



CenterPoint Energy Establishes Distribution Ratio for Texas Genco

Houston, TX - January 2, 2003 - On December 20, 2002 CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (NYSE:CNP) established 0.05 as the distribution ratio for the previously declared distribution of Texas Genco Holdings, Inc. common stock to the shareholders of CenterPoint Energy.

Accordingly, each CenterPoint Energy shareholder will receive one share of Texas Genco common stock for every 20 shares of CenterPoint Energy common stock owned as of the record date, December 20, 2002, unless the shareholder disposes of the right to receive the Texas Genco shares prior to the distribution date. The distribution is expected to be made on January 6, 2003. Cash payments for fractional shares will be made following the distribution.

For further information, please see the Report on Form 8-K of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 23, 2002.

Texas Genco owns 14,175 MW of electric generation in Texas, fueled by natural gas, coal, lignite and nuclear fuels. After the distribution, Texas Genco's shares will be listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the stock ticker symbol "TGN". Following the distribution, it is expected that Texas Genco will establish a dividend policy under which it will pay an initial quarterly cash dividend of \$0.25 per share. More details about Texas Genco are available at www.CenterPointEnergy.com or www.txgenco.com.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc., headquartered in Houston, Texas, is a domestic energy delivery company that includes electric transmission and distribution, natural gas distribution and sales, interstate pipeline and gathering operations, and more than 14,000 megawatts of power generation in Texas. The company serves nearly five million customers primarily in Arkansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. Assets total nearly \$19 billion. CenterPoint Energy became the new holding company for the regulated operations of the former Reliant Energy, Incorporated in August 2002. With more than 11,000 employees, CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor companies have been in business for more than 130 years.

This news release includes forward-looking statements. Actual events and results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements. Factors that could affect actual results include the timing of receipt of regulatory approvals, changes in CenterPoint Energy's business plans, financial market conditions and other factors discussed in CenterPoint Energy's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.