| SEC Form 4 |  |
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## FORM 4

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| 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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| OMB APPROVAL         |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:          | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average bu | rden      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| Estimated average burden |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| hours per response:      | 0.5 |

|                |         |          | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br>CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable) |                                       |                       |  |  |
|----------------|---------|----------|---|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
|                |         |          |   | X  | Director                              | 10% Owner             |  |  |
| (Last)         | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)                              | X  | Officer (give title below)            | Other (specify below) |  |  |
| 1111 LOUISIANA |         | . ,      | 06/01/2017  | President & CEO  |                                       |                       |  |  |
| (Street)       |         |          | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                      | 6. Indiv<br>Line)  | ridual or Joint/Group Filing          | (Check Applicable     |  |  |
| HOUSTON        | TX      | 77002    |   | X  | Form filed by More than One Reporting |                       |  |  |
|                |         |          |   |  |                                       |                       |  |  |
| (City)         | (State) | (Zip)    |   |  | Person                                |                       |  |  |

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

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |   | Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |               |                               | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following<br>Reported | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
|                                 |  |   | Code                         | v | Amount                              | (A) or<br>(D) | Price                         | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)  |   | (1150. 4)   |
| Common Stock                    | 06/01/2017                                 |   | <b>S</b> <sup>(1)</sup>      |   | 1,000                               | D             | <b>\$28.67</b> <sup>(2)</sup> | 251,466 <sup>(3)</sup>  | D   |   |
| Common Stock                    |  |   |                              |   |                                     |               |                               | 6,586   | Ι   | By<br>Savings<br>Plan <sup>(4)</sup>                              |

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

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |   | of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4<br>and 5) |  | 6. Date Exerc<br>Expiration Da<br>(Month/Day/Y | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr. 3<br>and 4) |       | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |  |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--|--|--|---|-------|---|--|----------------------------------|--|--|
|   |   |  |   | Code                         | v |  |  | Date<br>Exercisable                            | Expiration<br>Date  | Title | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares              |  |                                  |  |  |

#### Explanation of Responses:

1. The sale of shares reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the Reporting Person. The adoption of the trading plan was previously disclosed by the Issuer in its Current Report on Form 8-K filed with Securities and Exchange Commission on March 28, 2017.

2. The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$28.51 to \$28.80, inclusive. The Reporting Person undertakes to provide to the Issuer, any security holder of the Issuer, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in this footnote.

3. Total includes (i) 37,480 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2018, (ii) 63,258 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2019, and (iii) 54,115 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2019, and (iii) 54,115 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2020. Each of the above awards shall vest if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the vesting date and on a pro-rata basis in the event of his earlier retirement, disability or death.

4. Equivalent shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan.

**Remarks:** 

<u>By Vincent A. Mercaldi,</u> <u>Attorney-in-Fact</u>

06/02/2017

Date

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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

\* 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).

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

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 Number.