

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

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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| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Colvin Kristie</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) 1111 LOUISIANA (Street) HOUSTON TX 77002 (City) (State) (Zip) | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [CNP]</u> | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) SVP and CAO |
| | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/21/2016 | |
| | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | |
| | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 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 | | | |
| Common Stock | 02/21/2016 | | A | | 1,000 ⁽¹⁾ | A | \$0.00 | 29,387 | D | |
| Common Stock | 02/21/2016 | | F | | 327 ⁽²⁾ | D | \$18.44 | 29,060 ⁽³⁾ | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 40 | I | By Savings Plan ⁽⁴⁾ |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 145 | I | By son |

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 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 | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

- Vesting of restricted stock units awarded in 2013 under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan.
- Shares withheld for taxes upon vesting of time-based restricted stock units.
- Total includes (i) 1,200 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2017 and (ii) 2,480 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2018. Each award shall vest if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the vesting date and on a pro-rata basis in the event of her earlier retirement, disability or death.
- Equivalent shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan as of January 31, 2016.

Remarks:

Vincent A. Mercaldi, Attorney-in-Fact 02/23/2016

** 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.