

Matson John R  
Form 3  
May 17, 2012

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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)

<p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p>Â Matson John R</p> <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p>1999 BROADWAY, SUITE 3700</p> <p>(Street)</p> <p>DENVER,Â COÂ 80202</p> <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p>	<p>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>05/17/2012</p>	<p>3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p>BERRY PETROLEUM CO [BRY]</p>	<p>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below) Vice President</p>	<p>5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)</p>	<p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p>
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**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

<p>1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)</p>	<p>2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)</p>	<p>3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)</p>	<p>4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)</p>
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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

<p>1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)</p>	<p>2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>Date Exercisable Expiration Date</p>	<p>3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)</p> <p>Title Amount or Number of Shares</p>	<p>4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security</p>	<p>5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)</p>	<p>6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)</p>
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(Instr. 5)

March 2, 2012			Class A					
Employee RSU Grant <u>(1)</u>	03/02/2013	03/02/2022	Common Stock	5,187	\$ 0		D	Â
RSU 7-1-2011 <u>(1)</u>	07/01/2014 <sup>(2)</sup>	07/01/2021	Class A Common Stock	5,092	\$ 0		D	Â

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Matson John R 1999 BROADWAY, SUITE 3700 DENVER, CO 80202	Â	Â	Â Vice President	Â

## Signatures

Kenneth A Olson under POA for John R  
Matson

05/17/2012

    Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Restricted Stock Units vest 100% three years from date of grant. Shares of Class A Common Stock will be delivered to the reporting person at the time of vesting.

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### Remarks:

Power of Attorney Form 3 filing to report holdings for Mr. Matson as of May 17, 2012

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.