

OMB APPROVAL	
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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

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

Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of equity securities of the issuer that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Wells Jason P.</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) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>President & CEO</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>02/11/2026</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

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	02/11/2026		A		76,736 ⁽¹⁾	A	\$0	456,598 ⁽²⁾	D	
Common Stock								2,048	I	By Savings Plan ⁽³⁾
Common Stock								55,560	I	Wells/Koehler Family Trust

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)					

Explanation of Responses:

- Time-based restricted stock units ("RSUs") awarded under the Issuer's Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "Plan") and vesting in three equal installments in February 2027, 2028, and 2029. The above award shall vest (i) if the Reporting Person ("R.P.") continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the respective vesting date, (ii) in the event of his earlier disability or death, or (iii) if he satisfies various conditions, upon his earlier retirement, except that such retirement vesting will be on a pro rata basis if his retirement occurs in the year of grant. All vesting is conditioned upon achievement of positive operating income for the year preceding the applicable vesting date except in the case of death or disability.
- Total includes previous awards under the Plan of (i) 33,642 time-based RSUs vesting in February 2026, (ii) 34,386 RSUs vesting in two equal installments in February 2026 and 2027, and (iii) 70,212 RSUs vesting in three equal installments in February 2026, 2027, and 2028. The above awards shall vest (a) if he continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the respective vesting date or (b) in the event of his earlier disability or death. The awards will also vest on a full or pro-rata basis upon earlier retirement, subject to satisfaction of certain conditions. All vesting is conditioned upon achievement of positive operating income for the year preceding the applicable vesting date except in the case of death or disability.
- Equivalent shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan.

Remarks:

Vincent A. Mercaldi, 02/13/2026
Attorney-in-Fact
 ** 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.