27, 1995 and the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-62873) filed with the Commission on September 4, 1998 are incorporated herein by reference.

At the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Berry Petroleum

Company held on May 16, 2002, the Stockholders approved an amendment to the Berry Petroleum Company Restated and Amended 1994 Stock Option Plan (the "Plan") that (i) increased, by 1,000,000 shares, the number of shares of Class A Common Stock, \$0.01 par value ("Shares"), authorized for issuance under the Plan to a total of 3,000,000 Shares and (ii) provided that the Option exercise price shall be not less than the Fair Market Value on the date of grant. This Registration Statement registers such additional securities.

SIGNATURES

THE REGISTRANT. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Bakersfield, State of California, on this 19 day of August 2002.

BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY

By: s/s Jerry V. Hoffman

Jerry V. Hoffman, Chairman of the Board,

President and Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

By: s/s Ralph J. Goehring
Ralph J. Goehring, Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial Officer)

By: s/s Donald A. Dale
 Donald A. Dale, Controller
 (Principal Accounting Officer)

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

SIGNATURES TITLE DATE

S/s Jerry V. Hoffman Chairman of the July 16, 2002 Jerry V. Hoffman Board, President and Director

S/s William F. Berry William F. Berry	Director	July 22, 2002
S/s Ralph B. Busch, III Ralph B. Busch, III	Director	July 19, 2002
S/s William E. Bush William E. Bush, Jr.	Director	July 22, 2002
S/s Steven L. Cropper Steven L. Cropper	Director	July 23, 2002
S/s J. Herbert Gaul, Jr. J. Herbert Gaul, Jr.	Director	July 19, 2002
S/s John A. Hagg John A. Hagg	Director	August 13, 2002
S/s Robert Heinemann Robert Heinemann	Director	August 5, 2002
S/s Thomas J. Jamieson Thomas J. Jamieson	Director	July 17, 2002
S/s Roger G. Martin Roger G. Martin	Director	July 19, 2002
S/s Martin H. Young, Jr. Martin H. Young. Jr.	Director	July 30, 2002

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description	Sequentially Numbered Pages
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5.1	Opinion of Jackson DeMarco & Peckenpaugh regarding validity of securities	13
23.1	Consent of Jackson DeMarco & Peckenpaugh (included in Exhibit 5.1)	13
23.2	Consent of PriceWaterhouseCoopers L.L.P.	14