FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| l | OMB APPRO | VAL |
|---|------------------------|-----------|
| | OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
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| l | hours per response: | 0.5 |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

| Name and Address of Reporting Person* CODY DERRILL | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [CNP] | | | | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|-------------|---------|---|--|---|-------|---|-------|--|---|---------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | CELTERIOR DIVIDIO I IIIO [CIII] | | | | | | | | | X | Direc | tor | | 10% C | wner | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 1111 LOUISIANA | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/01/2004 | | | | | | | | | | Officer (give ti below) | | | Other (s below) | | | |
| | | | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable | | | | | | |
| (Street) HOUST(| treet) IOUSTON TX 7700 | | 77002 | | | | | | | | | | Lir | ne) X | Form | Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting | | | | | |
| (City) |) (State) (Zip) | | | | | | | | | | | | | Person | | | | | | | |
| | | Tabl | e I - Nor | า-Deriv | ative | Sec | curitie | s Acc | quired, | Dis | osed o | f, or | Bene | eficia | lly (| Owne | ed | | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transposite (Month/L | | | | | | ır) E | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5) | | ities Acquired (A d Of (D) (Instr. 3, | | | 4 and S | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | | nership Direct Indirect tr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | v | Amount | | (A) or (D) | Price | | Transa | Transaction(s) Instr. 3 and 4) | | | (1130.4) | |
| Common | Stock 07/01/2004 | | | | | | | A | | 3,000 | 1) | A | (2) | ²⁾ 16,000 ⁽³⁾ | | | D | | | | |
| | | Та | ıble II - [| | | | | | | | sed of, onvertib | | | | / Ow | vned | | | | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | ise (Month/Day/Year) if any (Month/Day/ | | Date, | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date Expiration Expiration Date Expiration Date | | | Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) Amount of Mumbe of Numbe of Security (Instr. and 4) | | ount | | | | Ov Fo Dir or (I) | vnership rm: ect (D) Indirect (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. This common stock is time based restricted stock that will vest in one-third increments on July 1, 2005, July 1, 2006 and July 1, 2007 if the reporting person is a director of Issuer through such dates; provided however, the shares become fully vested in the event of a change of control of issuer.
- 2. Price is not applicable.
- 3. Includes 2,000 shares of time based restricted stock awarded in 2003, of which 1,000 shares will vest June 2, 2005 and 1,000 shares will vest June 2, 2006.

Remarks:

<u>Derrill Cody</u> <u>07/01/2004</u>

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.