The Benefits of a Balanced Electric & Natural Gas Portfolio

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NYSE: CNP
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CREATING AN INTELLIGENT FUTURE, TODAY

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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. 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.

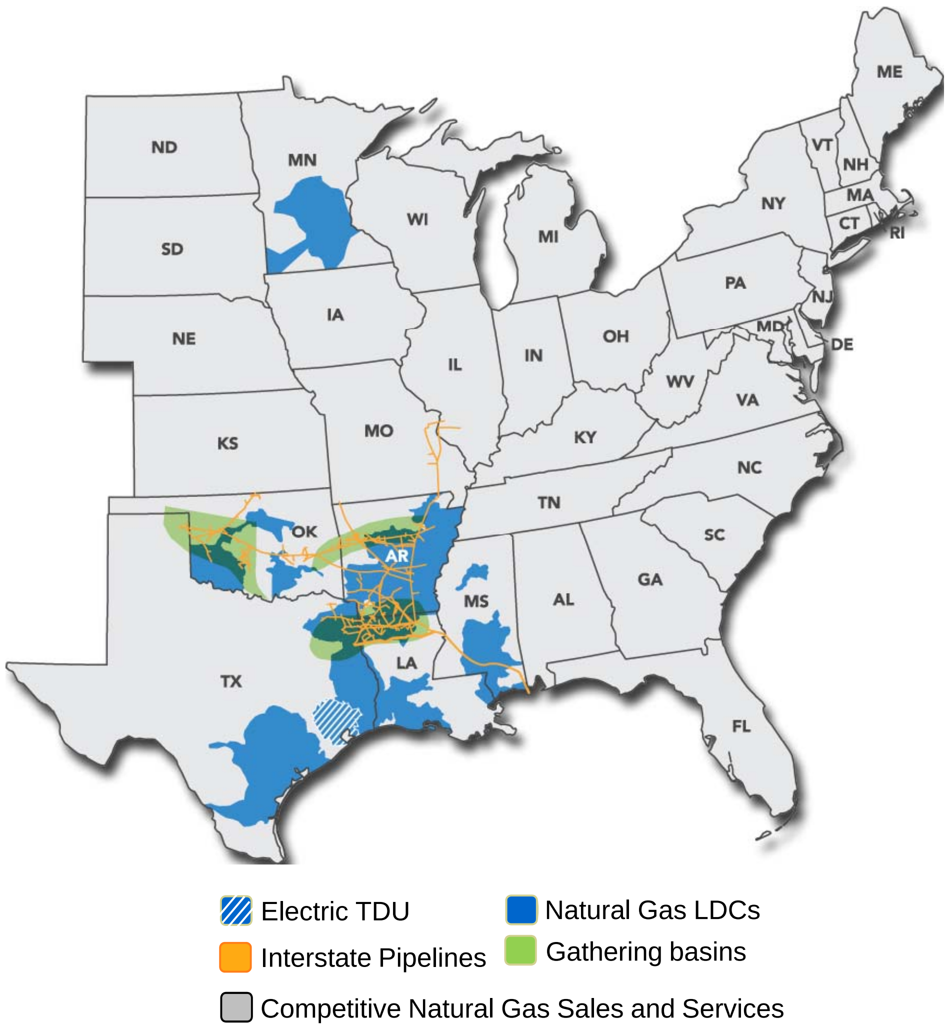
We have based our forward-looking statements on our management's beliefs and assumptions based on information currently available to our management at the time the statements are made. We caution you that assumptions, beliefs, expectations, intentions, and projections about future events may and often 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 the timing and impact of future regulatory, legislative and IRS decisions, financial market conditions, factors that may impact the timing and completion of our anticipated transition bond offering to recover our true-up balance, including actions by the Texas PUC, any appeals of the financing order issued by the Texas PUC and future market conditions, and other factors described in CenterPoint Energy, Inc.’s Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2010, under “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Certain Factors Affecting Future Earnings”, in CenterPoint Energy, Inc.’s Forms 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2011, June 30, 2011, and September 30, 2011, under “Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information”, “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries”, and in other filings with the SEC by CenterPoint Energy.

You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of this presentation, and we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements.

Investment Highlights

- **Strategically located assets and attractive service territories which provide operating scale and diversification of risk**
- **Regulated and fee-based operations provide over 90 percent of operating income with stable earnings and cash flow**
- **Opportunity to leverage market position as a leading provider of gas infrastructure services to capture opportunities, particularly in shale plays**
- **Organic growth opportunities across all businesses**
- **Committed to a secure, competitive dividend with growth while continuing to improve financial strength and flexibility**



Our Corporate Vision Remains…

CenterPoint Energy

Our Vision

To Be Recognized As America's Leading Energy Delivery Company…and More

"… America's Energy Delivery…"

- **Focused on domestic energy delivery businesses**
  - Continental U.S. market
  - Regulated energy delivery
    - Electric transmission and distribution (TDU)
    - Natural gas local distribution companies (LDCs)
    - Natural gas interstate pipelines
  - Unregulated energy delivery
    - Natural gas field services (gas gathering, treating and processing)

"… and More"

- **Pursue complementary businesses that leverage our core businesses/business skills**
  - Competitive natural gas sales and energy services

Our Strategy Builds on Our Strengths

CenterPoint Energy

Building a domestic energy delivery company with a balanced portfolio of electric and natural gas businesses

- Seek geographic, economic and regulatory diversity
- Capture organic growth in our attractive electric and natural gas service territories and seek opportunities to acquire other regulated electric and natural gas businesses
- Optimize our interstate pipeline assets with access to active natural gas supply basins
- Invest in gas gathering, treating and processing facilities in attractive gas producing areas, primarily in the shale plays
- Optimize our competitive natural gas sales and services business

Committed to our investment thesis of
providing a secure, competitive dividend with growth

Complementary Electric and Natural Gas Portfolio

Electric Transmission & Distribution	Natural Gas Distribution	Natural Gas Pipelines	Natural Gas Field Services	Natural Gas Sales & Services
• Regulated 'wires only' business • 5,000 sq. mile service territory in and around Houston • Over 2.1 million metered customers in the Houston area • Consistent customer growth	• Regulated local gas distribution companies in AR, LA, MN, MS, OK, TX • 3.3 million customers • Solid growth in key urban areas • 426 Bcf throughput in 2010	• FERC regulated pipelines and storage • Strategically located at the center of the nation's gas transportation infrastructure • Connected to over 20 other pipelines • 1,693 Bcf throughput in 2010	• Non-rate regulated; primarily fee-based business • Gathering, treating and processing • Primarily focused on mid-continent production basins and new shale plays • 650 Bcf gathering throughput in 2010	• Non-rate regulated • Markets natural gas and services • ~12,000 commercial, industrial and utility customers in 17 states • 548 Bcf throughput in 2010

Adjusted Operating Income (in millions)

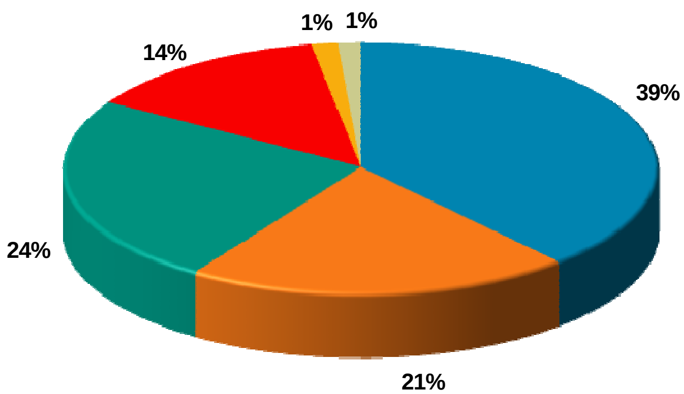
Year	Electric Transmission & Distribution	Natural Gas Distribution	Natural Gas Pipelines	Natural Gas Field Services	Natural Gas Sales & Services
2010:	$427[(1)]	$231	$270	$151	$16
2009:	$414[(1)]	$204	$256	$ 94	$21
2008:	$407[(1)]	$215	$293	$147	$62
2007:	$383[(1)]	$218	$237	$ 99	$75
2006:	$395[(1)]	$124	$181	$ 89	$77

(1) Results exclude operating income from the Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies, the Competition Transition Charge and the Final Fuel Reconciliation (see reconciliation on page 18).

Attractive and Balanced Portfolio with Stability and Growth

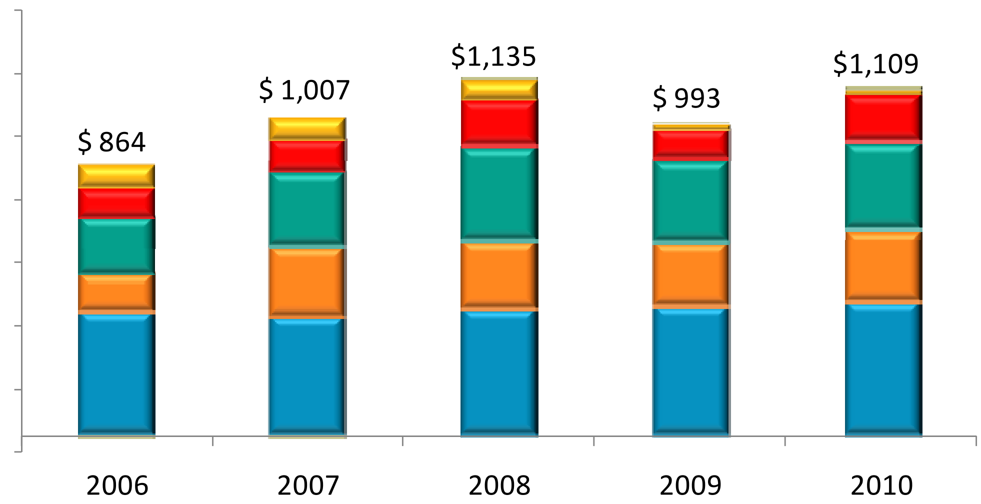
Balanced Portfolio

2010 Adjusted Operating Income: $1,109(1)



Stability and Growth

2006 – 2010 Adjusted Operating Income(2)



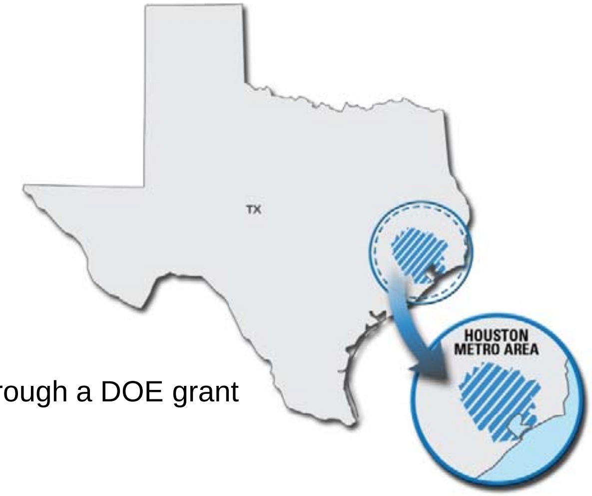
Electric Transmission & Distribution
Natural Gas Distribution
Natural Gas Interstate Pipelines
Natural Gas Field Services
Natural Gas Sales & Services
Other Operations

(1) In millions; excludes operating income from Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies (see reconciliation on page 18).

(2) In millions; excludes operating income from Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies, the Competition Transition Charge and the Final Fuel Reconciliation (see reconciliation on page 18).

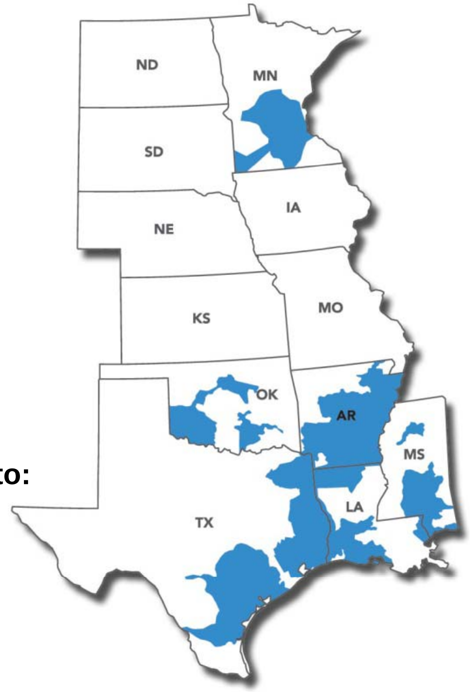
CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Electric Transmission & Distribution

- **Final resolution of true-up remand allows recovery of $1.695 billion, less certain financing and legal expenses; financing order to allow issuance of transition bonds approved by PUC; expect bonds to be issued late 2011/early 2012**
  - The true-up appeals resulted from the Texas Public Utility Commission's (PUC) disallowance of certain generation-related stranded costs and transition expenses associated with the restructuring of the TX electric industry
  - ~$1.1 billion will be recorded as after tax earnings in different time frames
    - ~$811 million recognized in third quarter 2011 representing stranded costs and transition expenses, and the debt component of interest
    - ~$258 million representing the equity component of interest will be recognized over life of the transition bonds
  - Cash flow impact: $1.695 billion received upon issuance of transition bonds; taxes paid over life of bonds
- **Final order in Houston Electric rate case issued June 23, 2011; rates implemented September 1, 2011**
  - The Texas Public Utility Commission (PUC) authorized the following:
    - ~$14.7 million increase for distribution customers; ~$12.3 million decrease for transmission customers
    - 10% return on equity; capital structure of 45% equity/ 55% debt
  - Minimal impact on cash flow, but estimated operating income decrease of ~$35 million in 2012, including effect of change in depreciation rates
- **In September 2011, PUC approved a periodic rate adjustment mechanism that mitigates regulatory lag for distribution capital investment; a similar adjustment mechanism for transmission costs is already in place**
- **Advanced meter deployment over 75 percent complete**
  - ~1.7 million advanced meters installed through September 2011
  - $520 million invested through September 2011, of which $150 million was funded through a DOE grant



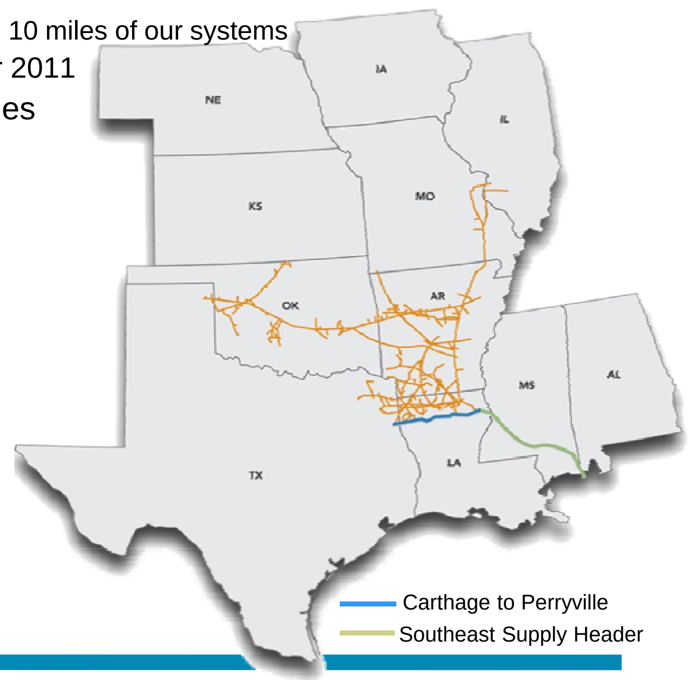
CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.
Natural Gas Distribution

- **Focused on implementation of rate strategies that reduce rate case frequency and decouple revenues from consumption**
  - Align company and customers' interests on conservation and energy efficiency
  - Significant progress in a number of jurisdictions
    - Weather normalization approved in AR, LA and OK
    - Decoupling or cost of service adjustment mechanisms in AR, LA, MN (pilot project), OK and parts of TX (subject to appeal)
    - Capital recovery mechanisms in TX and AR
    - Energy efficiency riders in AR, MN and OK
    - Asset management agreements providing sharing of benefits in AR, LA, MS, and OK; substantial reduction in working capital realized
- **South Texas: Railroad Commission approved rate case settlement in April 2011 to increase revenues by $4.6 million based on 10.05% return on equity and capital structure of 55% equity/ 45% debt; request as amended was $6.1 million; rates implemented in May 2011**
- **Continue to promote natural gas as the clean fuel of choice for cooking, space and water heating**
- **Business model structured to capture scale benefits and synergies**
  - Excellent results in reducing delinquencies and bad debts and controlling operation and maintenance expenses
- **Increasing capital investment for infrastructure, safety and technology which will allow us to:**
  - Reduce O&M
  - Improve customer service
  - Make the system safer and more reliable
  - Recover a return of and on such investments in a timely manner in most jurisdictions



CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.
Interstate Pipelines

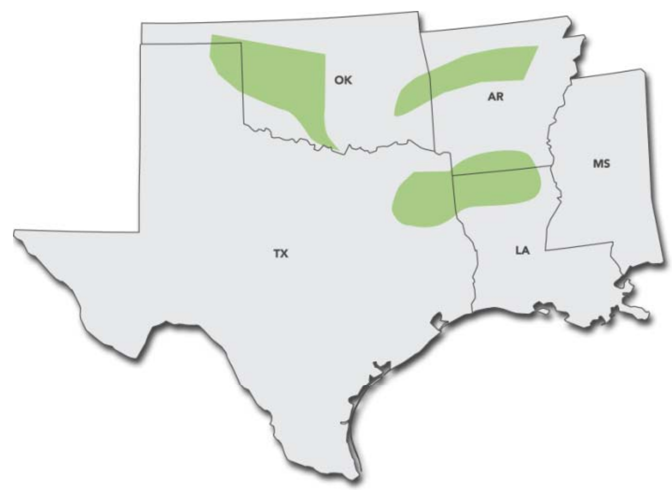
- **Maintain core customer base and revenue stability through effective and timely re-contracting**
  - Long-term agreements with affiliated LDCs and Laclede in place
  - Focused on shifting short-term contracts to longer term arrangements
  - Initiated rate case settlement process for Mississippi River Transmission (MRT) pipeline
- **Pursue on-system customer growth, pipeline extensions and greenfield development projects**
  - Shift focus from off-system to on-system customers in light of changing market dynamics, i.e. lack of basis
  - Continue to pursue extension opportunities especially power generation load
    - Nearly 0.88 Bcf per day of contracted power generation load with 12 plants
    - Currently attached to 22 gas-fired power plants (7.7 GW of power load)
      - 29 additional gas-fired power plants (12 GW of power load) are located within 10 miles of our systems
    - Delivered peak hourly load of nearly 877 MMcf to power plants in summer 2011
  - Pursue SESH expansion opportunities as well as expansion opportunities on core system
- **Capital expenditures**
  - Maintenance capital expected to average $80 to $100 million annually
  - New environmental regulations (e.g. RICE MACT) will increase environmental capital expenditures
  - Expanded integrity management programs likely from pending pipeline legislation



CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.
Field Services

- **Secure core business through superior customer service and product offerings**
  - Attractive margins despite highly competitive business dynamics
  - Relatively low risk business model
    - Majority of recent capital expenditures supported by agreements with guaranteed throughput or return provisions
    - Positioned to capture value from commodity up-swings
    - Over half of near-term gross margin projected to come from XTO/Exxon, Shell and Encana
  - Strategic footprint in both traditional and shale basins
    - Drilling in shale areas remains steady
    - Well positioned to benefit when drilling returns to traditional basins

- **Significant increase in throughput driven primarily by shale gas infrastructure investments**
  - Average throughput increased from 1.15 Bcf per day in 2008 to 2.24 Bcf per day in third quarter 2011
  - Strategic footprint and attractive long-term contracts position business for solid long-term growth
    - Haynesville – 2 Bcf per day gathering and treating capacity
    - Fayetteville – 800 MMcf per day gathering capacity
    - Woodford – 500 MMcf per day gathering, 400 MMcf per day treating capacity
  - Actively pursuing other opportunities in liquids-rich shale plays



CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.
Competitive Natural Gas Sales and Services

- **Business focus is on commercial and industrial natural gas sales; asset optimization opportunities have declined due to reduced seasonal and geographic basis differentials**

- **Risk management and internal controls essential to success (maintain a low risk model)**
  - Principally a physical gas provider using back-to-back contracting strategy
  - Disciplined risk management model
  - Low Value at Risk (VaR) limit of $4 million
  - Rigorous credit scoring and collateral management
  - Economic gains locked in through the use of financial derivatives

- **Retail growth through organic and geographic expansion**

Third Quarter 2011 Consolidated Results

(unaudited, in millions except per share amounts)

	Three Months ended September 30,		Nine Months ended September 30,	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
Revenues	**$ 1,908**	**$ 1,881**	**$ 6,687**	**$ 6,305**
Expenses:				
Natural gas	808	735	3,521	2,989
Operation and maintenance	444	448	1,268	1,333
Depreciation and amortization	243	253	660	677
Taxes other than income taxes	86	88	291	282
Total	**1,581**	**1,524**	**5,740**	**5,281**
Operating Income	**327**	**357**	**947**	**1,024**
Gain/(Loss) on Time Warner Investment*	19	(80)	35	(30)
Gain/(Loss) on indexed debt securities	(5)	88	-	65
Interest and other finance charges	(121)	(114)	(364)	(341)
Interest on transition and system restoration bonds	(34)	(31)	(106)	(96)
Equity in earnings of unconsoliated affiliates	10	8	22	22
Return on true-up balance	-	352	-	352
Other income - net	3	10	7	19
Income tax expense	(76)	(204)	(223)	(362)
Income Before Extraordinary Item	123	386	318	653
Extraordinary Item, net of tax	-	587	-	587
Net Income	**$ 123**	**$ 973**	**$ 318**	**$ 1,240**
Diluted Earnings Per Share:				
As reported	**$ 0.29**	**$ 2.27**	**$ 0.78**	**$ 2.89**
True-up related items:				
Debt component return, net of tax	-	$ (0.52)	-	$ (0.52)
Extraordinary item, net of tax	-	(1.37)	-	(1.37)
Excluding true-up related items	**$ 0.29**	**$ 0.38**	**$ 0.78**	**$ 1.00**

*Time Warner Inc., Time Warner Cable Inc. and AOL Inc.

Third Quarter 2011 Operating Income by Segment

CenterPoint Energy

(unaudited, in millions)

	Three Months ended September 30,		Nine Months ended September 30,	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
Electric Transmission & Distribution:				
Electric Transmission and Distribution Operations	$ 178	$ 213	$ 371	$ 434
Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies	34	31	106	96
Total Electric Transmission & Distribution	212	244	477	530
Natural Gas Distribution	(4)	(2)	145	153
Competitive Natural Gas Sales and Services	7	(10)	16	3
Interstate Pipelines	68	60	207	196
Field Services	40	61	94	136
Other Operations	4	4	8	6
Total Operating Income	**$ 327**	**$ 357**	**$ 947**	**$ 1,024**

CenterPoint Energy
Objectives for 2011 and beyond

- **Maximize return on regulated utilities portfolio**
- **Pursue growth projects in interstate pipelines and field services**
- **Capture profitability of competitive natural gas sales and services while maintaining appropriate level of risk**
- **Maintain and improve strong liquidity and credit profile**
- **Provide secure, competitive dividend with growth**
- **Consistently achieve top quartile shareholder returns**

Appendix

Reconciliation of Operating Income to Adjusted Operating Income

(in millions)

Consolidated

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Operating Income	$ 1,045	$ 1,185	$ 1,273	$ 1,124	$ 1,249
Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies	(126)	(119)	(133)	(131)	(140)
Competition Transition Charge	(55)	(42)	(5)	-	-
Final Fuel Reconciliation	-	(17)	-	-	-
Adjusted Operating Income	$ 864	$ 1,007	$ 1,135	$ 993	$ 1,109

Electric Transmission & Distribution

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Operating Income	$ 576	$ 561	$ 545	$ 545	$ 567
Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies	(126)	(119)	(133)	(131)	(140)
Competition Transition Charge	(55)	(42)	(5)	-	-
Final Fuel Reconciliation	-	(17)	-	-	-
Adjusted Operating Income	$ 395	$ 383	$ 407	$ 414	$ 427

Note: Pursuant to financing orders issued by the Texas Utility Commission in accordance with the Texas Electric Choice Plan (Texas electric restructuring law), subsidiaries of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric have issued $749 million, $1.85 billion, and $488 million in transition bonds in October 2001, December 2005 and February 2008, respectively. Final maturity dates on the bonds range from September 2015 to February 2023. The transition bonds were issued to recover certain costs determined by the Texas Utility Commission to be recoverable in connection with the transition to competition under the Texas electric restructuring law. Pursuant to a financing order issued by the Texas Utility Commission in August 2009, a subsidiary of CenterPoint Houston Electric issued $665 million of system restoration bonds in November 2009. Final maturity dates on the bonds range from February 2016 to August 2023. The system restoration bonds were issued to recover the portion of approved distribution-related storm restoration costs associated with Hurricane Ike. The transition and system restoration bonds are non-recourse to CenterPoint Energy and CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric and are serviced through dedicated amounts included in revenues.

Debt and Capitalization Ratio
Excluding transition and system restoration bonds*

(in millions)

	December 31, 2010	September 30, 2011
Short-term Debt:		
Short-term borrowings	53	84
Current portion of transition and system restoration bonds*	283	307
Current portion of indexed debt (ZENS)**	126	130
Current portion of other long-term debt	19	46
Long-term Debt:		
Transition and system restoration bonds*	2,522	2,215
Other	6,479	6,282
Total Debt	$ 9,482	$ 9,064
Less: Transition and system restoration bonds (including current portion)*	2,805	2,522
Total Debt, excluding transition and system restoration bonds	$ 6,677	$ 6,542
Total Shareholders' Equity	$ 3,198	$ 4,207
Total Capitalization, excluding transition and system restoration bonds	$ 9,875	$ 10,749
Total Debt/Total Capitalization, excluding transition and system restoration bonds	**67.6%**	**60.9%**

* The transition and system restoration bonds are non-recourse to CenterPoint Energy and CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric and are serviced through collections of separate charges which are held in trust.

** The debt component reflected on the financial statements was $130 as of September 30, 2011 and $126 million as of December 31, 2010. The principal amount on which 2% interest is paid was $840 million as of September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010 . The contingent principal amount was $799 as of September 30, 2011 and $805 million as of December 31, 2010.

Liquidity and Credit Ratings

Available Liquidity ($MM)

Entity	Type of Facility	Size of Facility	Amount Utilized at October 14, 2011	Amount Unutilized at October 14, 2011
CenterPoint Energy	Revolver	$ 1,200	$ 16 [1]	$ 1,184
CEHE	Revolver	300	4 [1]	296
CERC	Revolver	950	101 [2]	849
Total Credit Facilities		**$ 2,450**	**$ 121**	**$ 2,329**

(1) Represents outstanding letters of credit.

(2) Represents commercial paper that is backstopped by CERC Corp.'s revolving credit facility.

Credit Ratings

	Moody's		S&P		Fitch	
	Rating	Outlook	Rating	Outlook	Rating	Outlook
CenterPoint Energy (Senior Unsecured)	Baa3	Stable	BBB-	Positive	BBB-	Positive
CEHE (Senior Secured) [1]	A3	Stable	BBB+	Positive	A-	Positive
CERC (Senior Unsecured)	Baa2	Stable	BBB	Positive	BBB	Stable

(1) General mortgage bonds and first mortgage bonds.

Principal amounts of external debt
As of September 30, 2011

(in millions)

CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

ZENS	$ 130 (1)
Senior Notes	750
Collateralized Pollution Control Bonds	
First Mortgage Bond Collateral	151 (2)
General Mortgage Bond Collateral	218 (2) (3)
Uncollateralized Pollution Control Bonds	344 (4)
Commercial Paper	0
Bank Loans	0 (5)
Total	$1,593

Utility Holding, LLC

CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.

Senior Notes	$2,693
Commercial Paper	142
Bank Loans	0 (6)
Total	$2,835

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC

First Mortgage Bonds	$ 103
General Mortgage Bonds	1,762
Collateralized Pollution Control Bonds	229 (7)
Bank Loans	0 (8)
Total	$2,094

CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company, LLC

Transition Bonds	$208

CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company II, LLC

Transition Bonds	$1,322

CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company III, LLC

Transition Bonds	$392

CenterPoint Energy Restoration Bond Company, LLC

System Restoration Bonds	$601

(1) The principal amount on which 2% interest is paid is $840 million. The debt component reflected on the financial statements was $130 million. The contingent principal amount was $799 million.

(2) The collateralized pollution control bonds aggregating $369 million are obligations of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. However, CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC has issued first mortgage bonds aggregating $151 million and general mortgage bonds aggregating $218 million as collateral for these CenterPoint Energy, Inc. obligations.

(3) Excludes $290 million of tax-exempt bonds issued on behalf of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. which were purchased by CenterPoint Energy, Inc. in January 2010 and are held for future remarketing.

(4) Excludes $175 million of tax-exempt bonds issued on behalf of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. which were purchased by CenterPoint Energy, Inc. in April 2008 and are held for future remarketing.

(5) Borrowings under $1.2 billion bank facility.

(6) Borrowings under $950 million bank facility.

(7) The pollution control bonds are collateralized by general mortgage bonds.

(8) Borrowings under $300 million bank facility.

Principal amounts of maturing external debt

As of September 30, 2011

($ in millions)

Year	CenterPoint Energy (1)	CEHE	CERC	Sub-total	Transition Bonds (2) (Series 2001-1)	Transition Bonds (2) (Series A)	Transition Bonds (2) (Series 2008)	System Restoration Bonds (2) (Series 2009)	Total
2011	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	**$ -**
2012	-	46	-	46	99	127	36	45	**353**
2013	-	450	365	815	109	137	38	46	**1,145**
2014	-	800	160	960	-	147	41	47	**1,195**
2015	419	-	-	419	-	158	43	48	**668**
2016-2020	700 (3)	127	1,017	1,844	-	753	234	280	**3,111**
2021-2025	-	303	593	896	-	-	-	135	**1,031**
2026-2030	1,142 (4)	56	-	1,198	-	-	-	-	**1,198**
2031-2035	-	312	-	312	-	-	-	-	**312**
2036-2040	-	-	400	400	-	-	-	-	**400**
2041-2045	-	-	300	300	-	-	-	-	**300**
Total	**$ 2,261**	**$ 2,094**	**$ 2,835**	**$ 7,190**	**$ 208**	**$ 1,322**	**$ 392**	**$ 601**	**$ 9,713**

(1) Debt of $150.85 milion collateralized by First Mortgage Bonds of CEHE matures in 2015. Debt collateralized by General Mortgage Bonds of CEHE matures on the follow ing dates: 2018, $50 million; 2026, $100 million; and 2028, $68 million.

(2) Using scheduled payment dates.

(3) Excludes $390 million of tax-exempt bonds issued on behalf of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. w hich w ere purchased by CenterPoint Energy, Inc. in April 2008 ($100 million) and January 2010 ($290 million) and are held for future remarketing.

(4) Includes ZENS at their contingent principal amount of $799 million. The principal amount of ZENS on w hich interest is paid w as $840 million. The ZENS debt component reflected on the Company's financial statements w as $130 million as of 9/30/2011. Excludes $75 million of tax-exempt bonds issued on behalf of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. w hich w ere purchased by CenterPoint Energy, Inc. in April 2008 and are held for future remarketing.