

## CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Company files to establish Perryville Hub Trading Point

HOUSTON, March 21, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Company, LLC (CEGT), an indirect, wholly-owned interstate natural gas pipeline subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (NYSE: CNP), announced today a filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to amend certain provisions in its tariff to establish a Perryville Hub Trading Point (PTP) within the existing Perryville Hub (PVH) that can be accessed for primary or secondary receipt and/or delivery of natural gas using the company's firm and interruptible transportation and wheeling services. The PTP will have access to receive or deliver natural gas from the 21 interconnects CEGT has with interstate pipelines in the Perryville Hub. CEGT also proposes to establish the PTP as a site for trading or title transfers of natural gas between the company's shippers and/or non-shippers.

(Logo: http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20020930/CNPLOGO)

"The PTP will provide access to numerous supply basins and markets from which to transport or wheel gas to points on the CEGT system and the broader interstate pipeline grid," said Poe Reed, division senior vice president and chief commercial officer of CenterPoint Energy's Pipelines business.

To accommodate trading needs, CEGT also has applied to list the PTP as a trading point on the Intercontinental Commodity Exchange (ICE), allowing users to manage risks confidently and in real time. Reed added that with the addition of the ICE point, the PTP will also provide new and existing customers, including the growing electric power and storage markets, a liquid point to buy and sell gas. In 2013, the PVH will directly connect with the high deliverability of the 7 billion cubic feet Perryville Gas Storage project, further increasing liquidity and creating additional opportunities for CEGT and its affiliate, Mississippi River Transmission's, customers.

The company expects the PTP tariff sheets to go into effect in May 2012. Interested parties should contact CEGT's Mike Stoll at (314) 991-7405 or Amrish Patel (713) 207-5173.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc., headquartered in Houston, Texas, is a domestic energy delivery company that includes electric transmission & distribution, natural gas distribution, competitive natural gas sales and services, interstate pipelines and field services operations. The company serves more than five million metered customers primarily in Arkansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas. Assets total more than \$21 billion. With about 8,800 employees, CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor companies have been in business for more than 135 years. For more information, visit the website at <a href="https://www.CenterPointEnergy.com">www.CenterPointEnergy.com</a>.

This news release includes forward-looking statements. Actual events and results may differ materially from those projected. The statements in this news release regarding future financial performance and results of operations and other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. Factors that could affect actual results include the timing and impact of future regulatory, legislative, and IRS decisions, effects of competition, weather variations, changes in CenterPoint Energy's or its subsidiaries' business plans, financial market conditions, the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices, particularly natural gas, the impact of unplanned facility outages, and other factors discussed in CenterPoint Energy's and its subsidiaries' Form 10-Ks for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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