### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 26, 2015

## **CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) 1-31447 (Commission File Number) 74-0694415 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

1111 Louisiana Houston, Texas (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):

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

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

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

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

### Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Conditions.

On February 26, 2015, CenterPoint Energy, Inc. ("CenterPoint Energy") reported fourth quarter and full year 2014 earnings. For additional information regarding CenterPoint Energy's fourth quarter and full year 2014 earnings, please refer to CenterPoint Energy's press release attached to this report as Exhibit 99.1 (the "Press Release"), which Press Release is incorporated by reference herein.

### Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

CenterPoint Energy is holding a conference call to discuss its fourth quarter and full year 2014 earnings on February 26, 2015. Information about the call can be found in the press release furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1. For additional information regarding CenterPoint Energy's 2014 earnings, please refer to 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 Supplemental Materials are incorporated by reference herein.

### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

The information in the Press Release and the Supplemental Materials is being furnished, not filed, pursuant to Items 2.02 and 7.01, respectively. Accordingly, the information in the Press Release and the 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 as being incorporated therein by reference.

### (d) Exhibits.

| EXHIBIT<br>NUMBER | EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION   |
|-------------------|---|
| 99.1              | Press Release issued February 26, 2015 regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s fourth quarter and full year 2014 earnings. |
| 99.2              | Supplemental Materials regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s 2014 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.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.

Date: February 26, 2015

By: /s/ Kristie L. Colvin

Kristie L. Colvin

Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer

### EXHIBIT INDEX

EXHIBIT NUMBER

99.1

99.2

EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION

Press Release issued February 26, 2015 regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s fourth quarter and full year 2014 earnings.

Supplemental Materials regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s 2014 earnings



For more information contact **Media: Leticia Lowe**Phone 713.207.7702

Investors: Carla Kneipp Phone 713.207.6500

For Immediate Release Page 1 of 6

## CENTERPOINT ENERGY REPORTS FOURTH QUARTER AND FULL YEAR 2014 EARNINGS

- Strong financial and operational performance
- · Customer growth continues: nearly 55,000 new metered electric customers and 36,000 new gas customers
- 2014 utility operations capital spending up 14% versus 2013

Houston, TX – February 26, 2015 - CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (NYSE: CNP) today reported net income of \$176 million, or \$0.41 per diluted share, for the fourth quarter of 2014, which included a tax benefit of \$0.07 per diluted share, compared to \$113 million, or \$0.26 per diluted share the previous year. Operating income for the fourth quarter of 2014 was \$221 million, compared to \$211 million in the prior year. CenterPoint Energy reports its investment in midstream operations as equity income rather than operating income. Midstream Investments equity income for the fourth quarter of 2014 was \$67 million, compared to \$66 million in the prior year.

For the year ended December 31, 2014, net income was \$611 million, or \$1.42 per diluted share, including the tax benefit referenced above. For the year ended December 31, 2013, net income was \$311 million, or \$0.72 per diluted share. The results for 2013 include two unusual items related to the formation of the midstream partnership: (i) a \$225 million non-cash deferred tax charge and (ii) \$13 million of pre-tax partnership formation expenses. Excluding the effects of these unusual items, net income for 2013 would have been \$544 million, or \$1.26 per diluted share.

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2014, was \$935 million. As a result of the May 1, 2013, formation of Enable Midstream Partners, operating income for full year 2014 is not comparable to prior results.

"I am very pleased with our performance in 2014. Our Utility Operations delivered solid results, with a particularly strong financial performance from Gas Operations. Enable Midstream performed well in their first full year of operations delivering financial results in line with our expectations," said Scott M. Prochazka, president and chief executive officer of CenterPoint Energy. "We will continue to execute our utility strategy focused on organic capital investment in support of enhanced system reliability, ongoing system maintenance and upgrades, and continued growth in our service territories. This investment, along with timely recovery, will position us well for future utility operations earnings growth. Further, we remain confident in Enable Midstream's ability to execute their business plan and continue to pursue growth opportunities in a lower energy commodity price environment."

-more-

#### **Electric Transmission & Distribution**

The electric transmission & distribution segment reported operating income of \$113 million for the fourth quarter of 2014, consisting of \$85 million from the regulated electric transmission & distribution utility operations (TDU) and \$28 million related to securitization bonds. Operating income for the fourth quarter of 2013 was \$119 million, consisting of \$87 million from the TDU and \$32 million related to securitization bonds.

Fourth quarter operating income for the TDU benefited from continued strong customer growth, as well as a higher energy efficiency performance bonus, equity return primarily related to true-up proceeds and net transmission related revenue. These increases were more than offset by higher operation and maintenance expenses, decreased usage due to milder weather and lower right-of-way revenue.

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2014, was \$595 million, consisting of \$477 million from the TDU and \$118 million related to securitization bonds. Operating income for the same period of 2013 was \$607 million, consisting of \$474 million from the TDU and \$133 million related to securitization bonds.

Full year 2014 operating income for the TDU benefited from revenue increases associated with the growth of nearly 55,000 metered customers, as well as a higher energy efficiency performance bonus and equity return primarily related to true-up proceeds. These increases were partially offset by milder weather, as well as higher operation and maintenance expenses, and depreciation.

#### **Natural Gas Distribution**

The natural gas distribution segment reported operating income of \$103 million for the fourth quarter of 2014, compared to \$94 million for the same period of 2013. Operating income benefited from rate changes and increased economic activity across its footprint as well as a higher conservation improvement performance bonus. These increases were partially offset by higher operation and maintenance expenses, depreciation and other taxes.

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2014, was \$287 million, compared to \$263 million for the same period of 2013. Operating income benefited from colder weather compared to the previous year as well as rate changes and increased economic activity across its footprint, including growth of nearly 36,000 customers. Increases in operation and maintenance expenses as well as depreciation and other taxes partially offset these improvements.

### **Energy Services**

The energy services segment reported operating income of \$9 million for the fourth quarter of 2014, compared to \$1 million for the same period of 2013. Fourth quarter operating income for 2014 included a mark-to-market accounting gain of \$6 million, compared to a charge of \$9 million for the same period of 2013.

-more

Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2014, was \$52 million, compared to \$13 million for the same period of 2013. Operating income for the year ended December 31, 2014, included a mark-to-market accounting gain of \$29 million, compared to a charge of \$2 million for the same period of 2013. The increase in operating income was primarily due to improved margins resulting from optimization of existing gas transportation assets, reduced fixed costs and increased throughput and price volatility due to colder weather.

#### Other Operations

The other operations segment reported an operating loss of \$4 million for the fourth quarter of 2014, compared to an operating loss of \$3 million for the same period of 2013. The results for the fourth quarter 2014 included a pension curtailment loss associated with the transfer of seconded employees to Enable Midstream Partners. For the year ended December 31, 2014, this segment reported operating income of \$1 million, compared to an operating loss of \$18 million for the same period of 2013. The results for 2013 included one-time expenses associated with the formation of Enable Midstream as well as higher property taxes.

#### **Interstate Pipelines/ Field Services**

In May 2013, the company contributed substantially all of its midstream assets to Enable Midstream Partners. For the year ended December 31, 2014, this segment reported no operating income. Prior to the formation of Enable Midstream on May 1, 2013, the interstate pipelines segment reported operating income of \$72 million and equity earnings of \$7 million from its 50 percent interest in the Southeast Supply Header (SESH) and the field services segment reported operating income of \$73 million during 2013.

#### **Midstream Investments**

The midstream investment segment reported \$67 million of equity income for the fourth quarter of 2014, compared to \$66 million in the prior year. For the year ended December 31, 2014, this segment reported equity income of \$308 million. See Enable Midstream's earnings press release issued on February 18, 2015, for detailed results of operations.

#### **Dividend Declaration**

On January 22, 2015, CenterPoint Energy's board of directors declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.2475 per share of common stock payable on March 10, 2015, to shareholders of record as of the close of business on February 13, 2015. This represents a 4.2 percent increase from the previous quarterly dividend of \$0.2375 and a 19 percent increase since the formation of Enable Midstream in May 2013.

#### Outlook for 2015

CenterPoint Energy expects earnings on a guidance basis for 2015 Utility Operations to be in the range of \$0.71 to \$0.75 per diluted share. The Utility Operations guidance range considers

-more

performance to date and certain significant variables that may impact earnings, such as weather, regulatory and judicial proceedings, throughput, commodity prices, effective tax rates, and financing activities. In providing this guidance, the company does not include other potential impacts, such as changes in accounting standards or unusual items, earnings from the change in the value of the ZENS securities and the related stocks, or the timing effects of mark-to-market accounting in the company's energy service business.

The company expects its 2015 earnings estimate from Midstream Investments to be in the range of \$0.29 to \$0.35 per diluted share. In providing this guidance, the company assumes a 55.4 percent limited partner ownership interest in Enable Midstream and includes the amortization of our basis differential in Enable Midstream. The company's guidance takes into account such factors as Enable Midstream's most recent public outlook for 2015 dated February 18, 2015, effective tax rates, and other factors. The company does not include other potential impacts, such as the impact of any changes in accounting standards or Enable Midstream's unusual items.

On a consolidated basis, CenterPoint Energy expects earnings on a guidance basis for 2015 to be in the range of \$1.00 to \$1.10 per diluted share.

### CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries

### Reconciliation of Net Income and diluted EPS to the basis used in providing 2014 annual earnings guidance

|   | Quarter Ended<br>December 31, 2014 |          |    | Twelve Mont<br>December 3   |          |  |
|---|------------------------------------|----------|----|-----------------------------|----------|--|
|   | Net Income<br>(in millions) EPS    |          |    | Net Income<br>(in millions) |          |  |
| Consolidated as reported                                  | \$<br>176                          | \$ 0.41  | \$ | 611                         | \$ 1.42  |  |
| Midstream Investments                                     | <br>(40)                           | (0.09)   |    | (190)                       | (0.44)   |  |
| Utility Operations (1)                                    | 136                                | \$ 0.32  |    | 421                         | \$ 0.98  |  |
| Timing effects impacting CES(2):                          |                                    |          |    |                             |          |  |
| Mark-to-market (gain) losses                              | (4)                                | \$(0.01) |    | (19)                        | \$(0.04) |  |
| ZENS-related mark-to-market (gains) losses:               |                                    |          |    |                             |          |  |
| Marketable securities (3)                                 | (58)                               | (0.14)   |    | (106)                       | (0.25)   |  |
| Indexed debt securities                                   | 37                                 | 0.09     |    | 56                          | 0.13     |  |
| Other:  |                                    |          |    |                             |          |  |
| Pension curtailment loss (4)                              | <br>4                              | 0.01     |    | 4                           | 0.01     |  |
| Utility operations earnings on an adjusted guidance basis | \$<br>115                          | \$ 0.27  | \$ | 356                         | \$ 0.83  |  |
| Per the basis used in providing 2014 earnings guidance:   | <br>                               |          |    |                             |          |  |
| Utility Operations on a guidance basis                    | \$<br>115                          | \$ 0.27  | \$ | 356                         | \$ 0.83  |  |
| Midstream Investments                                     | <br>40                             | 0.09     |    | 190                         | 0.44     |  |
| 2014 Consolidated on guidance basis                       | \$<br>155                          | \$ 0.36  | \$ | 546                         | \$ 1.27  |  |
|   | <br>                               |          |    |                             |          |  |

- (1) CenterPoint earnings excluding Midstream Investments
- (2) Energy Services segment
- (3) Time Warner Inc., Time Warner Cable Inc., Time Inc. and AOL Inc.
- (4) Pension curtailment loss associated with transfer of seconded employees to Enable

-more-

### 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, 2014. A copy of that report is available on the company's website, under the <u>Investors section</u>. 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 Thursday, February 26, 2015, 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 on the company's website under the <u>Investors section</u>. A replay of the call can be accessed approximately two hours after the completion of the call and will be archived on the website 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 energy services operations. The company serves more than five million metered customers primarily in Arkansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas. The company also owns a 55.4 percent limited partner interest in Enable Midstream Partners, a publicly traded master limited partnership it jointly controls with OGE Energy Corp., which owns, operates and develops natural gas and crude oil infrastructure assets. With more than 7,400 employees, CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor companies have been in business for more than 140 years. For more information, visit the website at www.CenterPointEnergy.com.

This news release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements are based upon assumptions of management which are believed to be reasonable at the time made and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual events and results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Any statements in this news release regarding future earnings, and future financial performance and results of operations, including, but not limited to earnings guidance, and any 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) state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments affecting various aspects of CenterPoint Energy's businesses (including the businesses of Enable Midstream Partners (Enable Midstream)), including, among others, energy deregulation or re-regulation, pipeline integrity and safety, health care reform, financial reform, tax legislation, and actions regarding the rates charged by CenterPoint Energy's regulated businesses; (2) state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments relating to the environment, including those related to global climate change; (3) timely and appropriate rate actions that allow recovery of costs and a reasonable return on investment; (4) the timing and outcome of any audits, disputes or other proceedings related to taxes; (5) 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; (6) 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; (7) the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices, particularly natural gas and natural gas liquids, and the effects of geographic and seasonal commodity price differentials, and the impact of commodity changes on producer related activities; (8) weather variations and other natural phenomena, including the impact on operations and capital from severe weather events; (9) any direct or indirect effects on CenterPoint Energy's facilities, operations and financial condition resulting from terrorism, cyber-attacks, data security breaches or other attempts to disrupt its businesses of the businesses of third parties, or other catastrophic events; (10) the impact of unplanned facility outages; (11) timely and appropriate regulatory actions allowing securitization or other recovery of costs associated with any future hurricanes or natural disasters; (12) changes in interest rates or rates of inflation; (13) commercial bank and

-more-

financial market conditions, CenterPoint Energy's access to capital, the cost of such capital, and the results of its financing and refinancing efforts, including availability of funds in the debt capital markets; (14) actions by credit rating agencies; (15) effectiveness of CenterPoint Energy's risk management activities; (16) inability of various counterparties to meet their obligations; (17) non-payment for services due to financial distress of CenterPoint Energy's customers; (18) the ability of GenOn Energy, Inc. (formerly known as RRI Energy, Inc.), a wholly owned subsidiary of NRG Energy, Inc., and its subsidiaries to satisfy their obligations to CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries; (19) the ability of retail electric providers, and particularly the largest customers of the TDU, to satisfy their obligations to CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries; (20) the outcome of litigation brought by or against CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries; (21) CenterPoint Energy's ability to control costs, invest planned capital, or execute growth projects; (22) the investment performance of pension and postretirement benefit plans; (23) potential business strategies, including restructurings, joint ventures, and acquisitions or dispositions of assets or businesses, for which no assurance can be given that they will be completed or will provide the anticipated benefits to CenterPoint Energy; (24) acquisition and merger activities involving CenterPoint Energy or its competitors; (25) future economic conditions in regional and national markets and their effects on sales, prices and costs; (26) the performance of Enable Midstream, the amount of cash distributions CenterPoint Energy receives from Enable Midstream, and the value of its interest in Enable Midstream, and factors that may have a material impact on such performance, cash distributions and value, including certain of the factors specified above and: (A) the integration of the operations of the businesses contributed to Enable Midstream; (B) the achievement of anticipated operational and commercial synergies and expected growth opportunities, and the successful implementation of Enable Midstream's business plan; (C) competitive conditions in the midstream industry, and actions taken by Enable Midstream's customers and competitors, including the extent and timing of the entry of additional competition in the markets served by Enable Midstream; (D) the timing and extent of changes in the supply of natural gas and associated commodity prices, particularly natural gas and natural gas liquids, the competitive effects of the available pipeline capacity in the regions served by Enable Midstream, and the effects of geographic and seasonal commodity price differentials, including the effects of these circumstances on re-contracting available capacity on Enable Midstream's interstate pipelines; (E) the demand for natural gas, NGLs and transportation and storage services; (F) changes in tax status; (G) access to growth capital; and (H) the availability and prices of raw materials for current and future construction projects; and (27) other factors discussed in CenterPoint Energy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, and other reports CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries may file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### **Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

In addition to presenting its financial results in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), CenterPoint Energy also provides guidance based on adjusted diluted earnings per share, which is a non-GAAP financial measure. Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's historical or future financial performance that excludes or includes amounts that are not normally excluded or included in the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. A reconciliation of net income and diluted earnings per share to the basis used in providing 2014 guidance is provided in this news release.

Management evaluates financial performance in part based on adjusted diluted earnings per share and believes that presenting this non-GAAP financial measure enhances an investor's understanding of CenterPoint Energy's overall financial performance by providing them with an additional meaningful and relevant comparison of current and anticipated future results across periods by excluding items that Management does not believe most accurately reflect its fundamental business performance, which items include the items reflected in the reconciliation table of this news release. This non-GAAP financial measure should be considered as a supplement and complement to, and not as a substitute for, or superior to, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure and may be different than non-GAAP financial measures used by other companies.

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

|   | Decem    | Quarter Ended<br>December 31, |         | December 31, Decem |  | nber 31, December 31, |  | ber 31, |
|---|----------|-------------------------------|---------|--------------------|--|-----------------------|--|---------|
| Revenues:   | 2014     | 2013                          | 2014    | 2013               |  |                       |  |         |
| Electric Transmission & Distribution                | \$ 679   | \$ 637                        | \$2,845 | \$2,570            |  |                       |  |         |
| Natural Gas Distribution                            | 900      | 902                           | 3,301   | 2,863              |  |                       |  |         |
| Energy Services                                     | 815      | 656                           | 3,179   | 2,401              |  |                       |  |         |
| Interstate Pipelines                                | _        | _                             | _       | 186                |  |                       |  |         |
| Field Services                                      | _        | _                             | _       | 196                |  |                       |  |         |
| Other Operations                                    | 4        | 4                             | 15      | 14                 |  |                       |  |         |
| Eliminations  | (26)     | (15)                          | (114)   | (124)              |  |                       |  |         |
| Total   | 2,372    | 2,184                         | 9,226   | 8,106              |  |                       |  |         |
| Expenses:   | <u> </u> |                               |         |                    |  |                       |  |         |
| Natural gas   | 1,296    | 1,167                         | 4,921   | 3,908              |  |                       |  |         |
| Operation and maintenance                           | 528      | 495                           | 1,969   | 1,847              |  |                       |  |         |
| Depreciation and amortization                       | 229      | 213                           | 1,013   | 954                |  |                       |  |         |
| Taxes other than income taxes                       | 98       | 98                            | 388     | 387                |  |                       |  |         |
| Total   | 2,151    | 1,973                         | 8,291   | 7,096              |  |                       |  |         |
| Operating Income                                    | 221      | 211                           | 935     | 1,010              |  |                       |  |         |
| Other Income (Expense):                             |          |                               |         |                    |  |                       |  |         |
| Gain on marketable securities                       | 90       | 78                            | 163     | 236                |  |                       |  |         |
| Loss on indexed debt securities                     | (57)     | (73)                          | (86)    | (193)              |  |                       |  |         |
| Interest and other finance charges                  | (92)     | (82)                          | (353)   | (351)              |  |                       |  |         |
| Interest on transition and system restoration bonds | (28)     | (32)                          | (118)   | (133)              |  |                       |  |         |
| Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates     | 67       | 66                            | 308     | 188                |  |                       |  |         |
| Other - net   | 8        | 7                             | 36      | 24                 |  |                       |  |         |
| Total   | (12)     | (36)                          | (50)    | (229)              |  |                       |  |         |
| Income Before Income Taxes                          | 209      | 175                           | 885     | 781                |  |                       |  |         |
| Income Tax Expense                                  | 33       | 62                            | 274     | 470                |  |                       |  |         |
| Net Income  | \$ 176   | \$ 113                        | \$ 611  | \$ 311             |  |                       |  |         |

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

|   | Quarter Ended<br>December 31, |       |         |        | er 31, Dece |        |             |        |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
|---|-------------------------------|-------|---------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--------|-------------|--|-----------|--|---------|--|---|--------|---|--------|
|   | 2                             | 014   |         | 2013   |             | 2014   |             | 2013   |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Basic Earnings (Loss) Per Common Share            | \$                            | 0.41  | \$      | 0.26   | \$          | 1.42   | \$          | 0.73   |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Diluted Earnings (Loss) Per Common Share          | \$                            | 0.41  | \$      | 0.26   | \$          | 1.42   | \$          | 0.72   |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Dividends Declared per Common Share               | \$ 0                          | .2375 | \$      | 0.2075 |             | 0.9500 | \$          | 0.8300 |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding (000): |                               |       |         |        |             |        |             |        |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| - Basic   | 42                            | 9,796 | 4       | 28,694 | 4           | 29,634 | 4           | 28,466 |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| - Diluted   | 431,830 431,1                 |       | 431,159 |        | 431,159     |        | 830 431,159 |        | 330 431,159 |  | ) 431,159 |  | 431,159 |  | 4 | 31,668 | 4 | 30,930 |
| Operating Income (Loss) by Segment                |                               |       |         |        |             |        |             |        |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Electric Transmission & Distribution:             |                               |       |         |        |             |        |             |        |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Electric Transmission and Distribution Operations | \$                            | 85    | \$      | 87     | \$          | 477    | \$          | 474    |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies  |                               | 28    |         | 32     |             | 118    |             | 133    |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Total Electric Transmission & Distribution        |                               | 113   |         | 119    |             | 595    |             | 607    |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Natural Gas Distribution                          |                               | 103   |         | 94     |             | 287    |             | 263    |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Energy Services                                   |                               | 9     |         | 1      |             | 52     |             | 13     |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Interstate Pipelines                              |                               | _     |         | _      |             | _      |             | 72     |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Field Services                                    |                               | _     |         | _      |             | _      |             | 73     |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Other Operations                                  |                               | (4)   |         | (3)    |             | 1      |             | (18)   |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |
| Total   | \$                            | 221   | \$      | 211    | \$          | 935    | \$          | 1,010  |             |  |           |  |         |  |   |        |   |        |

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

Electric Transmission & Distribution

|   | Quarter Ended<br>December 31, |          |         | % Diff   |               | Year I<br>Decem | % Diff       |         |          |             |
|---|-------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|----------|-------------|
|   |                               | 2014     |         | 2013     | Fav/(Unfav)   |                 | 2014         | Del 31, | 2013     | Fav/(Unfav) |
| Results of Operations:  |                               |          |         |          |               | '               |              |         |          |             |
| Revenues:   |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Electric transmission and distribution utility                  | \$                            | 563      | \$      | 529      | 6%            | \$              | 2,279        | \$      | 2,063    | 10%         |
| Transition and system restoration bond companies                |                               | 116      |         | 108      | 7%            |                 | 566          |         | 507      | 12%         |
| Total   |                               | 679      |         | 637      | 7%            |                 | 2,845        |         | 2,570    | 11%         |
| Expenses:   |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Operation and maintenance                                       |                               | 344      |         | 305      | (13%)         |                 | 1,251        |         | 1,045    | (20%)       |
| Depreciation and amortization                                   |                               | 80       |         | 81       | 1%            |                 | 327          |         | 319      | (3%)        |
| Taxes other than income taxes                                   |                               | 54       |         | 56       | 4%            |                 | 224          |         | 225      | _           |
| Transition and system restoration bond companies                |                               | 88       |         | 76       | (16%)         |                 | 448          |         | 374      | (20%)       |
| Total   |                               | 566      |         | 518      | (9%)          |                 | 2,250        |         | 1,963    | (15%)       |
| Operating Income  | \$                            | 113      | \$      | 119      | (5%)          | \$              | 595          | \$      | 607      | (2%)        |
| Operating Income:   |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Electric transmission and distribution operations               | \$                            | 85       | \$      | 87       | (2%)          | \$              | 477          | \$      | 474      | 1%          |
| Transition and system restoration bond companies                |                               | 28       |         | 32       | (13%)         |                 | 118          |         | 133      | (11%)       |
| Total Segment Operating Income                                  | \$                            | 113      | \$      | 119      | (5%)          | \$              | 595          | \$      | 607      | (2%)        |
| Electric Transmission & Distribution Operating Data:            |                               |          | _       |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Actual MWH Delivered  |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Residential   | 5,                            | 497,638  | 5       | ,748,900 | (4%)          | 27,             | 497,882      | 27      | ,485,119 | _           |
| Total   | 18,                           | 710,321  | 18      | ,441,058 | 1%            | 81,             | 839,060      | 79      | ,984,965 | 2%          |
| Weather (average for service area):                             |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Percentage of 10-year average:                                  |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Cooling degree days   |                               | 86%      |         | 84%      | 2%            |                 | 91%          |         | 98%      | (7%)        |
| Heating degree days   |                               | 99%      |         | 141%     | (42%)         |                 | 123%         |         | 111%     | 12%         |
| Number of metered customers - end of period:                    |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Residential   |                               | ,033,027 |         | ,982,699 | 3%            |                 | 033,027      |         | ,982,699 | 3%          |
| Total   | 2,                            | ,299,247 | 2       | ,244,289 | 2%            | 2,              | 299,247      | 2       | ,244,289 | 2%          |
|   |                               |          |         |          | Notes I Con D |                 |              |         |          |             |
|   |                               | Quarte   | r Ended |          | Natural Gas D | istributio      | on<br>Year I | Ended   |          |             |
|   |                               | Decem    | ber 31, | 2012     | % Diff        |                 |              | 2012    | % Diff   |             |
| Results of Operations:  |                               | 2014     |         | 2013     | Fav/(Unfav)   |                 | 2014         |         | 2013     | Fav/(Unfav) |
| Revenues  | \$                            | 900      | \$      | 902      | _             | \$              | 3,301        | \$      | 2,863    | 15%         |
| Natural gas   | Ψ                             | 529      | Ψ       | 541      | 2%            | Ψ               | 1,961        | Ψ       | 1,607    | (22%)       |
| Gross Margin  |                               | 371      |         | 361      | 3%            | _               | 1,340        |         | 1,256    | 7%          |
| Expenses:   |                               | 571      |         |          | 370           |                 | 1,540        |         | 1,250    | 7 70        |
| Operation and maintenance                                       |                               | 176      |         | 179      | 2%            |                 | 700          |         | 667      | (5%)        |
| Depreciation and amortization                                   |                               | 52       |         | 47       | (11%)         |                 | 201          |         | 185      | (9%)        |
| Taxes other than income taxes                                   |                               | 40       |         | 41       | 2%            |                 | 152          |         | 141      | (8%)        |
| Total   |                               | 268      |         | 267      | _             |                 | 1,053        |         | 993      | (6%)        |
| Operating Income (Loss)   | \$                            | 103      | \$      | 94       | 10%           | s               | 287          | \$      | 263      | 9%          |
|   | <u> </u>                      | 103      | Ψ       |          | 1070          | Ψ               | 207          | Ψ       | 203      | 370         |
| Natural Gas Distribution Operating Data: Throughput data in BCF |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Residential   |                               | 57       |         | 64       | (11%)         |                 | 197          |         | 182      | 8%          |
| Commercial and Industrial                                       |                               | 71       |         | 75       | (5%)          |                 | 270          |         | 265      | 2%          |
| Total Throughput  |                               | 128      | _       | 139      | (8%)          | _               | 467          | _       | 447      | 4%          |
|   | _                             | 120      | _       | 139      | (0%)          |                 | 407          | _       | 447      | 470         |
| Weather (average for service area)                              |                               |          |         |          |               |                 |              |         |          |             |
| Percentage of 10-year average:                                  |                               | 4.050/   |         | 4400/    | (4.00/)       |                 | 4000/        |         | 4400/    | 4.007       |
| Heating degree days   |                               | 107%     |         | 119%     | (12%)         |                 | 120%         |         | 110%     | 10%         |
| Number of customers - end of period:                            |                               | 104 540  |         | 000.000  | 10/           |                 | 104 540      |         | 000 000  | 10/         |
| Residential   |                               | ,124,542 | 3       | ,090,966 | 1%            |                 | 124,542      | 3       | ,090,966 | 1%          |
| Commercial and Industrial                                       |                               | 249,272  |         | 247,100  | 1%            |                 | 249,272      |         | 247,100  | 1%          |
| Total   | 3,                            | ,373,814 | 3       | ,338,066 | 1%            | 3,              | 373,814      | 3       | ,338,066 | 1%          |

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

|                                     |        | Energy Services               |             |          |          |             |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|-------------|--|--|--|
|                                     | Decen  | Quarter Ended<br>December 31, |             | Decem    |          | % Diff      |  |  |  |
| Results of Operations:              | 2014   | 2013                          | Fav/(Unfav) | 2014     | 2013     | Fav/(Unfav) |  |  |  |
| Revenues                            | \$ 815 | \$ 656                        | 24%         | \$ 3,179 | \$ 2,401 | 32%         |  |  |  |
| Natural gas                         | 793    | 643                           | (23%)       | 3,073    | 2,336    | (32%)       |  |  |  |
| Gross Margin                        | 22     | 13                            | 69%         | 106      | 65       | 63%         |  |  |  |
| Expenses:                           |        |                               |             |          |          |             |  |  |  |
| Operation and maintenance           | 11     | 11                            | _           | 47       | 46       | (2%)        |  |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortization       | 1      | 1                             | _           | 5        | 5        |             |  |  |  |
| Taxes other than income taxes       | 1      | _                             | _           | 2        | 1        | (100%)      |  |  |  |
| Total                               | 13     | 12                            | (8%)        | 54       | 52       | (4%)        |  |  |  |
| Operating Income                    | \$ 9   | \$ 1                          | 800%        | \$ 52    | \$ 13    | 300%        |  |  |  |
| Energy Services Operating Data:     |        |                               |             |          |          |             |  |  |  |
| Throughput data in BCF              | 168    | 167                           | 1%          | 631      | 600      | 5%          |  |  |  |
| Number of customers - end of period | 17,964 | 17,510                        | 3%          | 17,964   | 17,510   | 3%          |  |  |  |
|                                     |        |                               |             |          |          |             |  |  |  |
|                                     |        |                               |             |          |          |             |  |  |  |

|                         |    |            |    |     | Other Oper  | ations     |     |              |      |             |
|-------------------------|----|------------|----|-----|-------------|------------|-----|--------------|------|-------------|
|                         | _  | Quarter    |    |     |             | Year Ended |     |              |      |             |
|                         |    | December 3 |    |     |             |            |     | December 31, |      | % Diff      |
| esults of Operations:   |    | 014        |    | 13  | Fav/(Unfav) |            | 014 |              | 2013 | Fav/(Unfav) |
| venues                  | \$ | 4          | \$ | 4   | _           | \$         | 15  | \$           | 14   | 7%          |
| xpenses                 |    | 8          |    | 7   | (14%)       |            | 14  |              | 32   | 56%         |
| Operating Income (Loss) | \$ | (4)        | \$ | (3) | (33%)       | \$         | 1   | \$           | (18) | 106%        |

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

|                                      |       | December 31, |         |         |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------|--------------|---------|---------|--|--|
|                                      | 2014  | 2013         | 2014    | 2013    |  |  |
| Capital Expenditures by Segment      |       |              |         |         |  |  |
| Electric Transmission & Distribution | \$245 | \$244        | \$ 818  | \$ 759  |  |  |
| Natural Gas Distribution             | 147   | 117          | 525     | 430     |  |  |
| Energy Services                      | 1     | _            | 3       | 3       |  |  |
| Interstate Pipelines                 | _     | _            | _       | 29      |  |  |
| Field Services                       | _     | _            | _       | 16      |  |  |
| Other Operations                     | 22    | 4            | 56      | 35      |  |  |
| Total                                | \$415 | \$365        | \$1.402 | \$1 272 |  |  |

Interest Expense Detail (Millions of Dollars) (Unaudited)

|   |       | Quarter Ended<br>December 31, |       | Ended<br>ber 31, |
|---|-------|-------------------------------|-------|------------------|
|   | 2014  | 2013                          |       | 2013             |
| Interest Expense Detail                                 |       |                               |       |                  |
| Amortization of Deferred Financing Cost                 | \$ 6  | \$ 6                          | \$ 25 | \$ 26            |
| Capitalization of Interest Cost                         | (3)   | (3)                           | (11)  | (11)             |
| Transition and System Restoration Bond Interest Expense | 28    | 32                            | 118   | 133              |
| Other Interest Expense                                  | 89    | 79                            | 339   | 336              |
| Total Interest Expense                                  | \$120 | \$114                         | \$471 | \$484            |

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

|   | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS  |                      |                      |
| Current Assets:   |                      |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$ 298               | \$ 208               |
| Other current assets  | 2,970                | 2,450                |
| Total current assets  | 3,268                | 2,658                |
| Property, Plant and Equipment, net  | 10,502               | 9,593                |
| Other Assets:   |                      |                      |
| Goodwill  | 840                  | 840                  |
| Regulatory assets   | 3,527                | 3,726                |
| Investment in unconsolidated affiliates                                   | 4,521                | 4,518                |
| Other non-current assets  | 542                  | 535                  |
| Total other assets  | 9,430                | 9,619                |
| Total Assets  | \$ 23,200            | \$ 21,870            |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY                                      | <del></del>          |                      |
| Current Liabilities:  |                      |                      |
| Short-term borrowings   | \$ 53                | \$ 43                |
| Current portion of transition and system restoration bonds long-term debt | 372                  | 354                  |
| Indexed debt  | 152                  | 143                  |
| Current portion of other long-term debt                                   | 271                  | _                    |
| Other current liabilities   | 2,627                | 2,479                |
| Total current liabilities   | 3,475                | 3,019                |
| Other Liabilities:  |                      |                      |
| Accumulated deferred income taxes, net                                    | 4,757                | 4,542                |
| Regulatory liabilities  | 1,206                | 1,152                |
| Other non-current liabilities   | 1,205                | 1,011                |
| Total other liabilities   | 7,168                | 6,705                |
| Long-term Debt:   |                      |                      |
| Transition and system restoration bonds                                   | 2,674                | 3,046                |
| Other   | 5,335                | 4,771                |
| Total long-term debt  | 8,009                | 7,817                |
| Shareholders' Equity  | 4,548                | 4,329                |
| Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity                                | \$ 23,200            | \$ 21,870            |

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

|   | Year Ended I | December 31,<br>2013 |
|---|--------------|----------------------|
| Cash Flows from Operating Activities:   |              |                      |
| Net income  | \$ 611       | \$ 311               |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |              |                      |
| Depreciation and amortization   | 1,041        | 984                  |
| Deferred income taxes   | 280          | 356                  |
| Write-down of natural gas inventory   | 8            | 4                    |
| Changes in net regulatory assets  | 22           | 61                   |
| Changes in other assets and liabilities   | (578)        | (127)                |
| Other, net  | 13           | 24                   |
| Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities   | 1,397        | 1,613                |
| Net Cash Used in Investing Activities   | (1,384)      | (1,300)              |
| Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities                               | 77           | (751)                |
| Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents                              | 90           | (438)                |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period                                  | 208          | 646                  |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period  | \$ 298       | \$ 208               |



# The Benefits of a Diversified Electric & Natural Gas Portfolio

Full Year 2014 Earnings Supplemental Materials

February 26, 2015

# **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. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. 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. The absence of these words, however, does not mean that the statements are not forward-looking.

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 contents.

Some of the factors that could cause actual results to differ from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements include but are not limited to the timing and impact of future regulatory, legislative and IRS decisions, financial market conditions, future market conditions, and other factors described in CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2014 under "cautionary statement regarding forward-looking information," "Risk Factors" and " – Liquidity and Capital Resources – Other Matters – Other Factors That Could Affect Cash Requirements" and "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, which can be found at <a href="https://www.centerpointenergy.com">www.centerpointenergy.com</a> on the Investor Relations page or on the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>.

This presentation contains time sensitive information that is accurate as of the date hereof. Some of the information in this presentation in unaudited and may be subject to change. We undertake no obligation to update the information presented herein except as required by law.

Investors and others should note that we may announce material information using SEC filings, press releases, public conference calls, webcasts and the Investors page of our website. In the future, we will continue to use these channels to distribute material information about the Company and to communicate important information about the Company, key personnel, corporate initiatives, regulatory updates and other matters. Information that we post on our website could be deemed material; therefore, we encourage investors, the media, our customers, business partners and others interested in our Company to review the information we post on our website.

#### **Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

In addition to presenting its financial results in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), CenterPoint Energy also provides guidance based on adjusted diluted earnings per share, which is a non-GAAP financial measure. Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's historical or future financial performance that excludes or includes amounts that are not normally excluded or included in the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. A reconciliation of net income and diluted earnings per share to the basis used in providing 2014 guidance is provided in this presentation on slide 5.

Management evaluates financial performance in part based on adjusted diluted earnings per share and believes that presenting this non-GAAP financial measure enhances an investor's understanding of CenterPoint Energy's overall financial performance by providing them with an additional meaningful and relevant comparison of current and anticipated future results across periods by excluding items that Management does not believe most accurately reflect its fundamental business performance, which items include the items reflected in the reconciliation table on page 5 of this presentation. This non-GAAP financial measure should be considered as a supplement and complement to, and not as a substitute for, or superior to, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure and may be different than non-GAAP financial measures used by other companies.

February 26, 2015

### 2014 Year Highlights



- New management team in place with the right mix of industry experience and functional knowledge
- UtilityOperations:Strongfinancialandoperationalperformances
  - Sustained strong economic activity with the addition of nearly 55,000 new meters for Houston Electric and nearly 36,000 new Gas Utility customers
  - Continued interest in our transmission rights-of-way for our electric utility
  - Rate changes and cost management efforts led to a record performance for our natural gas utilities
  - Invested over \$1.4 billion in our utility operations, up 14 percent from 2013, to address
    increasing demands associated with system safety, reliability, growth and ongoing maintenance
  - ERCOT endorsed an approximately \$300 MM transmission line, the Brazos Valley Connection, expected to be in service by summer of 2018
- Enable Midstream PartnerSompleted their initial public offering
  - Contributed substantially all of CenterPoint's remaining interest in Southeast Supply Header, LLC (SESH) to Enable in May of 2014, increasing CenterPoint Energy's limited partner interest in Enable from approximately 54.7% to approximately 55.4%
- Increased dividend 4.2% in January 2015; a 19% increase in the quarterly dividend since the formation of Enable in May 2013

February 26, 2015

# **2014 Forecast Summary**



| 5-Year Capital Investment | 2014 -2018 Forecast<br>(Provided June 2014) | 2015 –2019 Forecast<br>(Provided Feb 2015) |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Houston Electric          | \$3.7 -\$4.5 B                              | \$4.4 B                                    |
| Gas Utilities             | \$2.2 -\$2.6 B                              | \$2.7 B                                    |
| <b>Utility Operations</b> | \$6.2 -\$7.4 B                              | \$7.4 B                                    |

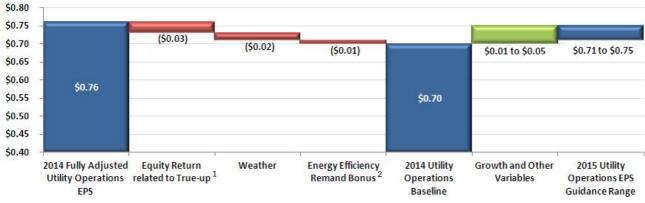
| Compound Annual Growth Rates             | 2013 -2018 Forecast<br>(Provided June 201 <sup>1</sup> 4) | 2014 –2019 Forecast<br>(Provided Feb 20125) |
|--|---|---|
| Houston Electric Rate Base               | 7-10%   | 8-10%                                       |
| <b>Houston Electric Operating Income</b> | 5-7%  | 5-7%4                                       |
| Gas Utilities Rate Base                  | 8-10%   | 8-10%                                       |
| Gas Utilities Operating Income           | 4-6%  | 4-6%4                                       |
| Consolidated Rate Base                   | 7-10%   | 8-10%                                       |
| <b>Utility Operations Earnings</b>       | 4-6%³   | 4-6%3, 4                                    |

February 26, 2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The 2013 -2018 forecast does not assume the utilization of bonus depreciation
<sup>2</sup> The 2014 -2019 forecast does not assume bonus depreciation for 2015 and beyond
<sup>3</sup> Earnings are expected to be lower during initial years and higher during later years of the forecast
<sup>4</sup> The operating and earnings growth rates utilize the same adjustment methodology used to determine the 2014 \$0.70 utility operations baseline shown on the next slide

# 2014 EPS Reconciliation to 2015 Utility Operations Guidance CenterPoint Range of \$0.71 to \$0.75 per diluted share

| 2014 Fully Diluted EPS                     | \$<br>1.42 |
|--|------------|
| On an adjusted guidance basis:             |            |
| ZENS-related mark to market gains          | (0.12)     |
| CES MTM gain                               | (0.04)     |
| Pension Curtailment loss                   | 0.01       |
| 2014 Consolidated EPS on a guidance basis  | \$<br>1.27 |
| Deferred Tax Benefit                       | (0.07)     |
| 2014 Fully Adjusted EPS                    | \$<br>1.20 |
| Midstream Investments                      | (0.44)     |
| 2014 Fully Adjusted Utility Operations EPS | \$<br>0.76 |



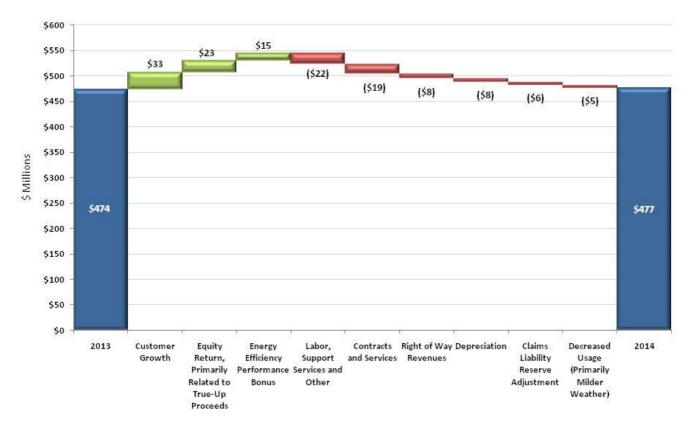
(1) The Equity Amortization schedule on page 19 details the decrease between the 2014 actual and 2015 projected equity returns

(2) 2008 Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Factor Appeal details are provided in the 2014 10-K

February 26, 2015

# **Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility 2014 Operating Income Drivers**

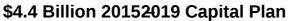


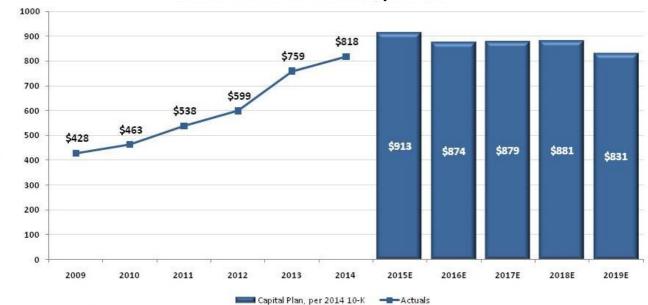


February 26, 2015 investors.centerpointenergy.com 6

# **Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility Capital Investment Growth**







### Capital Plan Includes:

- Brazos Valley Connection 1
- > Reliability/Resiliency
- Technology

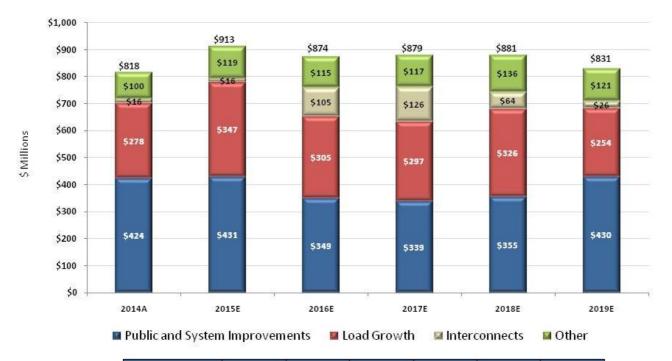
- Customer Growth
- Infrastructure improvements
- Reliability and Technology

February 26, 2015

<sup>1</sup> A portion of the Houston Import Project

# **Electric Transmission & Distribution Utility Capital Expenditures**





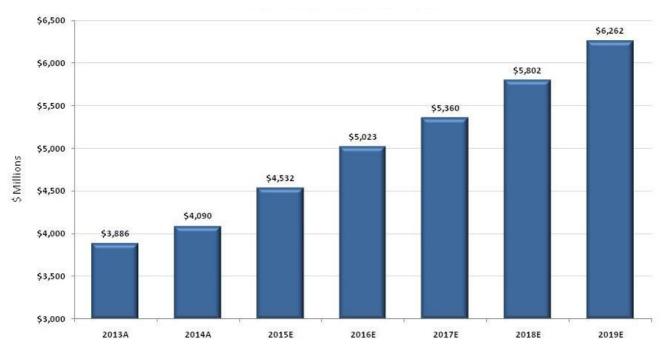
|                     | 2014A | 2015E | 2016E | 2017E | 2018E | 2019E |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Transmission</b> | 37%   | 36%   | 41%   | 40%   | 33%   | 24%   |
| Distribution        | 59%   | 63%   | 56%   | 55%   | 63%   | 74%   |

February 26, 2015

# **\$6.3** Billion Projected 2019 Rate Base Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility



### **Projected Average Rate Base**

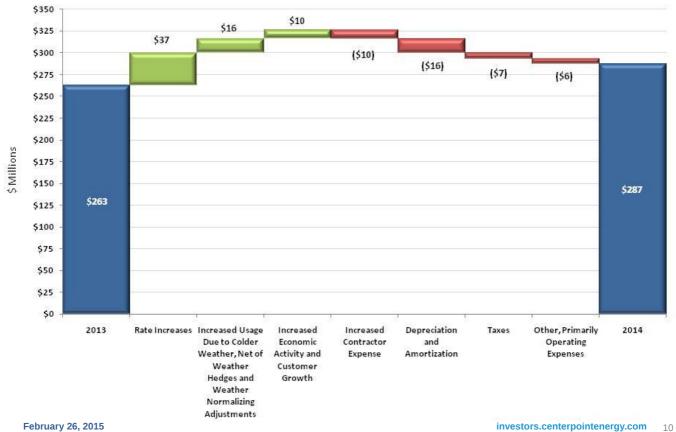


Note: The estimated average annual rate base is subject to change due to actual capital investment, effects of bonus depreciation, deferred taxes, and actual rate base authorized. As an example of the impact of bonus depreciation, 2018 rate base was reduced by approximately \$100 MM as a result of the bonus depreciation passed for 2014. Forecasts do not assume bonus depreciation is passed in 2015 and beyond.

February 26, 2015

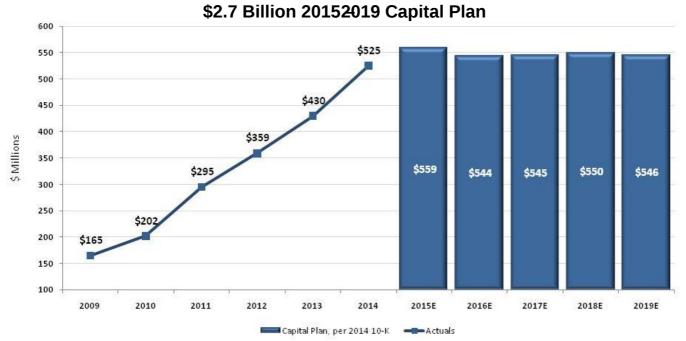
## **Natural Gas Utilities 2014 Operating Income Drivers**





### Natural Gas Utilities Capital Investment Growth





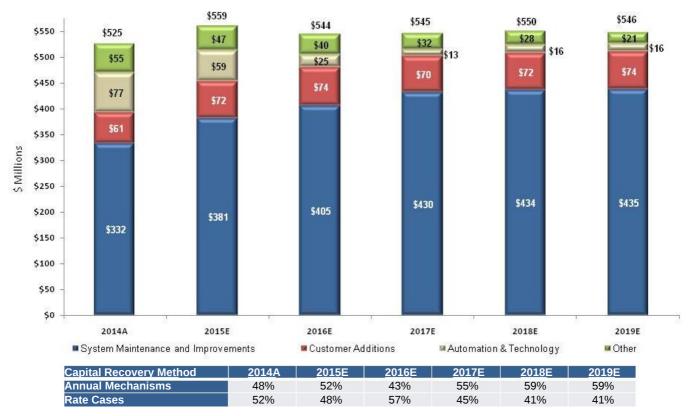
### Capital Plan Includes:

- > Replacing aging infrastructure
- > Customer growth investment
- > System-wide AMR; 3.4 million meters by Q4 2015
- Minnesota Belt Line Project; \$400 million over 12 years

February 26, 2015

## Natural Gas Utilities Capital Expenditures





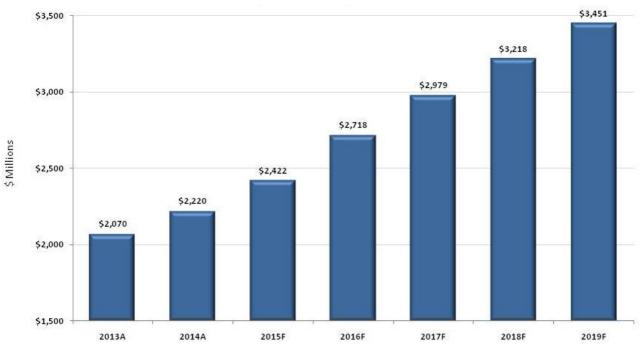
Note: Annual mechanisms reduce the recovery lag time versus traditional rate cases.

February 26, 2015

# **\$3.5 Billion Projected 2019 Rate Base Natural Gas Utilities**



### **Projected Average Rate Base**

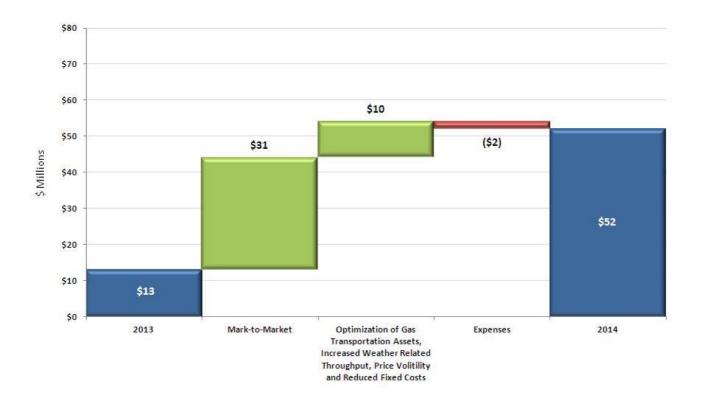


Note: The estimated average annual rate base is subject to change due to actual capital investment, effects of bonus depreciation, deferred taxes, and actual rate base authorized. As an example of the impact of bonus depreciation, 2018 rate base was reduced by approximately \$64 MM as a result of the bonus depreciation passed for 2014. Forecasts do not assume bonus depreciation is passed in 2015 and beyond.

February 26, 2015

# **CenterPoint Energy Services (CES) 2014 Operating Income Drivers**





February 26, 2015

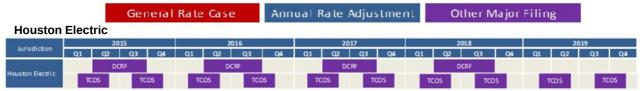
## **Rate Mechanism and Estimated Timing**



### Estimated rate filing timelines as of December 31, 2014:



<sup>\*</sup> MRP (not shown) is filed monthly. Texarkana TX is not included in Act 310 filings.



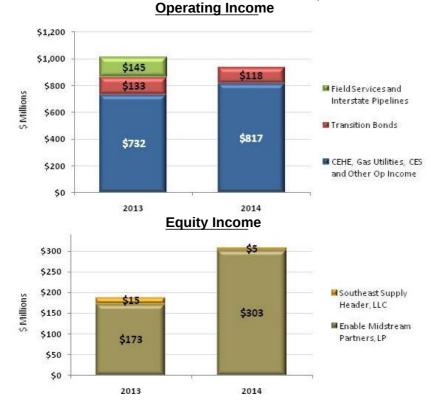
Note: AssumesDCRfor similar mechanismswill bein place after original DCRfounsetson January 1, 2017

February 26, 2015

### 2014 Financial Results Midstream Operating Income moved to Equity Income on May 1, 2013 Energy

**CenterPoint** 

As reported, 12 months ended December 31



Note: Both 2013 and 2014 had \$5 million in basis difference accretion

February 26, 2015

### **Key Enable Midstream Dates**

- For the four months ended April 30, 2013, CenterPoint Energy maintained a 50% ownership interest in SESH and reported its results as Equity Income
- Enable Midstream Partners, formed May 1, 2013, which includes CenterPoint Energy's former Interstate Pipelines and Field Services segments and a 24.95% interest in SESH
- Effective May 1, 2013 midstream operations are reported as Equity Income as part of CenterPoint Energy's midstream investment segment
- On April 16, 2014, Enable completed its IPO, reducing CenterPoint Energy's interest in Enable from approximately 58.3% to 54.7%
- Between May 1, 2013 and May 30, 2014, CenterPoint maintained a 25.05% ownership interest in SESH
- On May 30, 2014, CenterPoint contributed to Enable a 24.95% interest in SESH, which increased CenterPoint Energy's limited partner interest in Enable from approximately 54.7% to approximately 55.4%

# **Debt and Capitalization Ratios Excluding Transition and System Restoration Bonds**



| (\$ in millions)   | December 31,<br>2014 | December 31,<br>2013 |  |  |  |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Short-term Debt:   |                      |                      |  |  |  |
| Short-term borrowings  | \$ 53                | \$ 43                |  |  |  |
| Current portion of transition and system restoration bonds*                              | 372                  | 354                  |  |  |  |
| Indexed debt (ZENS)**  | 152                  | 143                  |  |  |  |
| Current portion of other long-term debt  | 271                  | -                    |  |  |  |
| Long-term Debt:  |                      |                      |  |  |  |
| Transition and system restoration bonds*   | 2,674                | 3,046                |  |  |  |
| Other  | 5,335                | 4,771                |  |  |  |
| Total Debt   | \$ 8,857             | \$ 8,357             |  |  |  |
| Less: Transition and system restoration bonds (including current portion)*               | 3,046                | 3,400                |  |  |  |
| Total Debt, excluding transition and system restoration bonds                            | \$ 5,811             | \$ 4,957             |  |  |  |
| Total Shareholders' Equity   | \$ 4,548             | \$ 4,329             |  |  |  |
| Total Capitalization, excluding transition and system restoration bonds                  | \$ 10,359            | \$ 9,286             |  |  |  |
| Total Debt/Total Capitalization, excluding transition and system restoration bonds 56.1% |                      |                      |  |  |  |

<sup>\*</sup> The transition and system restoration bonds are serviced with dedicated revenue streams, and the bonds are non-recourse to CenterPoint Energy and CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric.

February 26, 2015

<sup>\*\*</sup> The debt component reflected on the financial statements was \$152 million and \$143 million as of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively. The principal amount on which 2% interest is paid was \$828 million on each of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013. The contingent principal amount was \$751 million and \$763 million as of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively. At maturity or upon redemption, holders of ZENS will receive cash at the higher of the contingent principal amount or the value of the reference shares of Time Warner Inc., Time Warner Cable Inc., AOL Inc. and Time Inc. The value of the reference shares was \$930 million and \$767 million as of December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013, respectively.

# **Liquidity and Credit Ratings**



| (in millions)<br>Source of Liquidity on 02/17/2015 | Facility<br>Size | Amount<br>Utilized <sup>1</sup> | Amount<br>Unutilized |
|--|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Revolver                  | \$ 1,200         | \$ 170 <sup>2</sup>             | \$ 1,030             |
| CenterPoint Houston Electric, LLC Revolver         | 300              | 4 <sup>3</sup>                  | 296                  |
| CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. Revolver        | 600              | 248 4                           | 352                  |
| Total Bank Facilities                              | \$ 2,100         | \$ 422                          | \$ 1,678             |
| Investments in Money Market Funds                  |                  | 1                               | 0                    |
| Available Liquidity                                |                  |                                 | \$ 1,678             |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on the consolidated debt to capitalization covenant in the CenterPoint Energy, Inc. revolving credit facility and the revolving credit facility of each of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC and CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., the full capacity of such revolving credit facilities, which aggregated \$2.1 billion, could have been utilized at December 31, 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Represents outstanding commercial paper.

|   | Moody's |                      | S&P    |                      | Fitch  |                      |
|---|---------|----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|----------------------|
| Debt Rated                                      | Rating  | Outlook <sup>a</sup> | Rating | Outlook <sup>b</sup> | Rating | Outlook <sup>C</sup> |
| CenterPoint Energy Sr Unsecured                 | Baa1    | Stable               | BBB+   | Stable               | BBB    | Stable               |
| CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric Sr Secured  | A1      | Stable               | Α      | Stable               | Α      | Stable               |
| CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. Sr Unsecured | Baa2    | Stable               | A-     | Stable               | BBB    | Stable               |

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mathrm{a}}$  A Moody's rating outlook is an opinion regarding the likely direction of an issuer's rating over the medium term.

February 26, 2015

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Represents outstanding letters of credit of \$6 million and outstanding commercial paper of \$164 million.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 3}\,\text{Represents}$  outstanding letters of credit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> An S&P rating outlook assesses the potential direction of long-term credit rating over the intermediate to longer term.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>circ}\,$  A Fitch rating outlook indicates the direction a rating is likely to move over a one- to two-year period.

## **Estimated Amortization for Pre-Tax Equity Earnings**

Associated ith the Recover of Certain Qualified Costand Storm Restoration Costs



As of December 31, 2014

|           |       |      | TBC II         | TBC III       | TBC IV        | SRBC          | Total          | ٦ |
|-----------|-------|------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---|
|           |       | 2005 | \$ 213,804     | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ -          | \$ 213,804     | 1 |
| Actual    |       | 2006 | 6,644,004      | -             | -             | -             | 6,644,004      |   |
|           |       | 2007 | 7,140,194      | -             | -             | -             | 7,140,194      |   |
|           | _     | 2008 | 6,673,765      | 4,743,048     | -             | -             | 11,416,813     |   |
|           | E II  | 2009 | 7,279,677      | 6,074,697     | -             | 95,841        | 13,450,215     |   |
|           | A CT  | 2010 | 9,071,326      | 5,745,580     | -             | 2,657,384     | 17,474,291     |   |
|           | 2000  | 2011 | 9,902,590      | 6,994,650     | -             | 2,840,737     | 19,737,978     |   |
|           |       | 2012 | 9,717,059      | 6,837,290     | 27,873,514    | 2,473,992     | 46,901,855     |   |
|           |       | 2013 | 10,383,183     | 7,251,470     | 24,082,419    | 2,235,567     | 43,952,640     |   |
|           |       | 2014 | 11,442,612     | 8,699,455     | 42,944,063    | 3,680,587     | 66,766,717     |   |
|           |       | 2015 | 12,386,321     | 11,321,735    | 18,385,219    | 1,847,199     | 43,940,475     |   |
|           |       | 2016 | 11,998,830     | 8,301,168     | 29,248,671    | 2,795,079     | 52,343,747     |   |
|           |       | 2017 | 12,939,614     | 8,587,569     | 29,899,025    | 2,944,601     | 54,370,809     |   |
|           | 90    | 2018 | 13,946,918     | 9,293,326     | 30,817,623    | 3,115,549     | 57,173,417     | 2 |
|           | Jate  | 2019 | 7,910,151      | 9,643,393     | 31,870,399    | 3,311,435     | 52,735,378     |   |
| Estimated | Stin. | 2020 | -              | 842,583       | 32,937,717    | 3,506,718     | 37,287,017     |   |
|           |       | 2021 | -              | -             | 34,186,583    | 3,705,250     | 37,891,833     |   |
|           |       | 2022 | -              | -             | 35,552,782    | 2,244,613     | 37,797,395     |   |
|           |       | 2023 | -              | -             | 36,978,374    |               | 36,978,374     |   |
|           |       | 2024 |                |               | 30,008,722    |               | 30,008,722     |   |
|           |       |      | \$ 137,650,048 | \$ 94,335,964 | \$404,785,110 | \$ 37,454,553 | \$ 674,225,675 |   |
|           |       |      |                |               |               |               |                |   |

The table provides

- 1) the pre-tax equity return recognized by CenterPointEnergy, Inc. (CenterPointEnergy) during each of the years 2005 through 2014 related to CenterPoinEnergy Houston Electric, LLC's (CEHE) recovery of certain qualified costs or storm restoration costs, as applicable, pursuant to the past issuance of transition bonds by CenterPoinEnergy Transition Bond Company II, LLC (Transition Bond@pand CenterPointEnergy Transition Bond Company III, LLC (Transition BondOt) or CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company IV, LLC (Transition BondCdV) or system restoration bonds by CenterPoin $\mathbf{E}$ nergy Restoration Bond Company, LLC (System Restoration BondCo), as applicable and
  - the estimated pre-tax equity return currently expected to be recognized in each of the years 2015 through 2024 related to CEHE's recovery of certain qualified costs or storm restoration costs, as applicable, pursuant to the past issuance of transition bonds by Transition BondCdI, Transition BondColl or Transition BondCdV or system restoration bonds by System Restoration BondCo, as applicable.

The amounts reflected for 2015 through 2024 are based on CenterPoint Energy's estimates as of December 31, 2014. However, the equity returns to be recognized in future periods with respect to each series of transition or system restoration bonds, as applicable, will be periodically subject to adjustment based on tariff adjustments for any overcollections or undercollections of transition charges or system restoration charges, as applicable. The equity return amounts reflected in the table are reported in the financial statements of CenterPoint Energy and CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric as revenues from electric transmission and distribution utility.

February 26, 2015 investors.centerpoint Energy and Centerpoint Energy Houston Electric as revenues norm electric transmission and distribution utility.