| 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 APPF             | ROVAL     |
|----------------------|-----------|
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|                         | Estimated average burden |     |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|
| hours per response: 0.5 | urs per response:        | 0.5 |  |  |  |  |  |

| 1 I Marile and Address of Reporting Leson |         |          | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol<br>CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) |                               |                       |  |  |  |
|---|---------|----------|--|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| PIUCIIdZKd SC                             |         |          | L J  | X   | Director                      | 10% Owner             |  |  |  |
|   |         | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)                                     | Х   | Officer (give title<br>below) | Other (specify below) |  |  |  |
| 1111 LOUISIANA                            |         |          | 10/01/2018   | President & CEO   |                               |                       |  |  |  |
| (Street)                                  |         |          | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                             | 6. Indiv<br>Line)   | vidual or Joint/Group Filing  | g (Check Applicable   |  |  |  |
| HOUSTON                                   | TX      | 77002    |  | X   | Form filed by One Rep         | orting Person         |  |  |  |
|   |         |          |  |   | Form filed by More than       | n 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 3.   Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) 3.   4. Securities Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and<br>Code (Instr.<br>8) |                  |   | 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) |   | (1130. 4)                            |
| Common Stock                    | 10/01/2018                                 |  | S <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 4,000   | D   | \$27.54 <sup>(2)</sup>  | 301,247 <sup>(3)</sup>             | D |                                      |
| Common Stock                    |  |  |                  |   |   |   |   | 6,976                              | 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 Expiratio |     | 6. Date Exerc<br>Expiration Da<br>(Month/Day/Y | ate                | 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) | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--------------|-----|--|--------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
|   |   |  |   | Code                         | v | (A)          | (D) | 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 the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") on March 28, 2017, and the subsequent amendment of the trading plan was previously disclosed by the Issuer in its Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on February 27, 2018.

2. The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$27.65 to \$27.62, 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) 63,258 time-based restricted stock units ("RSUs") previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan (the "Plan") and vesting in February 2019, (ii) 54,115 RSUs previously awarded under the Plan and vesting in February 2021. The awards to vest in 2019 and 2020 shall vest if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from grant date through vesting date and (ii) in the event of his disability or death. Also, the above stin 2021 shall vest in 2021 shall vest in 2021 shall vest of his retirement unless he satisfies various conditions for full vesting, as described in the Issuer's Proxy Statement filed with the SEC on March 15, 2018.

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

**Remarks:** 

Vincent A. Mercaldi, Attorney-10/03/2018

<u>in-Fact</u>

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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.