



CenterPoint Energy Reports Third Quarter 2004 Results

Loss Reflects Write-Down of Regulatory Assets and Loss on Disposal of Texas Genco

HOUSTON, Nov 9, 2004 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (NYSE: CNP) today reported a net loss of \$1.1 billion, or \$3.66 per diluted share, for the third quarter of 2004 compared to net income of \$182 million, or \$0.59 per diluted share for the same period of 2003.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20020930/CNPLOGO>)

The net loss for the third quarter of 2004 was primarily related to two major events. First, the company recorded an \$894 million extraordinary charge to earnings. This charge reflects a write-down of the company's generation-related regulatory assets resulting from the Public Utility Commission of Texas' (PUC) deliberations in the proceeding to determine the company's stranded investment and other true-up amounts filed pursuant to the Texas electric restructuring law. Second, due to the pending sale of the company's interest in Texas Genco Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: TGN), the company recorded a \$259 million net loss from discontinued operations and reclassified the electric generation segment as discontinued operations for all periods presented. Net income for the third quarter of 2003 included \$35 million, or \$0.11 per diluted share, of income from discontinued operations.

Income from continuing operations was \$17 million, or \$0.05 per diluted share, for the third quarter of 2004 compared to \$147 million, or \$0.48 per diluted share, for the third quarter of 2003. The third quarter of 2003 included after-tax income of \$144 million, or \$0.47 per diluted share, related to Excess Cost Over Market (ECOM) revenues which terminated as of December 31, 2003, in accordance with the Texas electric restructuring law.

"We're very disappointed in the estimated recovery amount from our true-up proceeding pending before the Texas Public Utility Commission," said David M. McClanahan, president and chief executive officer of CenterPoint Energy. "However, we're pleased that the sale of Texas Genco is progressing well, and we will de-leverage the company with the proceeds from the sale and the ultimate securitization of the approved true-up balance. We continue to execute the strategy that we developed when we formed CenterPoint Energy a little over two years ago -- namely, reducing our debt and optimizing and enhancing our core energy delivery businesses. We're making good progress."

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, the company recorded a net loss of \$1 billion, or \$3.25 per diluted share, which included a \$154 million net loss from discontinued operations resulting from the pending sale of Texas Genco and the \$894 million extraordinary charge to earnings from the write-down of generation-related regulatory assets. Net income for the same period of 2003 was \$413 million, or \$1.35 per diluted share, which included \$52 million, or \$0.17 per diluted share, of income from discontinued operations.

Income from continuing operations was \$43 million, or \$0.14 per diluted share, for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, compared to \$362 million, or \$1.18 per share for the same period of 2003. The nine months ended September 30, 2003 included after-tax, ECOM-related income of \$296 million, or \$0.97 per diluted share.

THIRD QUARTER 2004 HIGHLIGHTS

True-Up Proceeding

On March 31, 2004, the company filed its true-up application with the PUC, marking one of the final steps in the implementation of the Texas electric restructuring law. In this application the company is seeking to recover a true-up balance of \$3.7 billion, excluding interest. Although a final order has not been issued, based on deliberations by the PUC commissioners during six public meetings, the company estimates that it will recover approximately \$2.0 billion of its requested amount, excluding interest which will be recorded once a final determination has been made by the PUC. Consequently, the company recorded an \$894 million extraordinary loss in the quarter. Once the PUC issues a final order, the extraordinary loss may be adjusted.

Sale of Texas Genco

On July 21, 2004, CenterPoint Energy and Texas Genco announced a definitive agreement for GC Power Acquisition LLC, a newly formed entity owned in equal parts by affiliates of The Blackstone Group, Hellman & Friedman LLC, Kohlberg Kravis

Roberts & Co. L.P. and Texas Pacific Group, to acquire Texas Genco for approximately \$3.65 billion in cash. The transaction, subject to certain regulatory approvals, will be accomplished in two steps. The first step, expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2004, involves Texas Genco's purchase of the 19 percent of its shares owned by the public for \$47 per share, followed by GC Power Acquisition's purchase of a Texas Genco subsidiary that will then own Texas Genco's coal, lignite and gas-fired generation plants. In the second step of the transaction, expected to take place in the first half of 2005 following Nuclear Regulatory Commission approval, GC Power Acquisition will complete the acquisition of Texas Genco, the principal remaining asset of which will then be Texas Genco's interest in the South Texas Project nuclear facility. Total cash proceeds to CenterPoint Energy from both steps of the transaction will be approximately \$2.9 billion for its 81 percent interest in Texas Genco. After-tax proceeds are estimated to be approximately \$2.5 billion.

OPERATING INCOME BY SEGMENT DETAILED

Electric Transmission & Distribution

The electric transmission & distribution segment reported operating income of \$178 million in the third quarter of 2004, consisting of \$169 million for the regulated transmission and distribution utility (TDU) and \$9 million for the transition bond company, which is an amount sufficient to pay interest on the transition bonds. Results for the third quarter of 2004 do not include any revenues related to ECOM which terminated as of December 31, 2003 in accordance with the Texas electric restructuring law. Operating income for the same period of 2003 totaled \$383 million, consisting of \$151 million for the TDU, \$10 million for the transition bond company and \$222 million of non-cash income associated with ECOM.

The TDU continues to benefit from solid customer growth as nearly 51,000 metered customers were added since September 2003. Increased operation and maintenance expenses from environmental remediation costs and increased transmission payments were more than offset by a land sale.

Operating income for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, was \$390 million, consisting of \$361 million for the TDU and \$29 million for the transition bond company. Operating income for the same period of 2003 totaled \$823 million, consisting of \$339 million for the TDU, \$29 million for the transition bond company and \$455 million of non-cash income associated with ECOM.

Natural Gas Distribution

The natural gas distribution segment reported an operating loss of \$2 million for the third quarter of 2004 compared to an operating loss of \$5 million for the same period of 2003. Due to seasonal impacts, operating results for the third quarter in this segment are typically the weakest of the year.

Continued customer growth, with the addition of over 45,000 customers since September 2003, and higher revenues from rate increases more than offset increased operating expenses.

Operating income for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, was \$137 million, compared to \$146 million for the same period of 2003.

Pipelines and Gathering

The pipelines and gathering segment reported operating income of \$35 million for the third quarter of 2004 compared to \$39 million for the same period of 2003. Increased transportation and gas gathering margins were more than offset by higher operation and maintenance expenses primarily related to pipeline integrity expenditures and litigation settlement costs.

Operating income for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 was \$123 million compared to \$124 million for the same period of 2003.

Other Operations

The company's other operations reported an operating loss of \$4 million for the third quarter of 2004 compared to operating income of \$1 million for the same period of 2003.

The operating loss for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, was \$17 million compared to an operating loss of \$16 million for the same period of 2003.

OTHER

Interest expense incurred for the third quarter of 2004 was \$206 million compared to \$238 million for the same period of 2003.

In accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 87-24, "Allocation of Interest to Discontinued Operations", the company reclassified interest to discontinued operations of Texas Genco according to the terms for debt repayment in the respective credit facilities in effect for each period. After reflecting the reclassification of interest expense to discontinued operations and interest incurred by discontinued operations of \$14 million for the third quarter of 2004 and \$54 million for the same period of 2003, interest expense related to continuing operations was \$192 million in 2004 and \$184 million in 2003.

Interest expense incurred for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, was \$621 million in 2004 compared to \$712 million for the same period of 2003. After reflecting the reclassification of interest expense to discontinued operations and interest incurred by discontinued operations of \$38 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and \$181 million for the same period of 2003, interest expense related to continuing operations was \$583 million for 2004 and \$531 million for the same period of 2003.

DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

Due to the pending sale of the company's interest in Texas Genco, the electric generation segment has been reclassified as discontinued operations in the third quarter of 2004. As a result of the sale, the company recorded a \$253 million loss related to the sale of Texas Genco and an additional loss of \$93 million offsetting the company's 81 percent interest in Texas Genco's third quarter 2004 earnings. Until the sale of Texas Genco is complete, the company's interest in any Texas Genco earnings will be offset by an increased loss on the pending sale. Income from Texas Genco presented in discontinued operations was \$87 million for the quarter and \$36 million for the same period of 2003. For the nine months ended September 30, income from Texas Genco presented in discontinued operations was \$192 million for 2004 and \$66 million for the same period of 2003. These operations are presented as discontinued operations in accordance with SFAS No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets", for all periods presented.

FOURTH QUARTER DIVIDEND

The Board of Directors of CenterPoint Energy has not yet taken up the matter of a cash dividend for the fourth quarter, but is expected to do so at its meeting later in November.

WEBCAST OF EARNINGS CONFERENCE CALL

The management of CenterPoint Energy will host an earnings conference call on Tuesday, November 9, 2004, at 10:30 a.m. Central time. Interested parties may listen to a live, audio broadcast of the conference call at <http://www.CenterPointEnergy.com/investors/events>. A replay of the call can be accessed approximately two hours after the completion of the call, and will be archived on CenterPoint Energy's web site for at least one year.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc., headquartered in Houston, Texas, is a domestic energy delivery company that includes electric transmission & distribution, natural gas distribution and sales, interstate pipeline and gathering operations, and more than 14,000 megawatts of power generation in Texas, of which approximately 2,500 megawatts are currently in mothball status. The company serves nearly five million metered customers primarily in Arkansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas. Assets total over \$19 billion. With more than 11,000 employees, CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor companies have been in business for more than 130 years. For more information, visit the Web site at <http://www.CenterPointEnergy.com>.

This news release includes forward-looking statements. Actual events and results may differ materially from those projected. The statements in this news release regarding future financial performance and results of operations and other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. Factors that could affect actual results include the timing and outcome of the true-up proceeding and any legal proceedings related thereto, the timing and impact of future regulatory and legislative decisions, successful consummation and timing of the sale of Texas Genco, effects of competition, weather variations, changes in CenterPoint Energy's or its subsidiaries' business plans, financial market conditions, the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices, particularly natural gas, the impact of unplanned facility outages and other factors discussed in CenterPoint Energy's and its subsidiaries' Form 10-Ks for the period ended December 31, 2003, Form 10-Qs for the periods ended March 31, 2004 and June 30, 2004 and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Statements of Consolidated Operations
(Thousands of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

Quarter Ended	Nine Months Ended
September 30,	September 30,
2004	2003
-----	-----

Revenues:				
Electric Transmission & Distribution	\$446,130	\$653,438	\$1,149,283	\$1,582,613
Natural Gas Distribution	1,148,548	897,392	4,524,865	3,912,719
Pipelines and Gathering	107,870	89,083	323,670	319,907
Other Operations	2,592	7,615	8,372	25,867
Eliminations	(38,051)	(39,594)	(113,311)	(168,514)
Total	1,667,089	1,607,934	5,892,879	5,672,592
Expenses:				
Fuel and cost of gas sold	928,189	681,888	3,700,679	3,073,652
Operation and maintenance	317,486	298,814	928,556	910,274
Depreciation and amortization	125,528	119,472	361,820	350,547
Taxes other than income taxes	89,151	90,129	269,315	260,889
Total	1,460,354	1,190,303	5,260,370	4,595,362
Operating Income	206,735	417,631	632,509	1,077,230
Other Income (Expense):				
Gain (loss) on Time Warner investment	(31,161)	(21,207)	(40,033)	43,497
Gain (loss) on indexed debt securities	34,117	17,040	43,240	(38,510)
Interest and other finance charges	(182,701)	(173,822)	(554,658)	(501,107)
Interest on transition bonds	(9,495)	(9,811)	(28,716)	(29,495)
Other - net	1,310	2,688	15,243	11,846
Total	(187,930)	(185,112)	(564,924)	(513,769)
Income from Continuing Operations Before Income Taxes and Extraordinary Loss				
	18,805	232,519	67,585	563,461
Income Tax Expense	(2,174)	(85,544)	(24,781)	(201,699)
Income from Continuing Operations Before Extraordinary Loss				
	16,631	146,975	42,804	361,762
Discontinued Operations:				
Income from Texas Genco, net of tax	108,768	51,753	240,689	104,580
Minority Interest related to Texas Genco, net of tax	(21,852)	(15,694)	(48,707)	(38,799)
Loss on Disposal of Texas Genco, net of tax	(346,127)	---	(346,127)	---
Loss from Other Operations, net of tax	---	(1,212)	---	(2,077)
Loss on Disposal of Other Operations, net of tax	---	(97)	---	(12,086)
Total	(259,211)	34,750	(154,145)	51,618
Extraordinary Loss, net of tax				
	(893,618)	---	(893,618)	---
Net Income (Loss)	\$(1,136,198)	\$181,725	\$(1,004,959)	\$413,380

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Selected Data From Statements of Consolidated Operations
(Thousands of Dollars, Except Per Share Amounts)
(Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Basic Earnings Per Common Share:				
Income from Continuing Operations	\$0.05	\$0.48	\$0.14	\$1.19
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations	(0.84)	0.12	(0.50)	0.17
Extraordinary Loss, net of tax	(2.90)	---	(2.91)	---
Net Income (Loss)	\$(3.69)	\$0.60	\$(3.27)	\$1.36
Diluted Earnings Per Common Share:				
Income from Continuing Operations	\$0.05	\$0.48	\$0.14	\$1.18
Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations	(0.83)	0.11	(0.50)	0.17
Extraordinary Loss, net of tax	(2.88)	---	(2.89)	---
Net Income (Loss)	\$(3.66)	\$0.59	\$(3.25)	\$1.35
Dividends Declared per Common Share				
	\$0.10	\$--- (A)	\$0.30	\$0.30
Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding (000):				
- Basic	307,592	305,007	306,954	303,261
- Diluted	310,165	307,345	309,482	305,415
Operating Income (Loss) by Segment				
Electric Transmission & Distribution:				
Transmission & Distribution Operations	\$168,506	\$151,466	\$361,635	\$338,901
Transition Bond Company	9,399	9,733	28,505	29,252
ECOM True-up	---	221,502	---	454,783
Total Electric Transmission & Distribution	177,905	382,701	390,140	822,936
Natural Gas Distribution	(1,972)	(4,723)	137,427	145,789
Pipelines and Gathering	35,391	38,948	122,484	124,197
Other Operations	(4,589)	705	(17,542)	(15,692)
Total	\$206,735	\$417,631	\$632,509	\$1,077,230

(A) A third quarter dividend was declared on June 18, 2003 payable on September 10, 2003.

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Results of Operations by Segment
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Electric Transmission & Distribution					
	Quarter			Nine Months		
	Ended		% Diff	Ended		% Diff
	September 30, 2004	2003	Fav/ (Unfav)	September 30, 2004	2003	Fav/ (Unfav)

Results of Operations:						
Revenues:						
Electric revenues	\$425	\$414	3%	\$1,095	\$1,080	1%
ECOM revenues	---	222	---	---	455	---
Transition bond revenues	21	18	17%	54	48	13%
Total Revenues	446	654	(32%)	1,149	1,583	(27%)
Expenses:						
Operation and maintenance	134	139	4%	390	398	2%
Depreciation and amortization	63	62	(2%)	186	184	(1%)
Taxes other than income taxes	59	62	5%	158	159	1%
Transition bond expenses	12	8	(50%)	25	19	(32%)
Total	268	271	1%	759	760	---
Operating Income	\$178	\$383	(54%)	\$390	\$823	(53%)

Electric Transmission
& Distribution

Operating Data:	Quarter Ended			Nine Months Ended		
	September 30, 2004	2003		September 30, 2004	2003	
Actual MWH Delivered	-----	-----		-----	-----	
Residential	8,511,639	8,134,198	5%	18,714,422	19,182,750	(2%)
Total	22,568,431	20,895,879	8%	56,633,719	54,770,018	3%

Weather (average for service area):

Percentage of normal:						
Cooling degree days	103%	96%	7%	102%	102%	---
Heating degree days	N/A	N/A	---	86%	111%	(25%)

Average number of metered customers:

Residential	1,645,523	1,600,998	3%	1,633,890	1,587,976	3%
Commercial and Industrial	224,605	220,420	2%	222,661	221,049	1%
Total	1,870,128	1,821,418	3%	1,856,551	1,809,025	3%

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

Revenues	\$108	\$89	21%	\$324	\$320	1%
Expenses:						
Natural gas	6	5	(20%)	33	62	47%
Operation and maintenance	52	31	(68%)	122	90	(36%)
Depreciation and amortization	11	10	(10%)	33	31	(6%)
Taxes other than income taxes	4	4	---	13	13	---
Total	73	50	(46%)	201	196	(3%)
Operating Income	\$35	\$39	(10%)	\$123	\$124	(1%)

Pipelines and Gathering

Operating Data:

Throughput data in BCF

Natural Gas Sales	1	1	---	8	9	(11%)
Transportation	181	159	14%	658	630	4%
Gathering	79	73	8%	233	219	6%
Elimination	---	---	---	(5)	(4)	(25%)
Total Throughput	261	233	12%	894	854	5%

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Results of Operations by Segment
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Other Operations					
	Quarter			Nine Months		
	Ended		% Diff	Ended		% Diff
	Sept. 30,	2003	Fav/	Sept. 30,	2003	Fav/
	2004		(Unfav)	2004		(Unfav)
Results of Operations:	----	----	-----	----	----	-----
Revenues	\$2	\$8	(75%)	\$8	\$26	(69%)
Expenses	6	7	14%	25	42	40%
Operating Income (Loss)	\$(4)	\$1	(500%)	\$(17)	\$(16)	(6%)

Capital Expenditures by Segment
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Capital Expenditures by Segment	----	----	----	----
Electric Transmission & Distribution	\$79	\$51	\$173	\$156
Natural Gas Distribution	52	65	132	148
Pipelines and Gathering	14	13	38	42
Other Operations	4	---	16	6
Total	\$149	\$129	\$359	\$352

Interest Expense Detail
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,	September 30,
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Interest Expense Detail	----	----	----	----
Amortization of Deferred Financing				

Cost	\$19	\$16	\$63	\$44
Capitalization of Interest Cost	(1)	(1)	(3)	(3)
Transition Bond Interest Expense	9	9	28	28
Other Interest Expense	165	160	495	462
Total Interest Expense	192	184	583	531
Amortization of Deferred Financing Cost Reclassified to Discontinued Operations	1	22	3	64
Other Interest Reclassified to Discontinued Operations	13	31	35	109
Total Interest Reclassified to Discontinued Operations (A)	14	53	38	173
Interest Expense Incurred by Discontinued Operations	---	1	---	8
Total Expense in Discontinued Operations	14	54	38	181
Total Interest Expense Incurred	\$206	\$238	\$621	\$712

- (A) In 2003, our \$3.85 billion credit facility was comprised of a revolver and a term loan. This facility was amended in October 2003 to a \$2.35 billion credit facility, comprised of a revolver and a term loan. According to the terms of the \$3.85 billion credit facility, any net cash proceeds received from the sale of Texas Genco were required to be applied to repay borrowings under the credit facility. According to the terms of the \$2.35 billion credit facility, until such time as the facility has been reduced to \$750 million, 100% of any net cash proceeds received from the sale of Texas Genco are required to be applied to repay borrowings under the credit facility and reduce the amount available under the credit facility.

In accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 87-24 "Allocation of Interest to Discontinued Operations", we have reclassified interest to discontinued operations of Texas Genco based on net proceeds to be received from the sale of Texas Genco of \$2.5 billion, and have applied the proceeds to the amount of debt assumed to be paid down in each respective period according to the terms of the respective credit facilities in effect for those periods. In periods where only the term loan was assumed to be repaid, the actual interest paid was reclassified. In periods where a portion of the revolver was assumed to be repaid, the percentage of that portion of the revolver to the total outstanding balance was calculated, and that percentage was applied to the actual interest paid in those periods to compute the amount of interest reclassified.

Total interest expense incurred was \$206 million and \$238 million for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, and \$621 million and \$712 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively. After reflecting the reclassification of interest expense to discontinued operations and interest incurred by discontinued operations of \$14 million and \$54 million for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, and \$38 million and \$181 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, interest expense related to continuing operations was \$192 million and \$184 million for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively, and \$583 million and \$531 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(Thousands of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	September 30, 2004 -----	December 31, 2003 -----
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$20,202	\$86,922
Other current assets	1,888,084	1,967,944
Current assets of discontinued operations	606,018	301,765
Total current assets	2,514,304	2,356,631
Property, Plant and Equipment, net	8,122,791	8,084,924
Other Assets:		
Goodwill, net	1,740,510	1,740,510
Regulatory assets	3,227,201	4,930,793
Other non-current assets	406,639	405,936
Non-current assets of discontinued operations	3,574,598	3,942,296
Total other assets	8,948,948	11,019,535
Total Assets	\$19,586,043	\$21,461,090
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current Liabilities:		
Current portion of transition bond long-term debt	\$46,806	\$41,189
Short-term borrowings and current portion of other long-term debt	490,414	182,738
Other current liabilities	1,881,545	2,046,209
Current liabilities of discontinued operations	353,947	332,125
Total current liabilities	2,772,712	2,602,261
Other Liabilities:		
Accumulated deferred income taxes, net and investment tax credit	1,907,237	2,227,229
Regulatory liabilities	1,114,515	1,358,030
Other non-current liabilities	1,019,260	1,278,646
Non-current liabilities of discontinued operations	1,461,097	1,277,760
Total other liabilities	5,502,109	6,141,665
Long-term Debt:		
Transition bond	628,893	675,665
Other	9,826,790	10,102,269
Total long-term debt	10,455,683	10,777,934
Minority Interest in Discontinued Operations	215,953	178,673
Shareholders' Equity	639,586	1,760,557

Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$19,586,043	\$21,461,090
--	--------------	--------------

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Condensed Statements of Consolidated Cash Flows
(Thousands of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2004	2003
	-----	-----
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net income (loss)	\$(1,004,959)	\$413,380
Discontinued operations, net of tax	154,145	(51,618)
Extraordinary loss, net of tax	893,618	---
Income from continuing operations	42,804	361,762
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	424,993	394,947
Deferred income taxes and investment tax credit	99,556	313,151
Changes in net regulatory assets and liabilities	(253,335)	(667,796)
Changes in other assets and liabilities	8,017	(155,956)
Other, net	17,268	22,507
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	339,303	268,615
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(352,864)	(350,956)
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities	(113,811)	(230,227)
Net Cash Provided by Discontinued Operations	60,652	43,264
Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(66,720)	(269,304)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	86,922	303,704
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$20,202	\$34,400

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

SOURCE CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

media, Leticia Lowe, +1-713-207-7702, or investors, Marianne Paulsen, +1-713-207-6500, both of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.
/Photo: NewsCom: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20020930/CNPLOGO>
AP Archive: <http://photoarchive.ap.org>
PRN Photo Desk, photodesk@prnewswire.com

<http://www.centerpointenergy.com>

Copyright (C) 2004 PR Newswire. All rights reserved.

News Provided by COMTEX