

## 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 statements.

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.

### **2014 Year Highlights**



- New management team in place with the right mix of industry experience and functional knowledge
- Utility Operations: Strong financial and operational performances
  - 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 Partners: Completed 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

### **2014 Forecast Summary**



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

Compound Annual Growth Rates	2013 -2018 Forecast (Provided June 2014) <sup>1</sup>	2014 – 2019 Forecast (Provided Feb 2015) <sup>2</sup>		
Houston Electric Rate Base	7-10%	8-10%		
Houston Electric Operating Income	5-7%	5-7% <sup>4</sup>		
Gas Utilities Rate Base	8-10%	8-10%		
Gas Utilities Operating Income	4-6%	4-6% <sup>4</sup>		
Consolidated Rate Base	7-10%	8-10%		
Utility Operations Earnings	4-6% <sup>3</sup>	4-6% <sup>3, 4</sup>		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The 2013 – 2018 forecast does not assume the utilization of bonus depreciation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The 2014 – 2019 forecast does not assume bonus depreciation for 2015 and beyond

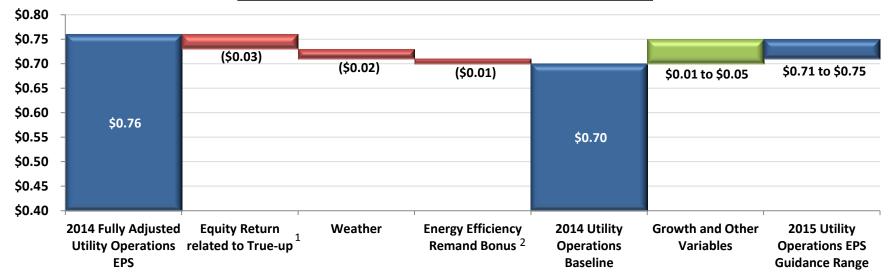
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Earnings are expected to be lower during initial years and higher during later years of the forecast

<sup>&</sup>lt;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 Range of \$0.71 to \$0.75 per diluted share



2014 Fully Diluted EPS	\$ 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	\$ 1.27
Deferred Tax Benefit	(0.07)
2014 Fully Adjusted EPS	\$ 1.20
Midstream Investments	(0.44)
2014 Fully Adjusted Utility Operations EPS	\$ 0.76

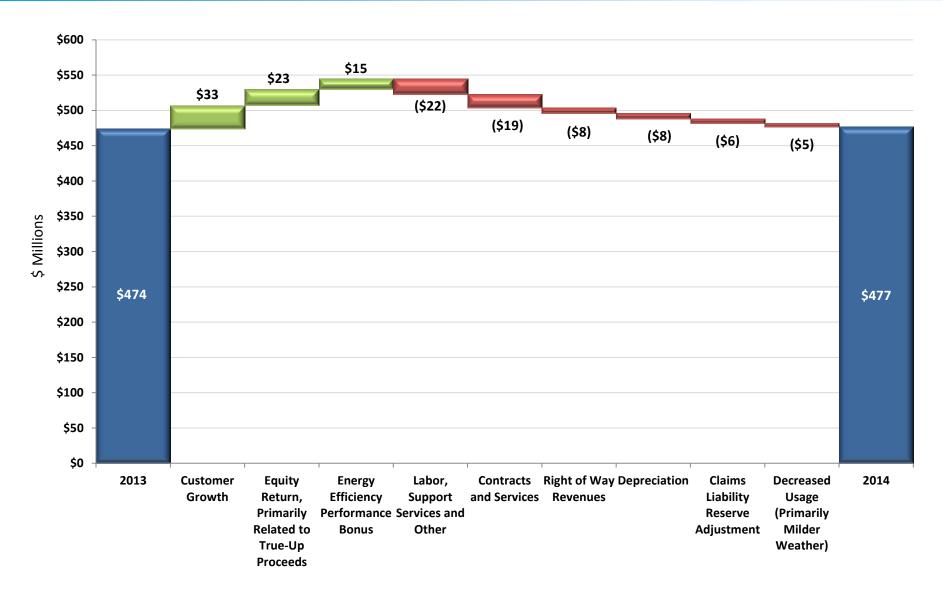


<sup>(1)</sup> The Equity Amortization schedule on page 19 details the decrease between the 2014 actual and 2015 projected equity returns

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

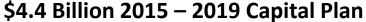
# **Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility 2014 Operating Income Drivers**

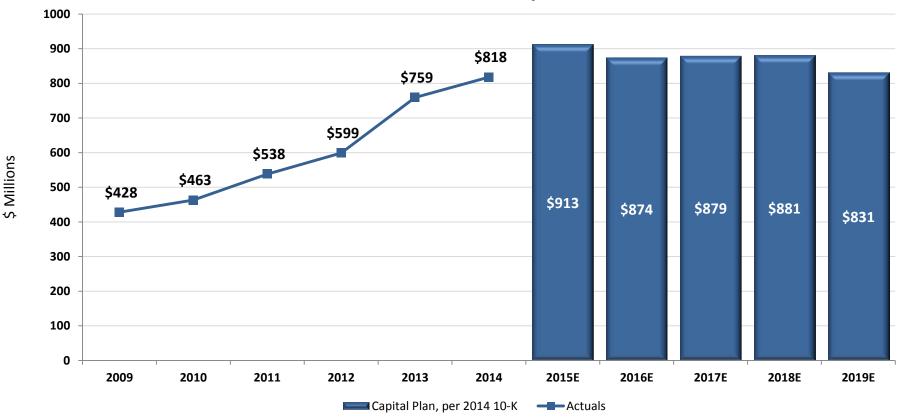




# **Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility Capital Investment Growth**







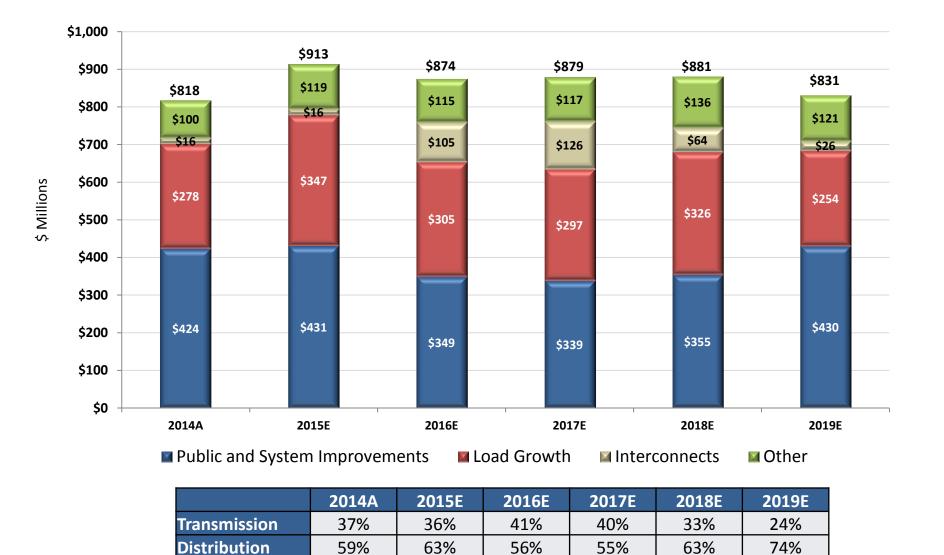
### Capital Plan Includes:

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

- Customer Growth
- Infrastructure improvements
- Reliability and Technology

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

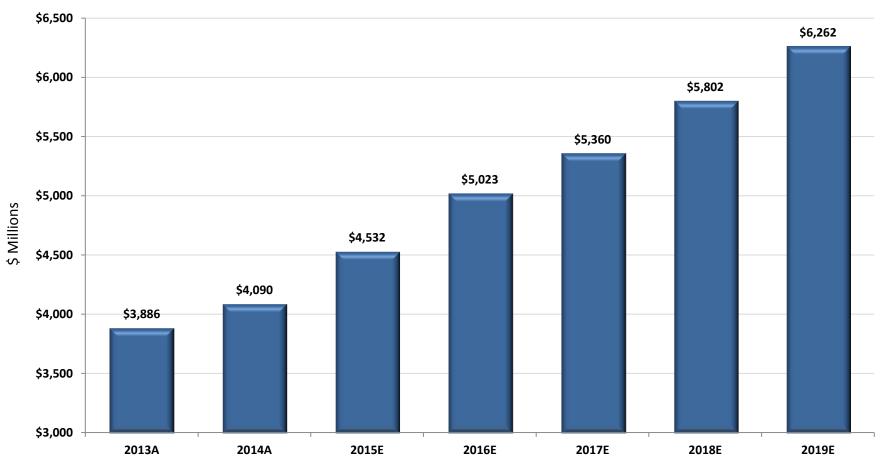




# \$6.3 Billion Projected 2019 Rate Base Electric Transmission and Distribution Utility



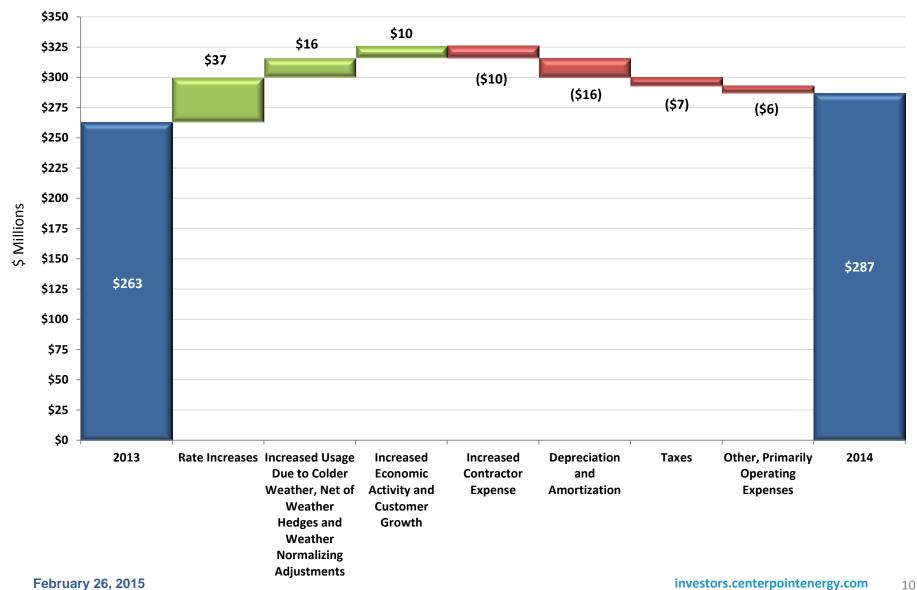
### **Projected Average Rate Base**



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.

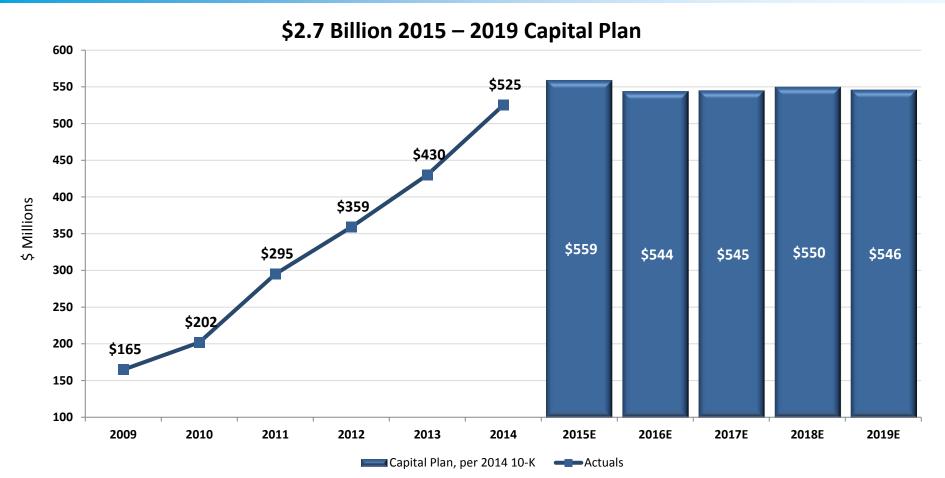
# **Natural Gas Utilities 2014 Operating Income Drivers**





# Natural Gas Utilities Capital Investment Growth





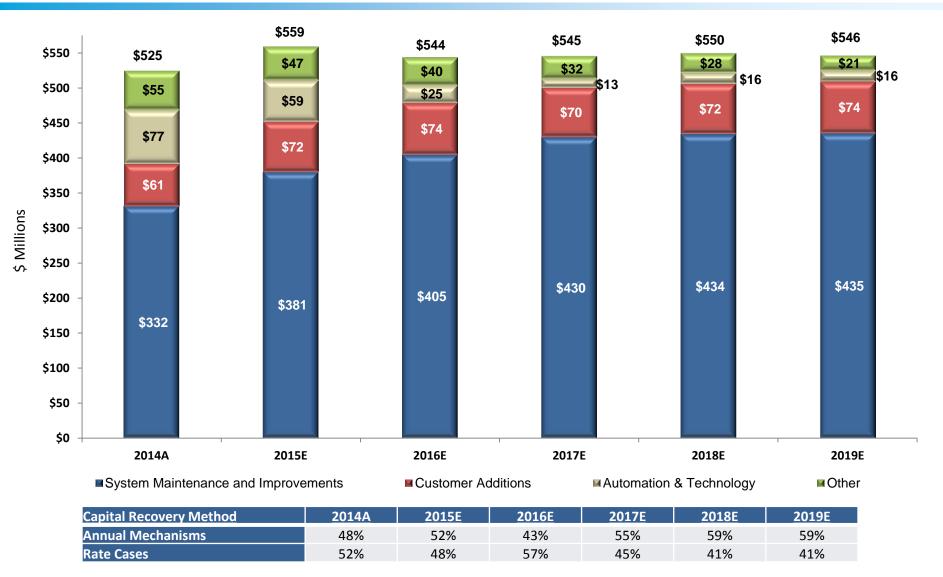
### Capital Plan Includes:

- > 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

## Natural Gas Utilities Capital Expenditures



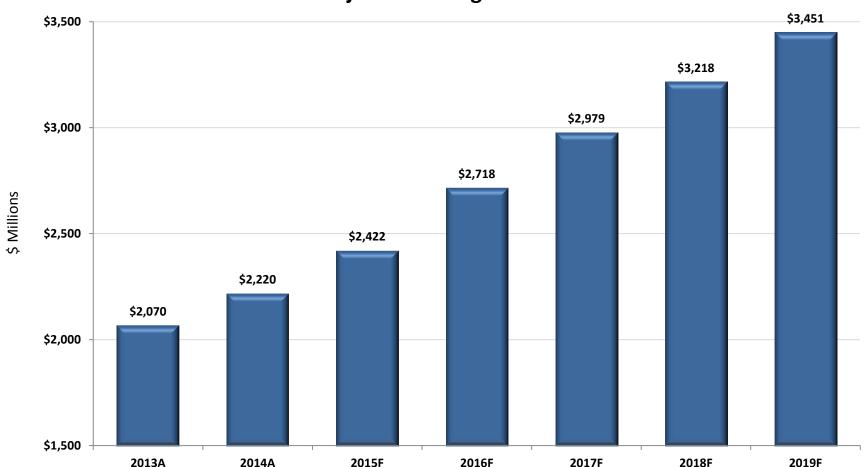


Note: Annual mechanisms reduce the recovery lag time versus traditional rate cases.

# \$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.

# CenterPoint Energy Services (CES) 2014 Operating Income Drivers



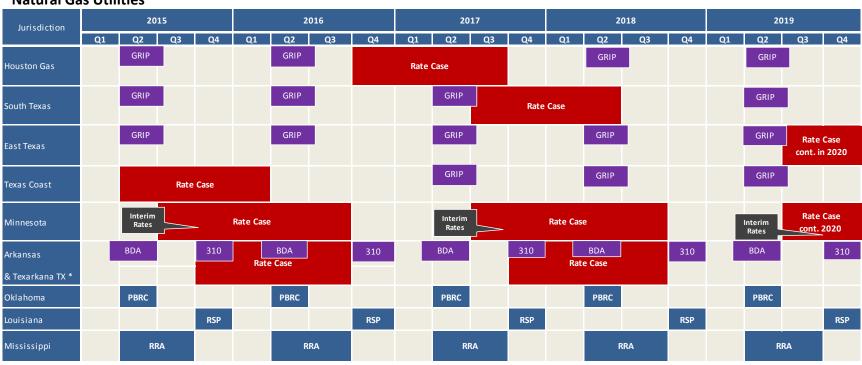


### **Rate Mechanism and Estimated Timing**

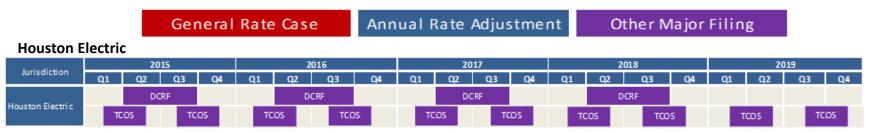


### Estimated rate filing timelines as of December 31, 2014:

#### **Natural Gas Utilities**



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

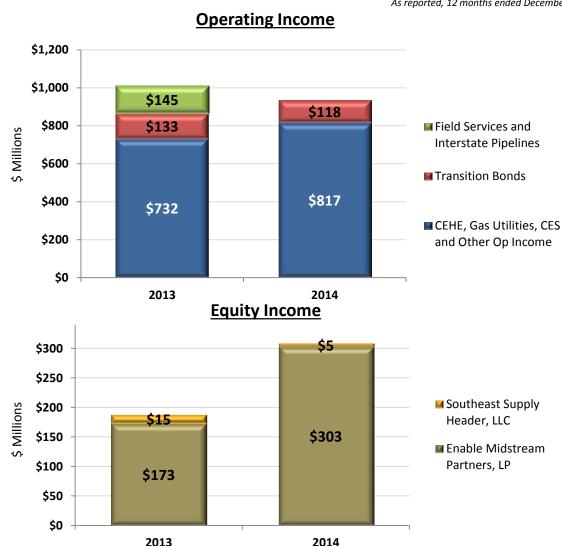


Note: Assumes DCRF or similar mechanisms will be in place after original DCRF sunsets on January 1, 2017

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







#### **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%

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

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



(\$ in millions)	December 31, 		December 31, 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	<u>\$ 1</u>	0,359	\$	9,286
Total Debt/Total Capitalization, excluding transition and system restoration bonds	•	56.1%		53.4%

<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.

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) Source of Liquidity on 02/17/2015	Facility Size	Amount Utilized <sup>1</sup>	Amount Unutilized
CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Revolver	\$ 1,200	\$ 170 <sup>2</sup>	\$ 1,030
CenterPoint Houston Electric, LLC Revolver	300	4.	296
CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. Revolver	600	248	352
Total Bank Facilities	\$ 2,100	\$ 422	\$ 1,678
Investments in Money Market Funds		_	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>lt;sup>a</sup> A Moody's rating outlook is an opinion regarding the likely direction of an issuer's rating over the medium term.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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>lt;sup>c</sup> 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 with the Recovery of Certain Qualified Cost and Storm Restoration Costs



As of December 31, 2014

		TBC II	TBC III	TBC IV	SRBC	<b>Total</b> Th
	2005	\$ 213,804	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 213,804 <sup>1)</sup>
	2006	6,644,004	-	-	-	6,644,004
	2007	7,140,194	-	-	-	7,140,194
_	2008	6,673,765	4,743,048	-	-	11,416,813
Actua	2009	7,279,677	6,074,697	-	95,841	13,450,215
Act	2010	9,071,326	5,745,580	-	2,657,384	17,474,291
	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
pe	2018	13,946,918	9,293,326	30,817,623	3,115,549	57,173,417 <sup>2)</sup>
stimated	2019	7,910,151	9,643,393	31,870,399	3,311,435	52,735,378
stin	2020	-	842,583	32,937,717	3,506,718	37,287,017
Ш	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
1						

The table provides

the pre-tax equity return recognized by CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (CenterPoint Energy) during each of the years 2005 through 2014 related to CenterPoint Energy 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 CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company II, LLC (Transition BondCo II) and CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company III, LLC (Transition BondCo III) or CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company IV, LLC (Transition BondCo IV) or system restoration bonds by CenterPoint Energy 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 BondCo II, Transition BondCo III or Transition BondCo IV 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.