

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT NO. 14  
(TO PROSPECTUS DATED DECEMBER 4, 2003)

(CENTERPOINT ENERGY LOGO)

\$575,000,000  
3.75% Convertible Senior Notes due 2023  
and  
Common Stock Issuable Upon Conversion of the Notes

This document supplements our prospectus dated December 4, 2003, relating to \$575,000,000 aggregate principal amount of our 3.75% Convertible Senior Notes Due 2023 and the common stock issuable upon conversion of the notes. You should read this prospectus supplement in conjunction with the accompanying prospectus, which is to be delivered by selling securityholders to prospective purchasers along with this prospectus supplement. The information in the following table supplements the information set forth under the caption "Selling Security Holders" in the prospectus.

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NUMBER OF SHARES NOTES  
BENEFICIALLY PERCENTAGE OF OF COMMON STOCK  
PERCENTAGE OF OWNED THAT MAY NOTES THAT COMMON  
STOCK NAME BE SOLD OUTSTANDING MAY BE SOLD  
OUTSTANDING (1) -----

-----  
National Benefit Life Insurance  
Company(2)..... \$ 35,000 \* 3,022 \* Primerica  
Life Insurance Company(3)..... \$  
345,000 \* 29,793 \* The Standard Fire Insurance  
Company..... \$ 426,000 \* 36,788 \* The  
Travelers Life and Annuity Company(4).....  
\$ 177,000 \* 15,285 \* The Travelers Indemnity  
Company..... \$ 426,000 \* 36,788 \*  
The Travelers Insurance Company -  
Life(5)..... \$2,438,000 \* 210,535 \* The  
Travelers Insurance Company Separate Account  
TLAC(6).....  
\$ 68,000 \* 5,872 \* Travelers Casualty  
Insurance Company of America.. \$1,235,000 \*  
106,649 \* Travelers Series Trust Convertible  
Bond Portfolio \$ 900,000 \* 77,720 \*

- - - - -

\* Less than 1%

- (1) Calculated using 306,077,942 shares of common stock outstanding as of November 3, 2003. In calculating this amount for each holder, we treated as outstanding the number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of all of that holder's notes, but we did not assume conversion of any other holder's notes.
- (2) National Benefit Life Insurance Company also beneficially owns (i) \$2,500,000 principal amount of CERC's 7.75% Notes due 2011, (ii) \$700,000 principal amount of CenterPoint Houston's 5.70% General Mortgage Bonds, Series J, due 2013 and (iii) \$2,000,000 principal amount of CenterPoint Houston's 6.95% General Mortgage Bonds, Series K, due 2033.
- (3) Primerica Life Insurance Company also beneficially owns (i) \$7,000,000 principal amount of CERC's 7.875% Senior Notes due 2013 and (ii) \$1,400,000 principal amount of CenterPoint Houston's 5.70% General Mortgage Bonds, Series J, due 2013.
- (4) The Travelers Life and Annuity Company also beneficially owns (i) \$300,000 principal amount of CenterPoint Houston's 5.70% General Mortgage Bonds, Series J, due 2013, (ii) \$700,000 principal amount of CenterPoint Houston's 6.95% General Mortgage Bonds, Series K, due 2033 and (iii) \$1,000,000 principal amount of CERC's 7.875% Senior Notes due 2013.
- (5) The Travelers Insurance Company - Life also beneficially owns (i) \$5,000,000 principal amount of CERC's 7.75% Notes due 2011, (ii) \$3,800,000 principal amount of CenterPoint Houston's 5.70% General Mortgage Bonds, Series J, due 2013, (iii) \$6,300,000 principal amount

of CenterPoint Houston's 6.95% General Mortgage Bonds, Series K, due 2033 and (iv) \$11,500,000 principal amount of CERC's 7.875% Senior Notes due 2013.

- (6 ) The Travelers Insurance Company Separate Account TLAC also beneficially owns \$200,000 principal amount of CenterPoint Houston's 5.70% General Mortgage Bonds, Series J, due 2013.

INVESTING IN THE NOTES INVOLVES RISKS. SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 10 OF THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT OR THE ACCOMPANYING PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus supplement is May 13, 2004.

