FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL											
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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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>CARROLL MILTON</u>					2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]								ationship k all app Direc	,					
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1111 LOUISIANA					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/20/2021							X	X Officer (give title below)  Executive			Other ( below) iirman	specify		
(Street) HOUST(			7002 Zip)		4. If <i>i</i>	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)							6. Indi Line) X	lividual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable  Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting  Person					
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transact Date (Month/Day				tion 2A. Deemed Execution Date,		3. 4. Securities			es Acquired (A) Of (D) (Instr. 3,		or 5. Amo Securi Benefi Owner Repor		ount of ties cially I Following	Form (D) o	n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
Common Stock 02/20/20					2021		Code	V	5,967 <sup>(1)</sup>	(A) (D)	_	21.43	(Instr. 3	3 and 4)		D			
Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)  1. Title of   2.   3. Transaction   3A. Deemed   4.   5. Number   6. Date Exercisable and   7. Title and   8. Price of   9. Number of   10.   11. Nature																			
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)			ion Date,	Transaction Code (Instr. 8)				Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Ins 3 and 4)		De Sed (Ins	rivative curity str. 5)	derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s (Instr. 4)	,	Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercis	able	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	er					

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Shares withheld for taxes upon payment of time-based restricted stock units.
- 2. Total includes (i) 23,742 time-based restricted stock units ("RSUs") previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan (the "Plan") and vesting in February 2022, (ii) 30,250 RSUs previously awarded under the Plan and vesting in February 2023, and (iii) 36,416 RSUs previously awarded under the Plan and vesting in February 2024. The above awards shall vest (a) if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from grant date through vesting date and (b) in the event of his disability or death. Also, the above awards shall vest on a pro-rata basis in the event of his retirement unless he satisfies various conditions for full vesting. For all above awards, Reporting Person is treated as currently retirement eligible. However, for shares vesting in February 2024, any such vesting is conditioned upon positive operating income in the last full calendar year of the restricted period except in the case of death or disability.
- 3. Additionally, includes fully-vested RSUs previously awarded under the Plan, with 25,947 of the underlying shares paid in July 2021 and 25,947 paid in July 2022; provided, however, if the Reporting Person earlier separates from the Company such that he is neither an employee nor director, any remaining unpaid shares under the award will be payable upon his separation.

## Remarks:

Vincent A. Mercaldi, 02/23/2021 Attorney-in-Fact

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

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.