SEC Form 4	
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## FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).
Instruction 1(b).

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 OMB APPROVAL
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of Reporting Person <u>GARY L</u>	*	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC</u> [ CNP ]		tionship of Reporting Persc all applicable) Director	on(s) to Issuer 10% Owner
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1111 LOUISIANA		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/21/2010	x	Officer (give title below) EVP & Chief Financi	Other (specify below) cial Officer
TX (State)	77002 (Zip)	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Indiv Line) X	idual or Joint/Group Filing ( Form filed by One Repor Form filed by More than ( Person	ting Person
(	First)	First) (Middle)	GARY L       CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]         First)       (Middle)         3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)         01/21/2010         4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	GARY L       CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]       (Check X         First)       (Middle)       3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)       X         Image: CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]       4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)       6. Indiv         Image: CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]       X       X         Image: CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]       X	GARY L       CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]       (Check all applicable)         First)       (Middle)       3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)       (Check all applicable)         01/21/2010       3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)       EVP & Chief Financiant         Image: Comparison of the period       4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)       6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing Line)         Image: Comparison of the period       X       Form filed by One Report         Image: Comparison of the period       Form filed by More than person

## Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transa Code ( 8)					5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(1130.4)
Common Stock	01/21/2010		Α		9,200 <sup>(1)</sup>	A	(2)	136,160	D	
Common Stock								36,811	Ι	By Savings Plan <sup>(3)</sup>

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transa Code ( 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/N	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

Explanation of Responses:

1. Gross number of shares of time-based stock (with performance goal) awarded for 2007-2009 cycle under Long Term Incentive Plan.

2. Price is not applicable.

3. Equivalent Shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan as of 01/01/2010.

**Remarks:** 

Gary L. Whitlock

01/25/2010

\*\* 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).

\*\* 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.