1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
Mercado Kenneth M

1111 LOUISIANA
HOUSTON TX 77002

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

X Director

Other (specify below) SVP

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/27/2020

4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)

X 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Security (Instr. 3)</th>
<th>Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)</th>
<th>Transaction Code (Instr. 8)</th>
<th>Amount (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 4 and 5)</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 4 and 5)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Stock</td>
<td>02/27/2020</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>3,976(1)</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>70,101 D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Stock</td>
<td>02/27/2020</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>1,008(2)</td>
<td>$24.16</td>
<td>69,093 D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Stock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7,043</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>By Savings Plan(4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Common Stock

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)</th>
<th>Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security</th>
<th>Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)</th>
<th>Transaction Code (Instr. 8)</th>
<th>Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 4 and 5)</th>
<th>Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)</th>
<th>Title and Amount of Derivative Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)</th>
<th>Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)</th>
<th>Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)</th>
<th>Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)</th>
<th>Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Stock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Explanations of Responses:
2. Shares withheld for taxes upon vesting of performance shares.
3. Total includes (i) 2,794 time-based restricted stock units (“RSUs”) previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan (the "Plan") and vesting in February 2021, (ii) 2,819 RSUs previously awarded under the Plan and vesting in February 2022, and (iii) 7,151 RSUs previously awarded under the Plan and vesting in February 2023. The above awards shall vest (i) if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from grant date through vesting date and (ii) 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.
4. Equivalent shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan.

Remarks:
Vincent A. Mercaldi, Attorney in Fact 02/02/2020
** 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).


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.