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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 1, 2011

CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas (State or other jurisdiction

1-31447 (Commission File Number) 74-0694415 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

1111 Louisiana Houston, Texas

of incorporation)

(Address of principal executive offices)

77002 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (713) 207-1111

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM 2.02. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS SIGNATURE EXHIBIT INDEX EX-99.1 EX-99.2

ITEM 2.02. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION.

On March 1, 2011, CenterPoint Energy, Inc. ("CenterPoint Energy") reported fourth quarter and full year 2010 earnings. For additional information regarding CenterPoint Energy's fourth quarter and full year 2010 earnings, please refer to CenterPoint Energy's press release attached to this report as Exhibit 99.1 (the "Press Release") and the supplemental materials which are being posted on CenterPoint Energy's website and are attached to this report as Exhibit 99.2 (the "Supplemental Materials"), which Press Release and Supplemental Materials are incorporated by reference herein. The information in the Press Release and Supplemental Materials is being furnished, not filed, pursuant to Item 2.02. Accordingly, the information in the Press Release and Supplemental Materials will not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement filed by CenterPoint Energy under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, unless specifically identified therein as being incorporated therein by reference.

ITEM 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

The exhibit listed below is furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 of this Form 8-K.

- (d) Exhibits.
- 99.1 Press Release issued March 1, 2011 regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s fourth quarter and full year 2010 earnings.
- 99.2 Supplemental Materials regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s fourth quarter and full year 2010 earnings.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 1, 2011

CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.

By: /s/ Walter L. Fitzgerald

Walter L. Fitzgerald Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

EXHIBIT NUMBER	EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION
99.1	Press Release issued March 1, 2011 regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s fourth quarter and full year 2010 earnings.
99.2	Supplemental Materials regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s fourth quarter and full year 2010 earnings.



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Page 1 of 5

CENTERPOINT ENERGY REPORTS FOURTH QUARTER AND FULL YEAR 2010 EARNINGS

Houston, TX — March 1, 2011 — CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (NYSE: CNP) today reported net income of \$124 million, or \$0.29 per diluted share, for the fourth quarter of 2010 compared to \$105 million, or \$0.27 per diluted share, for the same period of 2009. Operating income for the fourth quarter of 2010 was \$302 million compared to \$299 million for the same period of 2009.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, net income was \$442 million, or \$1.07 per diluted share, compared to \$372 million, or \$1.01 per diluted share, for the same period of 2009. Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2010, was \$1.25 billion compared to \$1.12 billion for the same period of 2009.

"I am pleased with our company's overall performance in 2010," said David M. McClanahan, president and chief executive officer of CenterPoint Energy. "Our regulated electric and natural gas utilities, and interstate pipelines turned in solid operating and financial performances. Our field services unit expanded its facilities in the Haynesville shale resulting in substantial increases in throughput, revenues and operating income. As our performance demonstrates, we continue to benefit from our balanced portfolio of electric and natural gas assets, and I believe we are well positioned for the future."

Electric Transmission & Distribution

The electric transmission & distribution segment reported operating income of \$90 million for the fourth quarter of 2010, consisting of \$56 million from the regulated electric transmission & distribution utility operations (TDU) and \$34 million related to securitization bonds. Operating income for the fourth quarter of 2009 was \$95 million, consisting of \$61 million from the TDU and \$34 million related to securitization bonds. Operating income for the TDU benefited from growth of nearly 28,000 metered customers since December 2009 and increased usage, which was more than offset by higher operation and maintenance expenses in part associated with energy efficiency and system reliability programs.

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2010, was \$567 million, consisting of \$427 million from the TDU and \$140 million related to securitization bonds. Operating income for the same period of 2009 was \$545 million, consisting of \$414 million from the TDU and \$131 million related to securitization bonds. Operating income for the TDU benefited from customer growth and increased usage due in part to favorable weather, partially offset by reduced revenues associated with the credit to customers' bills reflecting the benefit of deferred taxes associated with Hurricane Ike storm restoration costs, and increased operation and maintenance expenses in part associated with system reliability programs and higher employee-related costs.

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Natural Gas Distribution

The natural gas distribution segment reported operating income of \$86 million for the fourth quarter of 2010 compared to \$99 million for the same period of 2009. The decline in operating income resulted primarily from milder weather, higher operation and maintenance expenses, and rate design changes.

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2010, was \$231 million compared to \$204 million for the same period of 2009. Operating results benefited from rate changes, lower pension and benefit costs, and reduced bad debt expense, partially offset by higher operation and maintenance expenses.

Interstate Pipelines

The interstate pipelines segment reported operating income of \$63 million for the fourth quarter of 2010 compared to \$62 million for the same period of 2009. Higher revenues from firm contracts associated with Phase IV of the Carthage to Perryville pipeline were substantially offset by reduced revenues from ancillary services.

In addition to operating income, this segment recorded equity income of \$4 million for the fourth quarter of 2010 from its 50 percent interest in the Southeast Supply Header (SESH) compared to equity income of \$5 million for the same period of 2009.

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2010, was \$270 million compared to \$256 million for the same period of 2009. Operating income increased primarily due to higher revenue from new firm contracts and lower operation and maintenance expenses, partially offset by lower revenue from ancillary services and off-system sales.

In addition to operating income, this segment recorded equity income of \$19 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, from its interest in SESH compared to equity income of \$7 million for the same period of 2009, which included non-cash charges of \$16 million to reflect SESH's discontinued use of regulatory accounting.

Field Services

The field services segment reported operating income of \$57 million for the fourth quarter of 2010 compared to \$22 million for the same period of 2009. Revenue growth from higher gathering volumes, primarily associated with projects in the Haynesville shale, was partially offset by increased operation and maintenance expenses primarily related to facility expansions. Operating income for the fourth quarter of 2010 also included a gain of \$21 million associated with the sale of a small, non-strategic gas gathering system.

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Page 2 of 5



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In addition to operating income, this business had equity income of \$2 million in each of the fourth quarters of 2010 and 2009 from its 50 percent interest in a gathering and processing joint venture (Waskom).

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2010, was \$151 million compared to \$94 million for the same period of 2009. Revenue growth from higher gathering volumes associated with projects in the Haynesville and other shale areas was partially offset by increased operation and maintenance expenses from the new facilities. Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2010, also included a gain of \$21 million associated with the sale of a small, non-strategic gas gathering system. Equity income from the Waskom joint venture was \$10 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to \$8 million for the same period of 2009.

Competitive Natural Gas Sales and Services

The competitive natural gas sales and services segment reported no operating income for the fourth quarter of 2010 compared to operating income of \$21 million for the same period of 2009. The decline in operating income was due to substantially reduced locational and seasonal price differentials. In addition, operating income for the fourth quarter of 2010 included charges of \$10 million resulting from mark-to-market accounting for derivatives associated with certain forward natural gas purchases and sales used to lock in economic margins, compared to charges of \$1 million for the same period of 2009.

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2010, was \$16 million compared to \$21 million for the same period of 2009. The decline in operating income was due to substantially reduced locational and seasonal price differentials. In addition, operating income for the year ended December 31, 2010, included gains of \$4 million resulting from mark-to-market accounting compared to charges of \$23 million for the same period of 2009. During each of the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, there were \$6 million in natural gas inventory write-downs to the lower of cost or market.

Corporate and Other

Net income for the fourth quarter of 2010 included a decrease in deferred income tax expense of \$24 million to reflect the effects of restructuring certain gas subsidiaries. Net income for the first quarter of 2010 reflected an increase in deferred income tax expense of \$21 million as a result of the passing of federal health care legislation that eliminated the future tax deductibility of certain retiree health care costs.

During the year ended December 31, 2010, the company issued 33 million common shares through an underwritten public offering, and dividend reinvestment and employee benefit plans.

-more-

Page 3 of 5



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Dividend Declaration

On January 20, 2011, CenterPoint Energy's board of directors declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.1975 per share of common stock payable on March 10, 2011, to shareholders of record as of the close of business on February 16, 2011. This marks the sixth consecutive year the company has increased its quarterly dividend.

Outlook for 2011

CenterPoint Energy expects earnings for 2011 to be in the range of \$1.04 to \$1.14 per diluted share. This guidance takes into consideration various economic and operational assumptions related to the business segments in which the company operates. The company has made certain assumptions regarding financing activities and the impact to earnings of various regulatory proceedings. In providing this guidance, the company has not included the impact of any changes in accounting standards, any impact from significant acquisitions or divestitures, any impact to income from the change in value of Time Warner stocks and the related ZENS securities, the timing effects of mark-to-market or inventory accounting in the company's competitive natural gas sales and services business, or the outcome of the TDU's true-up appeal.

Filing of Form 10-K for CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

Today, CenterPoint Energy, Inc. filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2010. A copy of that report is available on the company's Web site, <u>www.CenterPointEnergy.com</u>, under the Investors section. Other filings the company makes with the SEC and other documents relating to its corporate governance can also be found on that site.

Webcast of Earnings Conference Call

CenterPoint Energy's management will host an earnings conference call on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. Central time or 11:30 a.m. Eastern time. Interested parties may listen to a live audio broadcast of the conference call at <u>www.CenterPointEnergy.com</u>. A replay of the call can be accessed approximately two hours after the completion of the call and will be archived on the 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, competitive natural gas sales and services, interstate pipelines, and field services operations. The company serves more than five million metered customers primarily in Arkansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas. Assets total more than \$20 billion. With over 8,800 employees, CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor companies have been in business for more than 135 years. For more information, visit the Web site at www.CenterPointEnergy.com.

-more-

Page 4 of 5



Page 5 of 5

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This news release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual events and results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. The statements in this news release regarding the company's earnings outlook for 2011 and future financial performance and results of operations, and other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement contained in this news release speaks only as of the date of this release. Factors that could affect actual results include (1) the resolution of the true-up proceedings, including, in particular, the results of appeals to the Texas Supreme Court regarding rulings obtained to date; (2) state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments relating to the environment, including those related to global climate change; (3) other state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments affecting various aspects of CenterPoint Energy's businesses, including, among others, energy deregulation or re-regulation, pipeline safety, health care reform, financial reform and tax legislation; (4) timely and appropriate rate actions and increases, allowing recovery of costs and a reasonable return on investment; (5) the timing and outcome of any audits, disputes or other proceedings related to taxes; (6) problems with construction, implementation of necessary technology or other issues with respect to major capital projects that result in delays or in cost overruns that cannot be recouped in rates; (7) industrial, commercial and residential growth in CenterPoint Energy's service territories and changes in market demand, including the effects of energy efficiency measures, and demographic patterns; (8) the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices, particularly natural gas and natural gas liquids; (9) the timing and extent of changes in the supply of natural gas, including supplies available for gathering by CenterPoint Energy's field services business and transporting by its interstate pipelines; (10) the timing and extent of changes in natural gas basis differentials; (11) weather variations and other natural phenomena; (12) the impact of unplanned facility outages; (13) timely and appropriate regulatory actions allowing securitization or other recovery of costs associated with any future hurricanes or natural disasters; (14) changes in interest rates or rates of inflation; (15) commercial bank and financial market conditions, CenterPoint Energy's access to capital, the cost of such capital, and the results of our financing and refinancing efforts, including availability of funds in the debt capital markets; (16) actions by rating agencies; (17) effectiveness of CenterPoint Energy's risk management activities; (18) inability of various counterparties to meet their obligations; (19) non-payment for our services due to financial distress of CenterPoint Energy,'s customers; (20) the ability of GenOn Energy, Inc. (formerly known as RRI Energy, Inc.) and its subsidiaries to satisfy their obligations to CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries; (21) the ability of retail electric providers, and particularly the two largest customers of the TDU, to satisfy their obligations to CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries; (22) the outcome of litigation brought by or against CenterPoint Energy; (23) CenterPoint Energy's ability to control costs; (24) the investment performance of pension and postretirement benefit plans; (25) potential business strategies, including restructurings, acquisitions or dispositions of assets or businesses; (26) acquisition and merger activities; and (27) other factors discussed in CenterPoint Energy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, and other reports CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries may file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries Statements of Consolidated Income (Millions of Dollars) (Unaudited)

	Quarter Decemb	er 31,	Year Ended December 31,		
Revenues:	2009	2010	2009	2010	
Electric Transmission & Distribution	\$ 472	\$ 506	\$ 2,013	\$ 2,205	
Natural Gas Distribution	1,043	813	3,384	3,213	
Competitive Natural Gas Sales and Services	634	592	2,230	2,651	
Interstate Pipelines	137	145	598	601	
Field Services	65	96	241	338	
Other Operations	2	2	11	11	
Eliminations	(54)	(56)	(196)	(234)	
Total	2,299	2,098	8,281	8,785	
Expenses:					
Natural gas	1,290	1,053	4,371	4,574	
Operation and maintenance	438	451	1,664	1,719	
Depreciation and amortization	181	204	743	864	
Taxes other than income taxes	91	88	379	379	
Total	2,000	1,796	7,157	7,536	
Operating Income	299	302	1,124	1,249	
Other Income (Expense) :					
Gain on marketable securities	14	32	82	67	
Loss on indexed debt securities	(14)	(31)	(68)	(31)	
Interest and other finance charges	(129)	(117)	(513)	(481)	
Interest on transition and system restoration bonds	(33)	(34)	(131)	(140)	
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates	7	7	15	29	
Other — net	8	5	39	12	
Total	(147)	(138)	(576)	(544)	
Income Before Income Taxes	152	164	548	705	
Income Tax Expense	(47)	(40)	(176)	(263)	
Net Income	<u>\$ 105</u>	\$ 124	\$ 372	\$ 442	

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

	Quarter Decem 2009		Year E Decemi 2009	
Basic Earnings Per Common Share	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.29	\$ 1.02	\$ 1.08
Diluted Earnings Per Common Share	\$ 0.27	<u>\$ 0.29</u>	<u>\$ 1.01</u>	<u>\$ 1.07</u>
Dividends Declared per Common Share	\$ 0.190	\$ 0.195	\$ 0.760	\$ 0.780
Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding (000):				
- Basic	390,922	423,860	365,229	409,721
- Diluted	393,472	426,963	367,681	412,776
Operating Income by Segment				
Electric Transmission & Distribution:				
Electric Transmission and Distribution Operations	\$ 61	\$ 56	\$ 414	\$ 427
Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies	34	34	131	140
Total Electric Transmission & Distribution	95	90	545	567
Natural Gas Distribution	99	86	204	231
Competitive Natural Gas Sales and Services	21	_	21	16
Interstate Pipelines	62	63	256	270
Field Services	22	57	94	151
Other Operations		6	4	14
Total	<u>\$ 299</u>	\$ 302	\$ 1,124	\$ 1,249

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

	Electric Transmission & Distribution									
		er Endeo nber 31		% Diff			Ended		% Diff	
	2009	iibei 51,	2010	Fav/(Unfav)		2009	1001 51,	2010	Fav/(Unfav)	
\$	392	\$	413	5%	\$	1,673	\$	1,768	6%	
				16%					29%	
	472	_	506	7%		2,013		2,205	10%	
	211		232	(10%)		774		841	(9%)	
	70		74	(6%)		277		293	(6%)	
	50		51	(2%)		208		207		
	46		59	(28%)		209		297	(42%)	
									(12%)	
\$		\$. ,	\$		\$		4%	
φ	55	Ψ		(370)	Ψ	545	Φ	507	470	
\$	61	\$	56	(8%)	\$	414	\$	427	3%	
	34		34	_		131		140	7%	
\$	95	\$	90	(5%)	\$	545	\$	567	4%	
_										
				20/						
									7%	
16,	,632,601		17,020,701	2%	72	1,579,298	76	5,973,117	3%	
	82%		108%	26%		105%		105%	_	
	122%		94%	(28%)		103%		133%	30%	
1	.849.019		1,874,508	1%	1	.849.019	1	.874.508	1%	
				1%					1%	
					• • • •					
					istribut	Year E			04 D:66	
20			2010	% Diff Fav/(Unfav)				2010	% Diff <u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	
\$	1,043	\$	813	(22%)	\$	3,384	\$	3,213	(5%)	
	713		486	32%		2,251		2,049	9%	
	161		168	(4%)		639		639		
	40		42	(5%)		161		166	(3%)	
	30		31	(3%)		129		128	1%	
			727	23%		3,180		2,982	6%	
\$	99	\$	86	(13%)	\$	204	\$	231	13%	
						·				
	60			(******		4 = 2		4 = -		
	62		52	(16%)		173		177	2%	
	62 69 131		52 67 119	(16%) (3%) (9%)		173 233 406		177 249 426	2% 7% 5%	
	\$ 4 16 1 20 \$	2009 2009 80 40 472 211 70 50 46 377 \$ 95 46 347 \$ 95 46 347 \$ 95 46 347 \$ 95 46 34 \$ 95 46 347 \$ 95 46 34 \$ 95 46 46 34 \$ 95 46 46 34 \$ 95 46 46 34 \$ 95 46 46 34 \$ 95 46 46 34 \$ 95 46 47 47 4,774,799 16,632,601 40 42% 122% 40 104 105 105 105 105 105 105 105 105	$ \begin{array}{c cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	\$ 392 \$ 413 80 93 472 506 472 506 211 232 70 74 50 51 46 59 377 416 \$ 95 90 46 59 377 416 \$ 95 90 \$ 61 \$ 56 34 34 34 34 \$ 95 90 90 4 \$ 90 108% 4.774,799 5,054,882 108% 16,632,601 17,020,701 30 82% 108% 94% 122% 94% 94% 2,094,210 2,122,135 94% 108 813 31 2009 2010 2010 \$ 1,043 813 713 486 161 161 168 40 40 42 30 31<	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	

Weather (average for service area)

Percentage of 10-year average:

Heating degree days	110%	100%	(10%)	105%	107%	2%
Number of customers — end of period:						
Residential	3,002,114	3,016,333	—	3,002,114	3,016,333	
Commercial and Industrial	244,101	246,891	1%	244,101	246,891	1%
Total	3,246,215	3,263,224	1%	3,246,215	3,263,224	1%

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

					Competitive Natural Ga	as Sale	s and Services	3			
	_		er Ended nber 31,	2010	% Diff Fav/(Unfav)			Ended nber 31,	2010	% Diff Fav/(Unfav)	
Results of Operations:					<u>()</u>					<u> </u>	
Revenues	\$	634	\$	592	(7%)	\$	2,230	\$	2,651	19%	
Expenses:											
Natural gas		603		582	3%		2,165		2,591	(20%)	
Operation and maintenance		9		9	—		39		38	3%	
Depreciation and amortization		1		1	—		4		4	—	
Taxes other than income taxes					—		1		2	(100%)	
Total		613		592	3%		2,209		2,635	(19%)	
Operating Income	\$	21	\$	_	(100%)	\$	21	\$	16	(24%)	
Services Operating Data: Throughput data in BCF Number of customers — end of period	<u>134</u> 11,168			144 12,193	7% 9%	=	504 11,168		548 12,193	9% 9%	
	Interstate Pipelines										
	2	Quarte Decerr 2009	r Ended iber 31,	2010	% Diff Fav/(Unfav)	_		Ended nber 31,	2010	% Diff Fav/(Unfav)	
Results of Operations:											
Revenues	\$	137	\$	145	6%	\$	598	\$	601	1%	
Expenses:											
Natural gas		12		21	(75%)		97		93	4%	
Operation and maintenance		43		41	5%		166		153	8%	
Depreciation and amortization		12		13	(8%)		48		52	(8%)	
Towner other them in come towner		0		7	100/		21		22	(C0/)	

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

\$

13%

(9%)

2%

21%

31

342

256

1,592

\$

33

331

270

1,693

\$

(6%)

3%

5%

6%

8

75

62

357

\$

Taxes other than income taxes

Total

Operating Income

Transportation

Pipelines Operating Data: Throughput data in BCF

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

		Field Services									
		Quarter Ended December 31, 2009 2010			% Diff	Year Ended December 31, 2009 2010				% Diff Fav/(Unfav)	
Results of Operations:	2	009	2	010	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>		2009	2	010	Fav/(Ollav)	
Revenues	\$	65	\$	96	48%	\$	241	\$	338	40%	
Expenses:											
Natural gas		15		19	(27%)		51		72	(41%)	
Operation and maintenance		23		10	57%		77		85	(10%)	
Depreciation and amortization		4		8	(100%)		15		25	(67%)	
Taxes other than income taxes		1		2	(100%)		4		5	(25%)	
Total		43		39	9%		147		187	(27%)	
Operating Income	\$	22	\$	57	159%	\$	94	\$	151	61%	
Field Services Operating Data:											
Throughput data in BCF											
Gathering		114		186	63%		426		650	53%	

	Other Operations									
			r Ended iber 31,		% Diff		Ended nber 31,		% Diff	
	2	009	2010		Fav/(Unfav)			2010		Fav/(Unfav)
Results of Operations:										
Revenues	\$	2	\$	2	—	\$	11	\$	11	
Expenses		2		(4)	300%		7		(3)	143%
Operating Income	\$	_	\$	6	_	\$	4	\$	14	250%

Capital Expenditures by Segment (Millions of Dollars)

(Unaudited)

	Quarter Decem	r Ended ber 31,	Year Ended December 31,			
	2009	2010	2009	2010		
Capital Expenditures by Segment						
Electric Transmission & Distribution	\$ 114	\$ 146	\$ 402	\$ 463		
Hurricane Ike	—	_	26	—		
Total Electric Transmission & Distribution	114	146	428	463		
Natural Gas Distribution	44	74	165	202		
Competitive Natural Gas Sales and Services	_	_	2	2		
Interstate Pipelines	58	31	176	102		
Field Services	131	196	348	668		
Other Operations	11	10	29	25		
Total	\$ 358	\$ 457	\$ 1,148	\$ 1,462		

(Millions of Dollars) (Unaudited)

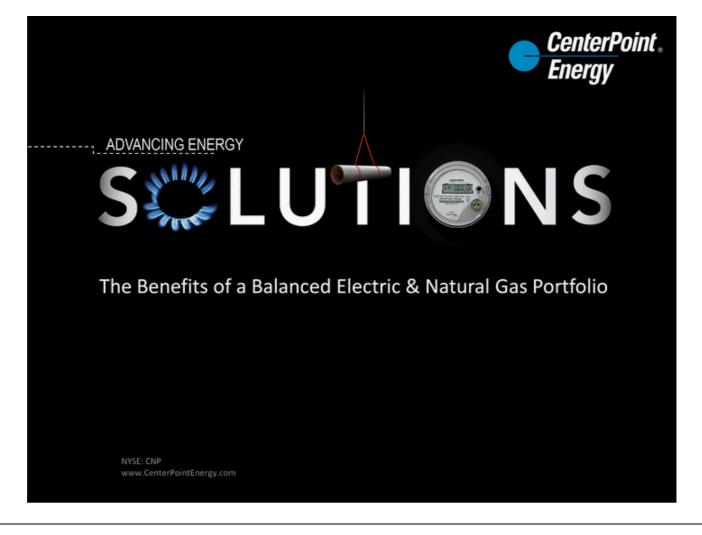
	Quarter Ended December 31, 2009 2010				2		Ended nber 31, 2	2010
Interest Expense Detail								
Amortization of Deferred Financing Cost	\$	7	\$	6	\$	34	\$	24
Capitalization of Interest Cost		—		(4)		(4)		(9)
Transition and System Restoration Bond Interest Expense		33		34		131		140
Other Interest Expense		122		115		483		466
Total Interest Expense	\$	162	\$	151	\$	644	\$	621

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

	De	<u>cember 31,</u> 2009	De	<u>cember 31,</u> 2010
ASSETS		2000		2010
Current Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	740	\$	199
Other current assets		2,164		2,383
Total current assets		2,904		2,582
Property, Plant and Equipment, net		10,788		11,732
Other Assets:				
Goodwill		1,696		1,696
Regulatory assets		3,677		3,446
Other non-current assets		708		655
Total other assets		6,081		5,797
Total Assets	\$	19,773	\$	20,111
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Current Liabilities:				
Short-term borrowings	\$	55	\$	53
Current portion of transition and system restoration bonds long-term debt		241		283
Current portion of indexed debt		121		126
Current portion of other long-term debt		541		19
Other current liabilities		2,080		2,139
Total current liabilities		3,038		2,620
Other Liabilities:				
Accumulated deferred income taxes, net and investment tax credit		2,792		2,943
Regulatory liabilities		921		989
Other non-current liabilities		1,264		1,360
Total other liabilities		4,977	_	5,292
Long-term Debt:				
Transition and system restoration bonds		2,805		2,522
Other		6,314		6,479
Total long-term debt		9,119		9,001
Shareholders' Equity		2,639	_	3,198
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$	19,773	\$	20,111

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

	Year Ended 1 2009	December 31, 2010
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	2000	
Net income	\$ 372	\$ 442
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	780	891
Deferred income taxes	269	199
Write-down of natural gas inventory	6	6
Changes in net regulatory assets	—	14
Changes in other assets and liabilities	398	(164)
Other, net	16	(2)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	1,841	1,386
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(896)	(1,420)
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities	(372)	(507)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	573	(541)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	167	740
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 740	\$ 199



Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information



This presentation contains statements concerning our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance and underlying assumptions and other statements that are not historical facts. These statements are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements. You can generally identify our forward-looking statements by the words "anticipate," "believe," "continue," "could," "estimate," "expect," "forecast," "goal," "intend," "may," "objective," "plan," "potential," "predict," "projection," "should," "will," or other similar words.

We have based our forward-looking statements on our management's beliefs and assumptions based on information currently available to our management at the time the statements are made. We caution you that assumptions, beliefs, expectations, intentions, and projections about future events may and often do vary materially from actual results. Therefore, we cannot assure you that actual results will not differ materially from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements.

Some of the factors that could cause actual results to differ from those expressed or implied by our forwardlooking statements include the resolution of the true-up proceedings, including, in particular, the results of appeals to the Texas Supreme Court regarding rulings obtained to date, the timing and impact of future regulatory, legislative and IRS decisions, financial market conditions and other factors described in CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2010, under "Risk Factors" and under "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Certain Factors Affecting Future Earnings" and in other filings with the SEC by CenterPoint Energy.

You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of this presentation, and we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements.

March 1, 2011

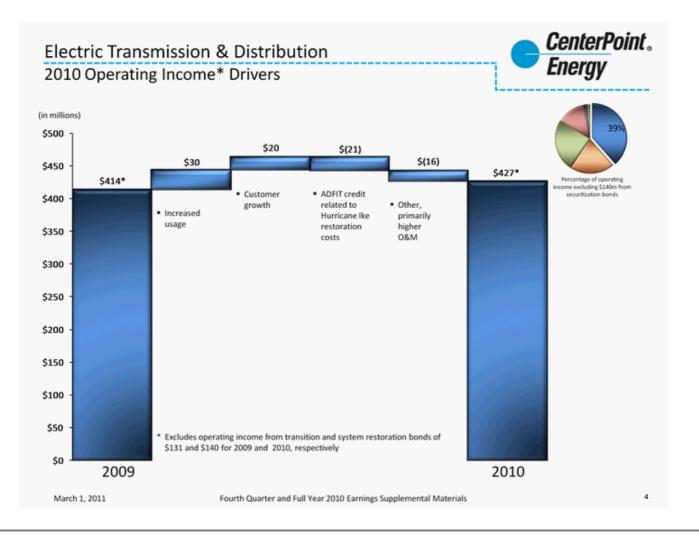
Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2010 Earnings Supplemental Materials

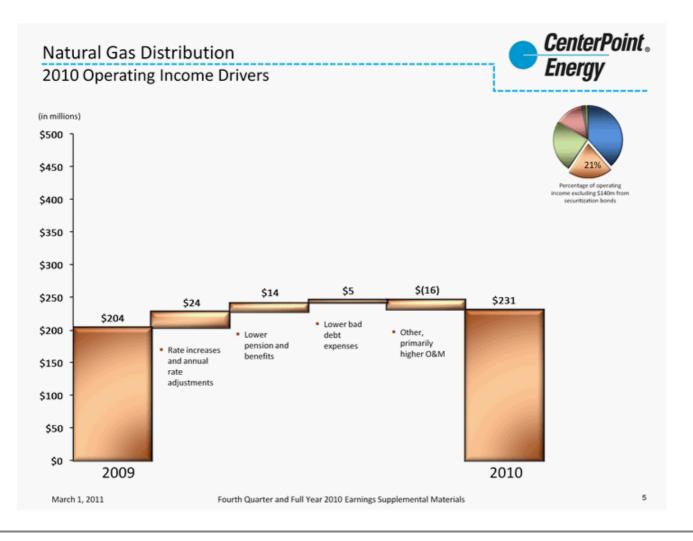
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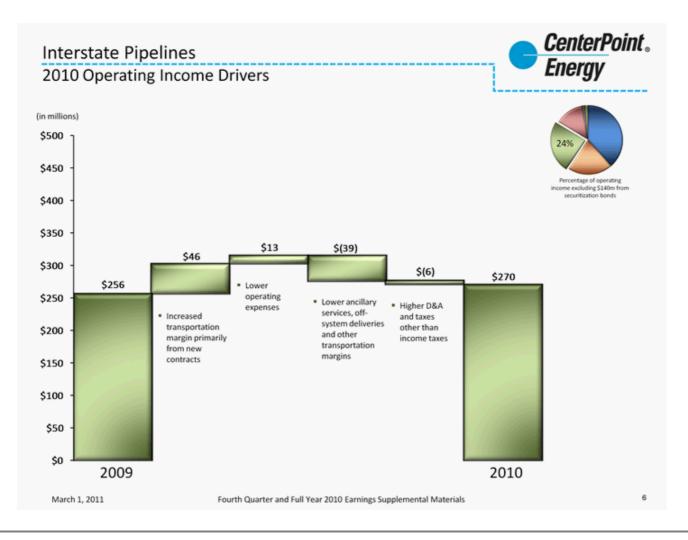
Full Year 2010 Operating Income Drivers 12 months ended December 31, 2010

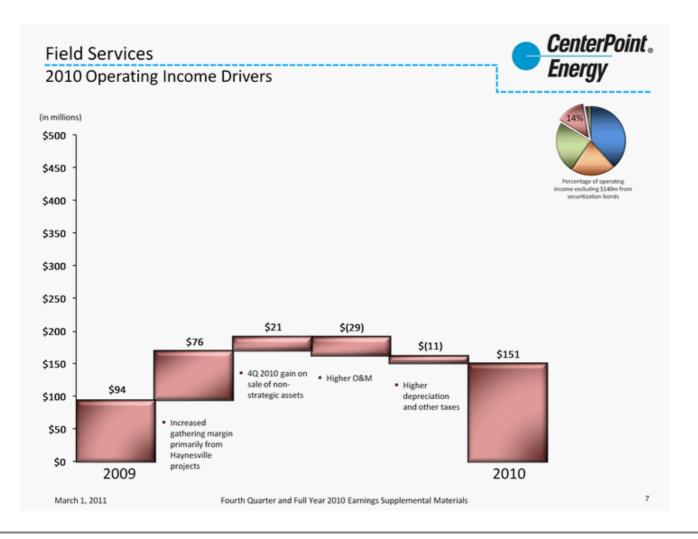


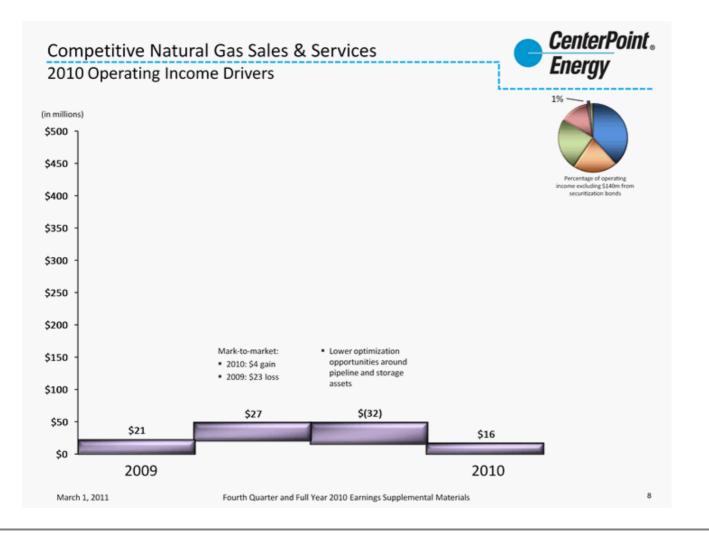
(in mil \$1,200	llions) Total Operating Income \$1,124		Natural Gas	Interstate Pipelines	Field Services \$57	Competitive Natural Gas Sales & Service \$(5)	Other \$10	Total Operating Income \$1,249 Securitization Bonds \$140
\$1,000 · \$800 · \$600 ·	Securitization Bonds \$131 \$993	Electric TDU \$13 Increased usage Customer growth Partially offset by: ADFIT credit related to Hurricane Ike restoration costs Other, primarily bisher Q&M	 Distribution \$27 Rate increases and annual rate adjustments Lower pension and benefits Lower bad debt expenses Partially offset by: Other, primarily higher O&M 	Increased transportation margin primarily from new contracts Lower operating expenses <u>Partially offset by:</u> Lower ancillary services, off- system deliveries and	 Increased gathering margin primarily from Haynesville projects 4Q 2010 gain on sale of non- strategic assets Partially offset by: Higher O&M 	 Lower optimization opportunities around pipeline and storage assets <u>Partially offset by:</u> Positive mark- to-market in 2010 versus negative in 2009 		\$1,109
\$200 - \$0 Mare	2009 ch 1, 2011	higher O&M	-	other transportation margins Higher D&A and taxes other than income taxes	Higher depreciation and other taxes	l Materials		2010 3



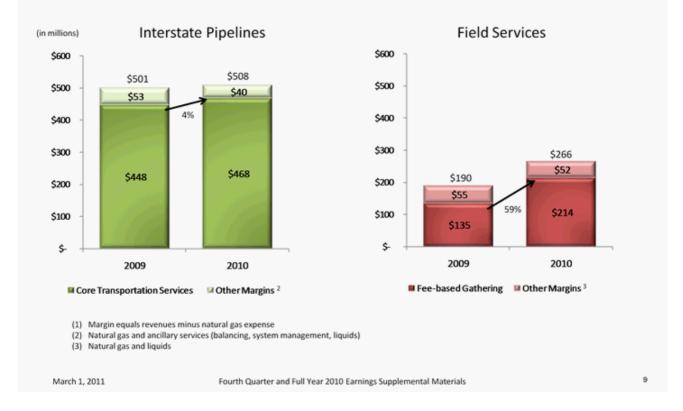








2010 Margin¹ Contribution – Solid Core Growth



Interstate Pipelines and Field Services

CenterPoint. Energy

Equity issued in 2010



(in millions)	No. of shares	Net proceeds	
2009 Shares outstanding	391.7		
Underwritten equity offering	25.3	Ş	315
Defined contribution plan	5.4		79
Dividend reinvestment plan	1.0		15
Other	1.3		7
2010 Shares outstanding	424.7	\$	416

March 1, 2011

Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2010 Earnings Supplemental Materials

10

Long-term Debt and Capitalization Ratio

Excluding transition and system restoration bonds*



(in millions)	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2010
Current Debt:	2003	2010
Current portion of transition and system restoration bonds long-term debt	241	283
Current portion of indexed debt (ZENS) **	121	126
Current portion of other long-term debt	541	19
Long-term Debt:		
Transition and system restoration bonds	2,805	2,522
Other	6,314	6,479
Total Debt	\$ 10,022	\$ 9,429
Less: Transition and system restoration bonds (including current portion)	3,046	2,805
Total Debt, excluding transition and system restoration bonds	\$ 6,976	\$ 6,624
Total Shareholders' Equity	\$ 2,639	\$ 3,198
Total Capitalization, excluding transition and system restoration bonds	\$ 9,615	\$ 9,822
Total Debt/Total Capitalization, excluding transition and system restoration bonds	72.6%	67.4%

* The transition and system restoration bonds are non-recourse to CenterPoint Energy and CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric and are serviced

The transition and system restoration bonds are non-recourse to Centervoint Energy and Centervoint Energy Houston Electric and are serviced through collections of separate charges which are held in trust.
 ** The debt component reflected on the financial statements was \$126 million as of December 31, 2010 and \$121 million as of December 31, 2009. The principal amount on which 2% interest is paid was \$840 million as of December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009. The contingent principal amount payable at maturity was \$805 million as of December 31, 2010 and \$814 million as of December 31, 2009.

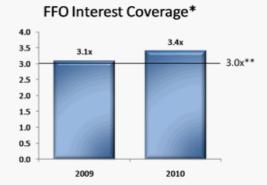
March 1, 2011

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Credit Metrics







* Calculated per CNP's interpretation of S&P methodology; actual calculations may include other adjustments not anticipated
** Black line indicates S&P's target metrics for CNP in order to maintain its current ratings as set forth in S&P's report dated May 5, 2010

Credit Ratings							
	Moody's		S&P		Fitch		
	Rating	Outlook	Rating	Outlook	Rating	Outlook	
CNP (Senior Unsecured)	Ba1	Positive	BBB-	Stable	BBB-	Stable	
CEHE (Senior Secured) ⁽¹⁾	A3	Stable	BBB+	Stable	A-	Stable	
CERC (Senior Unsecured)	Baa3	Positive	BBB	Stable	BBB	Stable	

(1) General mortgage bonds and first mortgage bonds

March 1, 2011

Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2010 Earnings Supplemental Materials