



CenterPoint Energy Sets 2006 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

Thursday, May 25, 2006, 9 a.m. CDT

HOUSTON, Dec 12, 2005 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s (NYSE: CNP) Board of Directors announced that the Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held on Thursday, May 25, 2006, at 9 a.m. CDT in the CenterPoint Energy Tower auditorium, 1111 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas. Shareholders who hold shares of CenterPoint Energy as of March 27, 2006, will receive notice of the meeting and will be eligible to vote.

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

CenterPoint Energy, Inc., headquartered in Houston, Texas, is a domestic energy delivery company that includes electric transmission & distribution, natural gas distribution and sales, and interstate pipeline and gathering operations. The company serves nearly five million metered customers primarily in Arkansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas. Assets total approximately \$16 billion. With more than 9,000 employees, CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor companies have been in business for more than 130 years. For more information, visit the Web site at <http://www.CenterPointEnergy.com> .

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media, Leticia Lowe, +1-713-207-7702, or investors, Marianne Paulsen, +1-713-207-6500, both of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

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