FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Vortherms Joseph John</u>				2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol  CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]									5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner  Officer (give title Other (specify						
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1111 LOUISIANA					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/19/2019									X	belov	v) ``	or VP		
(Street) HOUST(			77002 Zip)		4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								i. Indiv ine) X	Form Form	lual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable 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. Transac Date (Month/Da			Execution Date,		Transaction Disp		Disposed	4. Securities Acquired (A) Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 5)			and Securi Benefi Owned		cially I Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership				
							Code	v	Amount (A) or (D)		Price	•	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			(Instr. 4)			
Common Stock 02/19/2				/2019	2019			A		5,383 <sup>(1)</sup> A \$		\$31	.21	18,071 <sup>(2)</sup>		D			
Common Stock													10,999		I	By Savings Plan <sup>(3)</sup>			
	Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)																		
Derivative Conversion Date Execution Date, To Conversion or Exercise (Month/Day/Year) if any				saction of		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)  Amoun						Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)				
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisa		Expiration Date	Title	Nur of	nber ires					

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Time-based restricted stock units vesting (i) in February 2022 if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the vesting date; (ii) in the event of his earlier disability or death; or (iii) on a pro-rata basis upon his earlier retirement unless he satisfies various conditions for full vesting.
- 2. Total includes (i) 1,775 time-based restricted stock units ("RSUs") previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan (the "Plan") and vesting in February 2019, (ii) 2,537 RSUs previously awarded under the Plan and vesting in February 2020 and (iii) 3,519 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 on a pro-rata basis in the event of his earlier retirement, disability or death. The award to vest in 2021 shall vest (i) if he 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 award to vest in 2021 shall vest on a pro-rata basis in the event 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.
- 3. Equivalent shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan.

## Remarks:

Vincent A. Mercaldi, Attorney- 02/21/2019 in-Fact

\*\* 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.