

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2018

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM _____ TO _____

Commission File Number 1-13265

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

76-0511406

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1111 Louisiana

Houston, Texas 77002

(Address and zip code of principal executive offices)

(713) 207-1111

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. meets the conditions set forth in General Instruction H(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-Q and is therefore filing this Form 10-Q with the reduced disclosure format.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).
Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer", "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of April 24, 2018, all 1,000 shares of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. common stock were held by Utility Holding, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.
QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	<u>Page</u>
Item 1. Financial Statements	<u>1</u>
Condensed Statements of Consolidated Income	
Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 and 2017 (unaudited)	<u>1</u>
Condensed Statements of Consolidated Comprehensive Income	
Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 and 2017 (unaudited)	<u>2</u>
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets	
March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017 (unaudited)	<u>3</u>
Condensed Statements of Consolidated Cash Flows	
Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 and 2017 (unaudited)	<u>5</u>
Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements	<u>6</u>
Item 2. Management’s Narrative Analysis of Results of Operations	<u>24</u>
Item 4. Controls and Procedures	<u>33</u>
PART II. OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1. Legal Proceedings	<u>33</u>
Item 1A. Risk Factors	<u>33</u>
Item 5. Other Information	<u>33</u>
Item 6. Exhibits	<u>34</u>

GLOSSARY

AEM	Atmos Energy Marketing, LLC, previously a wholly-owned subsidiary of Atmos Energy Holdings, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Atmos Energy Corporation
AMA	Asset Management Agreement
APSC	Arkansas Public Service Commission
ARP	Alternative revenue program
ASC	Accounting Standards Codification
ASU	Accounting Standards Update
Bcf	Billion cubic feet
CenterPoint Energy	CenterPoint Energy, Inc., and its subsidiaries
CERC Corp.	CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.
CERC	CERC Corp., together with its subsidiaries
CES	CenterPoint Energy Services, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of CERC Corp.
CIP	Conservation Improvement Program
Continuum	The retail energy services business of Continuum Retail Energy Services, LLC, including its wholly-owned subsidiary Lakeshore Energy Services, LLC and the natural gas wholesale assets of Continuum Energy Services, LLC
EDIT	Excess deferred income taxes
EECR	Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery
Enable	Enable Midstream Partners, LP
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Fitch	Fitch, Inc.
Form 10-Q	Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q
FRP	Formula Rate Plan
GenOn	GenOn Energy, Inc.
GRIP	Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program
Houston Electric	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC and its subsidiaries
Interim Condensed Financial Statements	Unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements and notes
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
LIBOR	London Interbank Offered Rate
MGP	Manufactured gas plant
MLP	Master Limited Partnership
MMBtu	One million British thermal units
Moody's	Moody's Investors Service, Inc.
MPSC	Mississippi Public Service Commission
MPUC	Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
NGD	Natural gas distribution business
NGLs	Natural gas liquids
NOPR	Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
NRG	NRG Energy, Inc.
NYSE	New York Stock Exchange
OCC	Oklahoma Corporation Commission
OGE	OGE Energy Corp.
PBRC	Performance Based Rate Change
PRP	Potentially responsible party
Railroad Commission	Railroad Commission of Texas
Reliant Energy	Reliant Energy, Incorporated

GLOSSARY

Revised Policy Statement	Revised Policy Statement on Treatment of Income Taxes
ROE	Return on equity
RRA	Rate Regulation Adjustment
RRI	Reliant Resources, Inc.
RSP	Rate Stabilization Plan
SEC	Securities and Exchange Commission
S&P	Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies
TBD	To be determined
TCJA	Tax reform legislation informally called the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017
Transition Agreements	Services Agreement, Employee Transition Agreement, Transitional Seconding Agreement and other agreements entered into in connection with the formation of Enable
Vectren	Vectren Corporation, an Indiana corporation
VIE	Variable interest entity
2017 Form 10-K	Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

From time to time we make statements concerning our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance and underlying assumptions and other statements that are not historical facts. These statements are “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements. You can generally identify our forward-looking statements by the words “anticipate,” “believe,” “continue,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “forecast,” “goal,” “intend,” “may,” “objective,” “plan,” “potential,” “predict,” “projection,” “should,” “target,” “will” or other similar words.

We have based our forward-looking statements on our management’s beliefs and assumptions based on information reasonably available to our management at the time the statements are made. We caution you that assumptions, beliefs, expectations, intentions and projections about future events may and often do vary materially from actual results. Therefore, we cannot assure you that actual results will not differ materially from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements.

The following are some of the factors that could cause actual results to differ from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements:

- the performance of Enable, the amount of cash distributions we receive from Enable, and the value of our interest in Enable, and factors that may have a material impact on such performance, cash distributions and value, including factors such as:
 - competitive conditions in the midstream industry, and actions taken by Enable’s customers and competitors, including the extent and timing of the entry of additional competition in the markets served by Enable;
 - the timing and extent of changes in the supply of natural gas and associated commodity prices, particularly prices of natural gas and NGLs, the competitive effects of the available pipeline capacity in the regions served by Enable, and the effects of geographic and seasonal commodity price differentials, including the effects of these circumstances on re-contracting available capacity on Enable’s interstate pipelines;
 - the demand for crude oil, natural gas, NGLs and transportation and storage services;
 - environmental and other governmental regulations, including the availability of drilling permits and the regulation of hydraulic fracturing;
 - recording of non-cash goodwill, long-lived asset or other than temporary impairment charges by or related to Enable;
 - changes in tax status;
 - access to debt and equity capital; and
 - the availability and prices of raw materials and services for current and future construction projects;
- industrial, commercial and residential growth in our service territories and changes in market demand, including the effects of energy efficiency measures and demographic patterns;
- timely and appropriate rate actions that allow recovery of costs and a reasonable return on investment;
- future economic conditions in regional and national markets and their effect on sales, prices and costs;
- weather variations and other natural phenomena, including the impact of severe weather events on operations and capital;
- state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments affecting various aspects of our businesses (including the businesses of Enable), including, among others, energy deregulation or re-regulation, pipeline integrity and safety and changes in regulation and legislation pertaining to trade, health care, finance and actions regarding the rates charged by our regulated businesses;
- tax reform and legislation, including the effects of the TCJA and uncertainties involving state commissions’ and local municipalities’ regulatory requirements and determinations regarding the treatment of EDIT and our rates;
- our ability to mitigate weather impacts through normalization or rate mechanisms, and the effectiveness of such mechanisms;

- the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices, particularly natural gas, and the effects of geographic and seasonal commodity price differentials;
- actions by credit rating agencies;
- changes in interest rates and their impact on our costs of borrowing;
- problems with regulatory approval, construction, implementation of necessary technology or other issues with respect to major capital projects that result in delays or in cost overruns that cannot be recouped in rates;
- local, state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments relating to the environment, including those related to global climate change;
- the impact of unplanned facility outages;
- any direct or indirect effects on our or Enable's facilities, operations and financial condition resulting from terrorism, cyber-attacks, data security breaches or other attempts to disrupt our businesses or the businesses of third parties, or other catastrophic events such as fires, earthquakes, explosions, leaks, floods, droughts, hurricanes, pandemic health events or other occurrences;
- our ability to invest planned capital and the timely recovery of our investment in capital;
- our ability to control operation and maintenance costs;
- the sufficiency of our insurance coverage, including availability, cost, coverage and terms;
- the investment performance of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s pension and postretirement benefit plans;
- commercial bank and financial market conditions, our access to capital, the cost of such capital, and the results of our financing and refinancing efforts, including availability of funds in the debt capital markets;
- changes in rates of inflation;
- inability of various counterparties to meet their obligations to us;
- non-payment for our services due to financial distress of our customers;
- the extent and effectiveness of our risk management and hedging activities, including, but not limited to, our financial and weather hedges;
- timely and appropriate regulatory actions allowing recovery of costs associated with any future hurricanes or natural disasters, including costs associated with Hurricane Harvey;
- our or Enable's potential business strategies and strategic initiatives, including restructurings, joint ventures and acquisitions or dispositions of assets or businesses (including a reduction of our interests in Enable, if any, whether through our decision to sell all or a portion of the Enable common units we own in the public equity markets or otherwise, subject to certain limitations), which we cannot assure you will be completed or will have the anticipated benefits to us or Enable;
- acquisition and merger activities involving us or our competitors, including the ability to successfully complete merger, acquisition and divestiture plans;
- our or Enable's ability to recruit, effectively transition and retain management and key employees and maintain good labor relations;
- the outcome of litigation;
- the ability of GenOn (formerly known as RRI Energy, Inc., Reliant Energy and RRI), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NRG, and its subsidiaries, currently the subject of bankruptcy proceedings, to satisfy their obligations to us, including indemnity obligations;
- the timing and outcome of any audits, disputes and other proceedings related to taxes;
- the effect of changes in and application of accounting standards and pronouncements; and

- other factors we discuss in “Risk Factors” in Item 1A of Part I of our 2017 Form 10-K, which is incorporated herein by reference, and other reports we file from time to time with the SEC.

You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of the particular statement, and we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements.

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT, WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED INCOME
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
Revenues:		
Utility revenues	\$ 1,143	\$ 907
Non-utility revenues	1,257	1,186
Total	2,400	2,093
Expenses:		
Utility natural gas	637	450
Non-utility natural gas	1,273	1,129
Operation and maintenance	238	215
Depreciation and amortization	73	66
Taxes other than income taxes	48	34
Total	2,269	1,894
Operating Income	131	199
Other Income (Expense):		
Interest and other finance charges	(29)	(29)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliate, net	69	72
Other, net	(4)	(5)
Total	36	38
Income Before Income Taxes	167	237
Income tax expense	37	90
Net Income	\$ 130	\$ 147

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT, WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2018	2017
Net income	\$ 130	\$ 147
Comprehensive income	\$ 130	\$ 147

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT, WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Millions of Dollars)

(Unaudited)

ASSETS

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 27	\$ 12
Accounts receivable, less bad debt reserve of \$22 and \$18, respectively	780	713
Accrued unbilled revenues	179	307
Accounts and notes receivable—affiliated companies	8	6
Materials and supplies	61	56
Natural gas inventory	81	222
Non-trading derivative assets	84	110
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	94	166
Total current assets	1,314	1,592
Property, Plant and Equipment:		
Property, plant and equipment	6,978	6,888
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	2,094	2,036
Property, plant and equipment, net	4,884	4,852
Other Assets:		
Goodwill	867	867
Non-trading derivative assets	52	44
Investment in unconsolidated affiliate	2,467	2,472
Other	271	285
Total other assets	3,657	3,668
Total Assets	\$ 9,855	\$ 10,112

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT, WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
Current Liabilities:		
Short-term borrowings	\$ —	\$ 39
Accounts payable	479	669
Accounts and notes payable—affiliated companies	39	611
Taxes accrued	75	75
Interest accrued	19	32
Customer deposits	77	76
Non-trading derivative liabilities	21	20
Other	137	137
Total current liabilities	847	1,659
Other Liabilities:		
Deferred income taxes, net	1,323	1,289
Non-trading derivative liabilities	12	4
Benefit obligations	97	97
Regulatory liabilities	1,240	1,201
Other	303	297
Total other liabilities	2,975	2,888
Long-Term Debt	2,882	2,457
Commitments and Contingencies (Note 12)		
Stockholder's Equity:		
Common stock	—	—
Paid-in capital	2,527	2,528
Retained earnings	618	574
Accumulated other comprehensive income	6	6
Total stockholder's equity	3,151	3,108
Total Liabilities and Stockholder's Equity	\$ 9,855	\$ 10,112

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT, WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOWS
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 130	\$ 147
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	73	66
Amortization of deferred financing costs	2	2
Deferred income taxes	34	88
Write-down of natural gas inventory	1	—
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliate, net of distributions	(9)	(72)
Changes in other assets and liabilities, excluding acquisitions:		
Accounts receivable and unbilled revenues, net	29	94
Accounts receivable/payable—affiliated companies	(4)	(5)
Inventory	135	70
Accounts payable	(173)	(148)
Fuel cost recovery	64	(6)
Interest and taxes accrued	(13)	(4)
Non-trading derivatives, net	60	(32)
Margin deposits, net	(28)	(46)
Net regulatory assets and liabilities	55	—
Other current assets	3	4
Other current liabilities	19	(11)
Other assets	3	13
Other liabilities	4	18
Other, net	1	2
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>386</u>	<u>180</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Capital expenditures	(114)	(98)
Distributions from unconsolidated affiliate in excess of cumulative earnings	14	74
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	—	(132)
Other, net	3	—
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(97)</u>	<u>(156)</u>
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Decrease in short-term borrowings, net	(39)	(35)
Proceeds from (payments of) commercial paper, net	(172)	30
Proceeds from long-term debt	599	—
Dividends to parent	(86)	(108)
Debt issuance costs	(4)	—
Increase (decrease) in notes payable—affiliated companies	(570)	52
Contribution from parent	—	38
Other, net	(2)	—
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(274)</u>	<u>(23)</u>
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	15	1
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	12	1
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	\$ 27	\$ 2

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Background and Basis of Presentation

General. Included in this Form 10-Q are the Interim Condensed Financial Statements of CERC. The Interim Condensed Financial Statements are unaudited, omit certain financial statement disclosures and should be read with the 2017 Form 10-K.

Background. CERC Corp. is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, a public utility holding company. CERC Corp.'s operating subsidiaries own and operate natural gas distribution facilities, supply natural gas to commercial and industrial customers and electric and natural gas utilities and own interests in Enable as described in Note 8. CERC Corp.'s operating subsidiaries and divisions include:

- NGD, which owns and operates natural gas distribution systems in six states; and
- CES, which obtains and offers competitive variable and fixed-price physical natural gas supplies and services primarily to commercial and industrial customers and electric and natural gas utilities in 33 states.

As of March 31, 2018, CERC Corp. also owned approximately 54.0% of the common units representing limited partner interests in Enable, which owns, operates and develops natural gas and crude oil infrastructure assets.

Basis of Presentation. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

CERC's Interim Condensed Financial Statements reflect all normal recurring adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the respective periods. Amounts reported in CERC's Condensed Statements of Consolidated Income are not necessarily indicative of amounts expected for a full-year period due to the effects of, among other things, (a) seasonal fluctuations in demand for energy and energy services, (b) changes in energy commodity prices, (c) timing of maintenance and other expenditures and (d) acquisitions and dispositions of businesses, assets and other interests.

For a description of CERC's reportable business segments, see Note 14.

(2) New Accounting Pronouncements

The following table provides an overview of recently adopted or issued accounting pronouncements applicable to CERC.

Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

ASU Number and Name	Description	Date of Adoption	Financial Statement Impact upon Adoption
ASU 2014-09- Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606) and related amendments	This standard provides a comprehensive new revenue recognition model that requires revenue to be recognized in a manner that depicts the transfer of goods or services to a customer at an amount that reflects the consideration expected to be received in exchange for those goods or services. <i>Transition method:</i> modified retrospective	January 1, 2018	CERC added a revenue recognition footnote (Note 3) to address the disclosure requirements, and it did not identify significant changes to revenue recognition. A substantial amount of CERC's revenues are tariff and derivative based, which were not significantly impacted by these ASUs.
ASU 2017-05- Other Income-Gains and Losses from the Derecognition of Nonfinancial Assets (Subtopic 610-20): Clarifying the Scope of Asset Derecognition Guidance and Accounting for Partial Sales of Nonfinancial Assets	This standard clarifies when and how to apply ASC 610-20, which was issued as part of ASU 2014-09. It amends or supersedes the guidance in ASC 350 and ASC 360 on determining a gain or loss recognized upon the derecognition of nonfinancial assets. <i>Transition method:</i> modified retrospective	January 1, 2018	ASU 2017-05 eliminates industry specific guidance, including ASC 360-20 Property, Plant, and Equipment - Real Estate Sales, for the recognition of gains or losses upon the sale of in-substance real estate. CERC elected to apply the practical expedient upon adoption to only evaluate transactions that were not determined to be complete as of the date of adoption. Subsequent to adoption, gains or losses on sales or dilution events in CERC's investment in Enable may result in gains or losses recognized in earnings. See Note 8 for further discussion.

Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

ASU Number and Name	Description	Date of Adoption	Financial Statement Impact upon Adoption
ASU 2016-01- Financial Instruments-Overall (Subtopic 825-10): Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities	This standard requires equity investments that do not result in consolidation and are not accounted for under the equity method to be measured at fair value and to recognize any changes in fair value in net income unless the investments qualify for the new practicability exception. It does not change the guidance for classifying and measuring investments in debt securities and loans. It also changes certain disclosure requirements and other aspects related to recognition and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities. Transition method: cumulative-effect adjustment to beginning retained earnings, and two features prospective	January 1, 2018	The adoption of this standard did not have an impact on CERC's financial position, results of operations, cash flows or disclosures. CERC elected the practicability exception for investments without a readily determinable fair value to be measured at cost. See Note 8 for further discussion.
ASU 2018-03-Technical Corrections and Improvements to Financial Instruments-Overall (Subtopic 825-10): Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities			
ASU 2016-15- Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments	This standard provides clarifying guidance on the classification of certain cash receipts and payments in the statement of cash flows and eliminates the variation in practice related to such classifications. Transition method: retrospective	January 1, 2018	The adoption did not have a material impact on CERC's financial position, results of operations, cash flows or disclosures.
ASU 2016-18- Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Restricted Cash	This standard requires that a statement of cash flows explain the change during the period in the total of cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents. As a result, the statement of cash flows will no longer present transfers between cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents. When cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and restricted cash equivalents are presented in more than one line item on the balance sheet, the new guidance requires a reconciliation of the totals in the statement of cash flows to the related captions in the balance sheet. Transition method: retrospective	January 1, 2018	The adoption of this standard did not have an impact on CERC's financial position, results of operations, cash flows or disclosures.
ASU 2017-01- Business Combinations (Topic 805): Clarifying the Definition of a Business	This standard revises the definition of a business. If substantially all of the fair value of the gross assets acquired is concentrated in a single identifiable asset or a group of similar identifiable assets, then under ASU 2017-01, the asset or group of assets is not a business. The guidance also requires a business to include at least one substantive process and narrows the definition of outputs to be more closely aligned with how outputs are described in ASC 606. Transition method: prospective	January 1, 2018	The adoption of this revised definition will reduce the number of transactions that are accounted for as a business combination, and therefore may have a potential impact on CERC's accounting for future acquisitions.
ASU 2017-04- Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment	This standard eliminates Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test, which required a hypothetical purchase price allocation. A goodwill impairment will now be the amount by which a reporting unit's carrying value exceeds its fair value, not to exceed the carrying amount of goodwill. Transition method: prospective	January 1, 2018	The adoption of this standard will have an impact on CERC's future calculation of goodwill impairments if an impairment is identified.
ASU 2017-07- Compensation-Retirement Benefits (Topic 715): Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost	This standard requires an employer to report the service cost component of the net periodic pension cost and postretirement benefit cost in the same line item(s) as other employee compensation costs arising from services rendered during the period; all other components will be presented separately from the line item(s) that includes the service cost and outside of any subtotal of operating income. In addition, only the service cost component will be eligible for capitalization in assets. Transition method: retrospective for the presentation of the service cost component and other components; prospective for the capitalization of the service cost component	January 1, 2018	The adoption of this standard did not have a material impact on CERC's financial position, results of operations, cash flows or disclosures; however, it resulted in an increase to operating income and a corresponding decrease to other income of \$4 million and \$5 million as of March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively. Other components previously capitalized in assets will be recorded as regulatory assets in CERC's rate-regulated businesses, prospectively.

Issued, Not Yet Effective Accounting Standards

ASU Number and Name	Description	Date of Adoption	Financial Statement Impact upon Adoption
ASU 2016-02- Leases (Topic 842) and related amendments	ASU 2016-02 provides a comprehensive new lease model that requires lessees to recognize assets and liabilities for most leases and would change certain aspects of lessor accounting. <i>Transition method:</i> modified retrospective	January 1, 2019 Early adoption is permitted	CERC will elect the practical expedient on existing easements provided by ASU 2018-01 and is evaluating other available transitional practical expedients. CERC is in the process of reviewing contracts to identify leases as defined in ASU 2016-02 and expects to recognize on the statements of financial position right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for the majority of its leases that are currently classified as operating leases. CERC is continuing to assess the impact that adoption of these standards will have on its financial position, results of operations, cash flows and disclosures.
ASU 2018-01- Leases (Topic 842) Land Easement Practical Expedient for Transition to Topic 842	ASU 2018-01 allows entities to elect not to assess whether existing land easements that were not previously accounted for in accordance with ASC 840 Leases under ASC 842 Leases when transitioning to the new leasing standard.		
ASU 2017-12- Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Targeted Improvements to Accounting for Hedging Activities	This standard expands an entity's ability to hedge nonfinancial and financial risk components and reduce complexity in fair value hedges of interest rate risk. The guidance eliminates the requirement to separately measure and report hedge ineffectiveness, eases certain documentation and assessment requirements, and updates the presentation and disclosure requirements. <i>Transition method:</i> cumulative-effect adjustment for elimination of the separate measurement of ineffectiveness; prospective for presentation and disclosure	January 1, 2019 Early adoption is permitted	CERC is currently assessing the impact that adoption of this standard will have on its financial position, results of operations, cash flows and disclosures.
ASU 2018-02-Income Statement-Reporting Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Reclassification of Certain Tax Effects from Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	This standard allows a reclassification from accumulated other comprehensive income to retained earnings for stranded tax effects resulting from the TCJA and requires entities to provide certain disclosures regarding stranded tax effects. <i>Transition method:</i> either in the period of adoption or retrospective	January 1, 2019 Early adoption is permitted	The adoption of this standard will allow CERC to reclass stranded deferred tax adjustments primarily related to benefit plans from other comprehensive income to retained earnings. CERC is currently assessing the impact that adoption of this standard will have on its financial position and disclosures.

Management believes that other recently adopted standards and recently issued standards that are not yet effective will not have a material impact on CERC's financial position, results of operations or cash flows upon adoption.

(3) Revenue Recognition

CERC adopted ASC 606 and all related amendments on January 1, 2018 using the modified retrospective method for those contracts that were not completed as of the date of adoption. Application of the new revenue standard did not result in a cumulative effect adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings. The comparative information has not been restated and continues to be reported under the accounting standards in effect for those periods. The adoption of the new standard did not have a material impact on CERC's financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

In accordance with ASC 606, revenue is recognized when a customer obtains control of promised goods or services. The amount of revenue recognized reflects the consideration to which CERC expects to be entitled to receive in exchange for these goods or services. Contract assets and liabilities are not material.

The following tables disaggregate revenues by major source:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2018			
	Natural Gas Distribution (1)	Energy Services (2)	Other Operations (2)	Total
	(in millions)			
Revenue from contracts	\$ 1,186	\$ 178	\$ —	\$ 1,364
Derivatives income	—	1,107	—	1,107
Other (3)	(33)	—	—	(33)
Eliminations	(10)	(28)	—	(38)
Total revenues	\$ 1,143	\$ 1,257	\$ —	\$ 2,400

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2017			
	Natural Gas Distribution (1)	Energy Services (2)	Other Operations (2)	Total
	(in millions)			
Revenue from contracts	\$ 925	\$ 142	\$ —	\$ 1,067
Derivatives income	—	1,054	—	1,054
Other (3)	(9)	—	1	(8)
Eliminations	(9)	(11)	—	(20)
Total revenues	\$ 907	\$ 1,185	\$ 1	\$ 2,093

(1) Reflected in Utility revenues in the Condensed Statements of Consolidated Income.

(2) Reflected in Non-utility revenues in the Condensed Statements of Consolidated Income.

(3) Primarily consists of income from ARPs and leases. ARPs are contracts between the utility and its regulators, not between the utility and a customer. CERC recognizes ARP revenue as other revenues when the regulator-specified conditions for recognition have been met. Upon recovery of ARP revenue through incorporation in rates charged for utility service to customers, ARP revenue is reversed and recorded as revenue from contracts with customers. The recognition of ARP revenues and the reversal of ARP revenues upon recovery through rates charged for utility service may not occur in the same period.

Revenues from Contracts with Customers

Natural Gas Distribution. CERC distributes and transports natural gas to customers over time, and customers consume the natural gas when delivered. Revenue, consisting of both volumetric and fixed tariff rates set by the state governing agency for that service area, is recognized as natural gas is delivered and represents amounts both billed and unbilled. Discretionary services requested by the customer are satisfied at a point in time and revenue is recognized upon completion of service and the tariff rates set by the applicable state regulator. Payments of natural gas distribution, transportation and discretionary services are aggregated and received on a monthly basis.

Energy Services. The majority of CES natural gas sales contracts are considered a derivative, as the contracts typically have a stated minimum or contractual volume of delivery.

For contracts in which CES delivers the full requirement of the natural gas needed by the customer and a volume is not stated, a contract as defined under ASC 606 is created upon the customer's exercise of its option to take natural gas. CES supplies natural gas to retail customers over time as customers consume the natural gas when delivered. For wholesale customers, CES supplies natural gas at a point in time because the wholesale customer is presumed to have storage capabilities. Control is transferred to both types of customers upon delivery of natural gas. Revenue is recognized on a monthly basis based on the estimated volume of natural gas delivered and the price agreed upon with the customer. Payments are received on a monthly basis.

AMAs are natural gas sales contracts under which CES also assumes management of a customer's physical storage and/or transportation capacity. AMAs have two distinct performance obligations, which consist of natural gas sales and natural gas delivery because delivery could occur separate from the sale of natural gas (e.g., from storage to customer premises). Most AMAs' natural gas sales performance obligations are accounted for as embedded derivatives. The transaction price is allocated between the sale of natural gas and the delivery based on the stand-alone selling price as stated in the contract. CES performs natural gas delivery over time as customers take delivery of the natural gas and recognizes revenue on an aggregated monthly basis based on the volume of natural gas delivered and the fees stated within the contract. Payments are received on a monthly basis.

Practical Expedients and Exemption. Sales taxes and other similar taxes collected from customers are excluded from the transaction price.

(4) Employee Benefit Plans

CERC's employees participate in CenterPoint Energy's postretirement benefit plan. CERC's net periodic cost, before considering amounts subject to overhead allocations for capital expenditure projects or for amounts subject to deferral for regulatory purposes, includes the following components relating to postretirement benefits:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Interest cost (1)	\$ 1	\$ 1
Net periodic cost	\$ 1	\$ 1

(1) Included in Other, net in the Condensed Statements of Consolidated Income.

CERC expects to contribute approximately \$5 million to the postretirement benefit plan in 2018, of which approximately \$1 million was contributed during the three months ended March 31, 2018.

(5) Regulatory Accounting

The following is a list of regulatory assets and liabilities reflected on CERC's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets:

	March 31,	December 31, 2017
	2018	
	(in millions)	
Regulatory Assets:		
Current regulatory assets (1)	\$ 65	\$ 130
Non-current regulatory assets:		
Hurricane Harvey restoration costs (2)	7	6
Regulatory assets related to TCJA (3)	15	15
Other long-term regulatory assets (4)	150	160
Total non-current regulatory assets (5)	172	181
Total regulatory assets	237	311
Regulatory Liabilities:		
Current regulatory liabilities (6)	16	2
Non-current regulatory liabilities:		
Regulatory liabilities related to TCJA (3)	499	492
Estimated removal costs	600	593
Other long-term regulatory liabilities	141	116
Total non-current regulatory liabilities	1,240	1,201
Total regulatory liabilities	1,256	1,203
Total regulatory assets and liabilities, net	\$ (1,019)	\$ (892)

(1) Current regulatory assets are included in Prepaid expenses and other current assets in CERC's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(2) CERC is not earning a return on its Hurricane Harvey restoration costs.

(3) The EDIT and deferred revenues will be recovered or refunded to customers as required by tax and regulatory authorities.

(4) Includes a portion of NGD's actuarially determined pension and other postemployment expense in excess of the amount being recovered through rates that is being deferred for rate making purposes. Deferred pension and other postemployment expenses of \$6 million and \$7 million as of March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively, were not earning a return. Other long-term regulatory assets that are not earning a return were not material as of March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017.

(5) Non-current regulatory assets are included in Other assets in CERC's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(6) Current regulatory liabilities are included in Other current liabilities in CERC's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(6) Derivative Instruments

CERC is exposed to various market risks. These risks arise from transactions entered into in the normal course of business. CERC utilizes derivative instruments such as physical forward contracts, swaps and options to mitigate the impact of changes in commodity prices, weather and interest rates on its operating results and cash flows. Such derivatives are recognized in CERC's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at their fair value unless CERC elects the normal purchase and sales exemption for qualified physical transactions. A derivative may be designated as a normal purchase or normal sale if the intent is to physically receive or deliver the product for use or sale in the normal course of business.

CenterPoint Energy has a Risk Oversight Committee composed of corporate and business segment officers that oversees commodity price, weather and credit risk activities, including CERC's marketing, risk management services and hedging activities. The committee's duties are to establish CERC's commodity risk policies, allocate board-approved commercial risk limits, approve the use of new products and commodities, monitor positions and ensure compliance with CERC's commercial risk management policy and procedures and limits established by CenterPoint Energy's Board of Directors.

CERC's policies prohibit the use of leveraged financial instruments. A leveraged financial instrument, for this purpose, is a transaction involving a derivative whose financial impact will be based on an amount other than the notional amount or volume of the instrument.

(a) Non-Trading Activities

Derivative Instruments. CERC enters into certain derivative instruments to mitigate the effects of commodity price movements. Certain financial instruments used to hedge portions of the natural gas inventory of the Energy Services business segment are designated as fair value hedges for accounting purposes. All other financial instruments do not qualify or are not designated as cash flow or fair value hedges.

Weather Hedges. CERC has weather normalization or other rate mechanisms that mitigate the impact of weather on NGD in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Minnesota and Oklahoma. NGD in Texas does not have such mechanisms, although fixed customer charges are historically higher in Texas for NGD compared to CERC's other jurisdictions. As a result, fluctuations from normal weather may have a positive or negative effect on NGD's results in Texas.

CERC enters into winter season weather hedges from time to time for certain NGD jurisdictions to mitigate the effect of fluctuations from normal weather on its results of operations and cash flows. These weather hedges are based on heating degree days at 10-year normal weather.

The table below summarizes CERC's current weather hedge activity:

Jurisdiction	Winter Season	Bilateral Cap	Three Months Ended March 31,	
			2018	2017
(in millions)				
Certain NGD jurisdictions (1)	2017 – 2018	\$ 8	\$ —	\$ —

(1) Weather hedge gains (losses) are recorded in Revenues in the Condensed Statements of Consolidated Income.

Hedging of Interest Expense for Future Debt Issuances. In March 2018, CERC Corp. entered into forward interest rate agreements with multiple counterparties, having an aggregate notional amount of \$450 million. These agreements were executed to hedge, in part, volatility in the 5-year and 10-year U.S. treasury rates by reducing CERC Corp.'s exposure to variability in cash flows related to interest payments of CERC Corp.'s \$600 million issuance of fixed rate debt in March 2018. These forward interest rate agreements were designated as cash flow hedges. Accordingly, the effective portion of realized losses associated with the forward interest rate agreements, which totaled less than \$1 million, is a component of accumulated other comprehensive income in 2018 and will be amortized over the life of the fixed rate debt.

(b) Derivative Fair Values and Income Statement Impacts

The following tables present information about CERC's derivative instruments and hedging activities. The first four tables provide a balance sheet overview of CERC's Derivative Assets and Liabilities, while the last table provides a breakdown of the related income statement impacts.

Fair Value of Derivative Instruments

March 31, 2018			
Balance Sheet Location	Derivative Assets Fair Value	Derivative Liabilities Fair Value	
(in millions)			
Derivatives designated as fair value hedges:			
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	\$ 1	\$	1
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:			
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	86		2
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	52		—
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	18		70
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	9		42
Total	\$ 166	\$	115

- (1) The fair value shown for natural gas contracts is comprised of derivative gross volumes totaling 1,735 Bcf or a net 437 Bcf long position. Certain natural gas contracts hedge basis risk only and lack a fixed price exposure.
- (2) Natural gas contracts are presented on a net basis in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as they are subject to master netting arrangements. This netting applies to all undisputed amounts due or past due and causes derivative assets (liabilities) to be ultimately presented net in a liability (asset) account within the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. The net of total non-trading natural gas derivative assets and liabilities was a \$103 million asset as shown on CERC's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (and as detailed in the table below), and was comprised of the natural gas contracts derivative assets and liabilities separately shown above, impacted by collateral netting of \$52 million.
- (3) Derivative Assets and Derivative Liabilities include no material amounts related to physical forward transactions with Enable.

Offsetting of Natural Gas Derivative Assets and Liabilities

March 31, 2018			
	Gross Amounts Recognized (1)	Gross Amounts Offset in the Consolidated Balance Sheets	Net Amount Presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets (2)
(in millions)			
Current Assets: Non-trading derivative assets	\$ 105	\$ (21)	\$ 84
Other Assets: Non-trading derivative assets	61	(9)	52
Current Liabilities: Non-trading derivative liabilities	(73)	52	(21)
Other Liabilities: Non-trading derivative liabilities	(42)	30	(12)
Total	\$ 51	\$ 52	\$ 103

- (1) Gross amounts recognized include some derivative assets and liabilities that are not subject to master netting arrangements.
- (2) The derivative assets and liabilities on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets exclude accounts receivable or accounts payable that, should they exist, could be used as offsets to these balances in the event of a default.

Fair Value of Derivative Instruments

		December 31, 2017		
		Balance Sheet Location	Derivative Assets Fair Value	Derivative Liabilities Fair Value
(in millions)				
Derivatives designated as fair value hedges:				
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	Current Liabilities: Non-trading derivative liabilities	\$	13	\$ 1
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:				
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	Current Assets: Non-trading derivative assets		114	4
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	Other Assets: Non-trading derivative assets		44	—
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	Current Liabilities: Non-trading derivative liabilities		38	78
Natural gas derivatives (1) (2) (3)	Other Liabilities: Non-trading derivative liabilities		9	24
Total		\$	218	\$ 107

- (1) The fair value shown for natural gas contracts is comprised of derivative gross volumes totaling 1,795 Bcf or a net 224 Bcf long position. Certain natural gas contracts hedge basis risk only and lack a fixed price exposure.
- (2) Natural gas contracts are presented on a net basis in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as they are subject to master netting arrangements. This netting applies to all undisputed amounts due or past due and causes derivative assets (liabilities) to be ultimately presented net in a liability (asset) account within the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. The net of total non-trading natural gas derivative assets and liabilities was a \$130 million asset as shown on CERC's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (and as detailed in the table below), and was comprised of the natural gas contracts derivative assets and liabilities separately shown above, impacted by collateral netting of \$19 million.
- (3) Derivative Assets and Derivative Liabilities include no material amounts related to physical forward transactions with Enable.

Offsetting of Natural Gas Derivative Assets and Liabilities

		December 31, 2017		
		Gross Amounts Recognized (1)	Gross Amounts Offset in the Consolidated Balance Sheets	Net Amount Presented in the Consolidated Balance Sheets (2)
(in millions)				
Current Assets: Non-trading derivative assets	\$	165	\$ (55)	\$ 110
Other Assets: Non-trading derivative assets		53	(9)	44
Current Liabilities: Non-trading derivative liabilities		(83)	63	(20)
Other Liabilities: Non-trading derivative liabilities		(24)	20	(4)
Total	\$	111	\$ 19	\$ 130

- (1) Gross amounts recognized include some derivative assets and liabilities that are not subject to master netting arrangements.
- (2) The derivative assets and liabilities on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets exclude accounts receivable or accounts payable that, should they exist, could be used as offsets to these balances in the event of a default.

Realized and unrealized gains and losses on natural gas derivatives are recognized in the Condensed Statements of Consolidated Income as revenue for physical sales derivative contracts and as natural gas expense for financial natural gas derivatives and physical purchase natural gas derivatives.

Hedge ineffectiveness is recorded as a component of natural gas expense and primarily results from differences in the location of the derivative instrument and the hedged item. Basis ineffectiveness arises from natural gas market price differences between the locations of the hedged inventory and the delivery location specified in the hedge instruments.

The impact of natural gas derivatives designated as fair value hedges, the related hedged item, and natural gas derivatives not designated as hedging instruments are presented in the table below.

		Income Statement Impact of Derivative Activity	
		Three Months Ended March 31,	
Income Statement Location		2018	2017
Derivatives designated as fair value hedges:		(in millions)	
Natural gas derivatives	Gains (Losses) in Expenses: Natural Gas	\$ —	\$ 3
Fair value adjustments for natural gas inventory designated as the hedged item	Gains (Losses) in Expenses: Natural Gas	(2)	(4)
Total increase in Expenses: Natural Gas (1)		<u>\$ (2)</u>	<u>\$ (1)</u>
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:			
Natural gas derivatives	Gains (Losses) in Revenues	\$ 57	\$ 96
Natural gas derivatives	Gains (Losses) in Expenses: Natural Gas	(69)	(67)
Total - derivatives not designated as hedging instruments		<u>\$ (12)</u>	<u>\$ 29</u>

(1) Hedge ineffectiveness results from the basis ineffectiveness discussed above, and excludes the impact to natural gas expense from timing ineffectiveness. Timing ineffectiveness arises due to changes in the difference between the spot price and the futures price, as well as the difference between the timing of the settlement of the futures and the valuation of the underlying physical commodity. As the commodity contract nears the settlement date, spot-to-forward price differences should converge, which should reduce or eliminate the impact of this ineffectiveness on natural gas expense.

(c) Credit Risk Contingent Features

CERC enters into financial derivative contracts containing material adverse change provisions. These provisions could require CERC to post additional collateral if the S&P or Moody's credit ratings of CERC are downgraded. The total fair value of the derivative instruments that contain credit risk contingent features that are in a net liability position as of both March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017 was \$2 million. CERC posted no assets as collateral toward derivative instruments that contain credit risk contingent features as of either March 31, 2018 or December 31, 2017. If all derivative contracts (in a net liability position) containing credit risk contingent features were triggered as of both March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, \$2 million of additional assets would be required to be posted as collateral.

(7) Fair Value Measurements

Assets and liabilities that are recorded at fair value in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets are categorized based upon the level of judgment associated with the inputs used to measure their value. Hierarchical levels, as defined below and directly related to the amount of subjectivity associated with the inputs to fair valuations of these assets and liabilities, are as follows:

Level 1: Inputs are unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities at the measurement date. The types of assets carried at Level 1 fair value generally are exchange-traded derivatives and equity securities, as well as natural gas inventory that has been designated as the hedged item in a fair value hedge.

Level 2: Inputs, other than quoted prices included in Level 1, are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets, and inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability. Fair value assets and liabilities that are generally included in this category are derivatives with fair values based on inputs from actively quoted markets. A market approach is utilized to value CERC's Level 2 assets or liabilities.

Level 3: Inputs are unobservable for the asset or liability, and include situations where there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs reflect CERC's judgments about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability since limited market data exists. CERC develops these inputs based on the best information available, including CERC's own data. A market approach is utilized to value CERC's Level 3 assets or liabilities. As of March 31, 2018, CERC's Level 3 assets and liabilities are comprised of physical natural gas forward contracts and options. Level 3 physical natural gas forward contracts and options are valued using a discounted cash flow model which includes illiquid forward price curve locations (ranging from \$1.36 to \$3.26 per MMBtu) as an unobservable input. CERC's Level 3 physical natural gas forward contracts and options derivative assets and liabilities consist of both long and short positions (forwards and options) and their fair value is sensitive to

forward prices. If forward prices decrease, CERC's long forwards and options lose value whereas its short forwards and options gain in value.

CERC determines the appropriate level for each financial asset and liability on a quarterly basis and recognizes transfers between levels at the end of the reporting period. For the three months ended March 31, 2018, there were no transfers between Level 1 and 2. CERC also recognizes purchases of Level 3 financial assets and liabilities at their fair market value at the end of the reporting period.

The following tables present information about CERC's assets and liabilities (including derivatives that are presented net) measured at fair value on a recurring basis and indicate the fair value hierarchy of the valuation techniques utilized by CERC to determine such fair value.

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Netting Adjustments (1)	Balance as of March 31, 2018
	(in millions)				
Assets					
Corporate equities	\$ 3	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 3
Investments, including money market funds (2)	10	—	—	—	10
Natural gas derivatives (3)	—	147	19	(30)	136
Total assets	<u>\$ 13</u>	<u>\$ 147</u>	<u>\$ 19</u>	<u>\$ (30)</u>	<u>\$ 149</u>
Liabilities					
Natural gas derivatives (3)	\$ —	\$ 108	\$ 7	\$ (82)	\$ 33
Hedged portion of natural gas inventory	8	—	—	—	8
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 8</u>	<u>\$ 108</u>	<u>\$ 7</u>	<u>\$ (82)</u>	<u>\$ 41</u>

(1) Amounts represent the impact of legally enforceable master netting arrangements that allow CERC to settle positive and negative positions and also include cash collateral of \$52 million posted with the same counterparties.

(2) Amounts are included in Other assets in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(3) Natural gas derivatives include no material amounts related to physical forward transactions with Enable.

	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Netting Adjustments (1)	Balance as of December 31, 2017
	(in millions)				
Assets					
Corporate equities	\$ 3	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 3
Investments, including money market funds (2)	11	—	—	—	11
Natural gas derivatives (3)	—	161	57	(64)	154
Hedged portion of natural gas inventory	14	—	—	—	14
Total assets	<u>\$ 28</u>	<u>\$ 161</u>	<u>\$ 57</u>	<u>\$ (64)</u>	<u>\$ 182</u>
Liabilities					
Natural gas derivatives (3)	\$ —	\$ 96	\$ 11	\$ (83)	\$ 24
Total liabilities	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 96</u>	<u>\$ 11</u>	<u>\$ (83)</u>	<u>\$ 24</u>

(1) Amounts represent the impact of legally enforceable master netting arrangements that allow CERC to settle positive and negative positions and also include cash collateral of \$19 million posted with the same counterparties.

(2) Amounts are included in Other assets in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(3) Natural gas derivatives include no material amounts related to physical forward transactions with Enable.

The following table presents additional information about assets or liabilities, including derivatives that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis for which CERC has utilized Level 3 inputs to determine fair value:

	Fair Value Measurements Using Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	
	Derivative assets and liabilities, net	
	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Beginning balance	\$ 46	\$ 13
Total gains	2	16
Total settlements	(34)	(4)
Transfers into Level 3	—	1
Transfers out of Level 3	(2)	1
Ending balance (1)	\$ 12	\$ 27
The amount of total gains (losses) for the period included in earnings attributable to the change in unrealized gains or losses relating to assets still held at the reporting date	\$ (4)	\$ 15

(1) CERC did not have significant Level 3 sales or purchases during either of the three months ended March 31, 2018 or 2017.

Estimated Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The fair values of cash and cash equivalents and short-term borrowings are estimated to be approximately equivalent to carrying amounts and have been excluded from the table below. The carrying amounts of non-trading derivative assets and liabilities are stated at fair value and are excluded from the table below. The fair value of each debt instrument is determined by multiplying the principal amount of each debt instrument by a combination of historical trading prices and comparable issue data. These liabilities, which are not measured at fair value in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, but for which the fair value is disclosed, would be classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

	March 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	(in millions)			
Financial liabilities:				
Long-term debt	\$ 2,882	\$ 3,078	\$ 2,457	\$ 2,708

(8) Unconsolidated Affiliate

CERC Corp. has the ability to significantly influence the operating and financial policies of Enable, a publicly traded MLP, and, accordingly, accounts for its investment in Enable's common units using the equity method of accounting for in-substance real estate. Upon the adoption of ASU 2014-09 and ASU 2017-05 on January 1, 2018, CERC Corp. evaluated transactions in its investment in Enable that occurred prior to January 1, 2018 (the effective date) and concluded a cumulative effect adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings was not required. See Note 2 for further discussion.

CERC Corp.'s maximum exposure to loss related to Enable, a VIE in which CERC Corp. is not the primary beneficiary, is limited to its equity investment and its outstanding current accounts receivable from Enable.

Limited Partner Interest and Units Held in Enable:

	March 31, 2018	
	Limited Partner Interest	Common Units
CERC Corp.	54.0%	233,856,623
OGE	25.6%	110,982,805
Public unitholders	20.4%	88,232,573
Total units outstanding	100.0%	433,072,001

Generally, sales to any person or entity (including a series of sales to the same person or entity) of more than 5% of the aggregate of the common units CERC Corp. owns in Enable or sales to any person or entity (including a series of sales to the same person or entity) by OGE of more than 5% of the aggregate of the common units it owns in Enable are subject to mutual rights of first offer and first refusal set forth in Enable's Agreement of Limited Partnership.

Enable is controlled jointly by CERC Corp. and OGE, and each own 50% of the management rights in the general partner of Enable. Sale of CERC Corp.'s or OGE's ownership interests in Enable's general partner to a third party is subject to mutual rights of first offer and first refusal, and CERC Corp. is not permitted to dispose of less than all of its interest in Enable's general partner.

Distributions Received from Enable:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Investment in Enable common units	\$ 74	\$ 74

As of March 31, 2018, CERC Corp. and OGE also owned 40% and 60%, respectively, of the incentive distribution rights held by the general partner of Enable. Enable is expected to pay a minimum quarterly distribution of \$0.2875 per common unit on its outstanding common units to the extent it has sufficient cash from operations after establishment of cash reserves and payment of fees and expenses, including payments to its general partner and its affiliates, within 60 days after the end of each quarter. If cash distributions to Enable's unitholders exceed \$0.330625 per common unit in any quarter, the general partner will receive increasing percentages or incentive distributions rights, up to 50%, of the cash Enable distributes in excess of that amount. In certain circumstances the general partner of Enable will have the right to reset the minimum quarterly distribution and the target distribution levels at which the incentive distributions receive increasing percentages to higher levels based on Enable's cash distributions at the time of the exercise of this reset election. To date, no incentive distributions have been made.

Transactions with Enable:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Reimbursement of transition services (1)	\$ 2	\$ 2
Natural gas expenses, including transportation and storage costs	37	33

(1) Represents amounts billed under the Transition Agreements for certain support services provided to Enable. Actual transition services costs are recorded net of reimbursement.

	March 31, 2018		December 31, 2017	
	(in millions)			
Accounts receivable for amounts billed for transition services	\$	1	\$	1
Accounts payable for natural gas purchases from Enable		11		13

Summarized unaudited consolidated income information for Enable is as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
(in millions)		
Operating revenues	\$ 748	\$ 666
Cost of sales, excluding depreciation and amortization	375	308
Operating income	139	140
Net income attributable to Enable	105	111
Reconciliation of Equity in Earnings, net:		
CERC Corp.'s interest	\$ 57	\$ 60
Basis difference amortization (1)	12	12
CERC Corp.'s equity in earnings, net	<u>\$ 69</u>	<u>\$ 72</u>

(1) Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliate includes CERC Corp.'s share of Enable's earnings adjusted for the amortization of the basis difference of CERC Corp.'s original investment in Enable and its underlying equity in Enable's net assets. The basis difference is amortized over approximately 31 years, the average life of the assets to which the basis difference is attributed.

Summarized unaudited consolidated balance sheet information for Enable is as follows:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	(in millions)	
Current assets	\$ 413	\$ 416
Non-current assets	11,274	11,177
Current liabilities	1,404	1,279
Non-current liabilities	2,664	2,660
Non-controlling interest	11	12
Preferred equity	362	362
Enable partners' equity	7,246	7,280
Reconciliation of Investment in Enable:		
CERC Corp.'s ownership interest in Enable partners' equity	\$ 3,913	\$ 3,935
CERC Corp.'s basis difference	(1,446)	(1,463)
CERC Corp.'s equity method investment in Enable	<u>\$ 2,467</u>	<u>\$ 2,472</u>

(9) Goodwill and Other Intangibles

Goodwill by reportable business segment as of both March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017 is as follows:

	(in millions)
Natural Gas Distribution	\$ 746
Energy Services	110 (1)
Other Operations	11
Total	<u>\$ 867</u>

(1) Amount presented is net of the accumulated goodwill impairment charge of \$252 million recorded in 2012.

The tables below present information on CERC's other intangible assets recorded in Other non-current assets on the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

	Useful Lives	March 31, 2018			December 31, 2017		
		Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Balance	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Balance
	(in years)	(in millions)					
Customer relationships	15	\$ 86	\$ (23)	\$ 63	\$ 86	\$ (21)	\$ 65
Covenants not to compete	4	4	(2)	2	4	(2)	2
Other	Various	15	(9)	6	15	(8)	7
Total		\$ 105	\$ (34)	\$ 71	\$ 105	\$ (31)	\$ 74

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Amortization expense of intangible assets	\$ 3	\$ 2

(10) Related Party Transactions

CERC participates in a money pool through which it can borrow or invest on a short-term basis. Funding needs are aggregated and external borrowing or investing is based on the net cash position. The net funding requirements of the money pool are expected to be met with borrowings under CenterPoint Energy's revolving credit facility or the sale of CenterPoint Energy's commercial paper.

The table below summarizes CERC's money pool activity:

	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
	(in millions)	
Money pool investments (borrowings) (1)	\$ —	\$ (570)
Weighted average interest rate	2.27%	1.90%

(1) Included in Accounts and notes receivable (payable)—affiliated companies in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Affiliate related net interest income (expense) was not material for either the three months ended March 31, 2018 or 2017.

CenterPoint Energy provides some corporate services to CERC. The costs of services have been charged directly to CERC using methods that management believes are reasonable. These methods include negotiated usage rates, dedicated asset assignment and proportionate corporate formulas based on operating expenses, assets, gross margin, employees and a composite of assets, gross margin and employees. Houston Electric provides a number of services to CERC. These services are billed at actual cost, either directly or as an allocation, and include fleet services, shop services, geographic services, surveying and right-of-way services, radio communications, data circuit management and field operations. Additionally, CERC provides certain services to Houston Electric. These services are billed at actual cost, either directly or as an allocation and include line locating and other miscellaneous services. These charges are not necessarily indicative of what would have been incurred had CERC not been an affiliate of CenterPoint Energy. Amounts charged to and by CERC for these services were as follows and are included primarily in operation and maintenance expenses:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Corporate service charges	\$ 34	\$ 31
Charges from Houston Electric for services provided	5	3
Billings to Houston Electric for services provided	(3)	(2)

CERC paid dividends on its shares of common stock to Utility Holding, LLC as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Dividend to parent	\$ 86	\$ 108

See Note 8 for related party transactions with Enable.

(11) Short-term Borrowings and Long-term Debt

(a) Short-term Borrowings

Inventory Financing. NGD has AMAs associated with its utility distribution service in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas. In March 2018, NGD's third party AMAs in Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma expired, and NGD entered into new AMAs with CES effective April 1, 2018 in these states. The AMAs have varying terms, the longest of which expires in 2021. Pursuant to the provisions of the agreements, NGD sells natural gas and agrees to repurchase an equivalent amount of natural gas during the winter heating seasons at the same cost, plus a financing charge. These transactions are accounted for as an inventory financing and had an associated principal obligation of \$-0- and \$39 million as of March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively.

(b) Long-term Debt

Debt Issuances. During the three months ended March 31, 2018, CERC Corp. issued the following unsecured senior notes:

Issuance Date	Aggregate Principal Amount	Interest Rate	Maturity Date
	(in millions)		
March 2018	\$ 300	3.55%	2023
March 2018	300	4.00%	2028

The proceeds from the issuance of these unsecured senior notes were used for general corporate purposes, including to repay portions of outstanding commercial paper and borrowings under CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s money pool.

Revolving Credit Facility. CERC Corp. had the following revolving credit facility and utilization of such facility:

Size of Facility	March 31, 2018			December 31, 2017		
	Loans	Letters of Credit	Commercial Paper	Loans	Letters of Credit	Commercial Paper
	(in millions)					
\$ 900	\$ —	\$ 1	\$ 726 ⁽¹⁾	\$ —	\$ 1	\$ 898 ⁽¹⁾

(1) Weighted average interest rate was 2.34% and 1.72% as of March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, respectively.

Execution Date	Size of Facility	Draw Rate of LIBOR plus ⁽¹⁾	Financial Covenant Limit on Debt for Borrowed Money to Capital Ratio	Debt for Borrowed Money to Capital Ratio as of March 31, 2018	Termination Date
	(in millions)				
March 3, 2016	\$ 900	1.25 %	65%	38.7%	March 3, 2022

(1) Based on current credit ratings.

CERC Corp. was in compliance with all financial debt covenants as of March 31, 2018.

(12) Commitments and Contingencies

(a) Natural Gas Supply Commitments

Natural gas supply commitments include natural gas contracts related to CERC's Natural Gas Distribution and Energy Services business segments, which have various quantity requirements and durations, that are not classified as non-trading derivative assets and liabilities in CERC's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017 as these contracts meet an exception as "normal purchases contracts" or do not meet the definition of a derivative. Natural gas supply commitments also include natural gas transportation contracts that do not meet the definition of a derivative. As of March 31, 2018, minimum payment obligations for natural gas supply commitments are approximately:

	(in millions)	
Remaining nine months of 2018	\$	289
2019		311
2020		170
2021		81
2022		51
2023 and beyond		125

(b) Legal, Environmental and Other Matters

Legal Matters

Gas Market Manipulation Cases. CenterPoint Energy, Houston Electric or their predecessor, Reliant Energy, and certain of their former subsidiaries have been named as defendants in certain lawsuits described below. Under a master separation agreement between CenterPoint Energy and a former subsidiary, RRI, CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries are entitled to be indemnified by RRI and its successors for any losses, including certain attorneys' fees and other costs, arising out of these lawsuits. In May 2009, RRI sold its Texas retail business to a subsidiary of NRG and RRI changed its name to RRI Energy, Inc. In December 2010, Mirant Corporation merged with and became a wholly-owned subsidiary of RRI, and RRI changed its name to GenOn. In December 2012, NRG acquired GenOn through a merger in which GenOn became a wholly-owned subsidiary of NRG. None of the sale of the retail business, the merger with Mirant Corporation, or the acquisition of GenOn by NRG alters RRI's (now GenOn's) contractual obligations to indemnify CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries, including Houston Electric, for certain liabilities, including their indemnification obligations regarding the gas market manipulation litigation.

A large number of lawsuits were filed against numerous gas market participants in a number of federal and western state courts in connection with the operation of the natural gas markets in 2000–2002. CenterPoint Energy and its affiliates have since been released or dismissed from all such cases. CES, a subsidiary of CERC Corp., was a defendant in a case now pending in federal court in Nevada alleging a conspiracy to inflate Wisconsin natural gas prices in 2000–2002. On May 24, 2016, the district court granted CES's motion for summary judgment, dismissing CES from the case. The plaintiffs have appealed that ruling. CenterPoint Energy and CES intend to continue vigorously defending against the plaintiffs' claims. In June 2017, GenOn and various affiliates filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. In December 2017, GenOn received court approval of a restructuring plan and is expected to emerge from Chapter 11 in mid-2018. CenterPoint Energy, CERC, and CES submitted proofs of claim in the bankruptcy proceedings to protect their indemnity rights. If GenOn were unable to meet its indemnity obligations or satisfy a liability that has been assumed in the gas market manipulation litigation, then CERC, CenterPoint Energy or Houston Electric could incur liability and be responsible for satisfying the liability. CERC does not expect the ultimate outcome of the case against CES to have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Minnehaha Academy. On August 2, 2017, a natural gas explosion occurred at the Minnehaha Academy in Minneapolis, Minnesota, resulting in the deaths of two school employees, serious injuries to others and significant property damage to the school. CenterPoint Energy, certain of its subsidiaries, including CERC, and the contractor company working in the school have been named in litigation arising out of this incident. Additionally, CenterPoint Energy is cooperating with the ongoing investigation conducted by the National Transportation Safety Board. Further, CenterPoint Energy is contesting approximately \$200,000 in fines imposed by the Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety. In early 2018, the Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration concluded its investigation without any adverse findings against CenterPoint Energy. CenterPoint Energy's general and excess liability insurance policies provide coverage for third party bodily injury and property damage claims.

Environmental Matters

MGP Sites. CERC and its predecessors operated MGPs in the past. With respect to certain Minnesota MGP sites, CERC has completed state-ordered remediation and continues state-ordered monitoring and water treatment. As of March 31, 2018, CERC had a recorded liability of \$7 million for continued monitoring and any future remediation required by regulators in Minnesota. The estimated range of possible remediation costs for the sites for which CERC believes it may have responsibility was \$5 million to \$30 million based on remediation continuing for 30 to 50 years. The cost estimates are based on studies of a site or industry average costs for remediation of sites of similar size. The actual remediation costs will depend on the number of sites to be remediated, the participation of other PRPs, if any, and the remediation methods used.

In addition to the Minnesota sites, the EPA and other regulators have investigated MGP sites that were owned or operated by CERC or may have been owned by one of its former affiliates. CERC does not expect the ultimate outcome of these matters to have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Asbestos. Some facilities owned by CERC or its predecessors in interest contain or have contained asbestos insulation and other asbestos-containing materials. CERC and its predecessor companies are from time to time named, along with numerous others, as defendants in lawsuits filed by a number of individuals who claim injury due to exposure to asbestos, and CERC anticipates that additional claims may be asserted in the future. Although their ultimate outcome cannot be predicted at this time, CERC does not expect these matters, either individually or in the aggregate, to have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Other Environmental. From time to time, CERC identifies the presence of environmental contaminants during its operations or on property where its predecessor companies have conducted operations. Other such sites involving contaminants may be identified in the future. CERC has and expects to continue to remediate any identified sites consistent with its state and federal legal obligations. From time to time CERC has received notices, and may receive notices in the future, from regulatory authorities or others regarding its status as a PRP in connection with sites found to require remediation due to the presence of environmental contaminants. In addition, CERC has been, or may be, named from time to time as a defendant in litigation related to such sites. Although the ultimate outcome of such matters cannot be predicted at this time, CERC does not expect these matters, either individually or in the aggregate, to have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Other Proceedings

CERC is involved in other legal, environmental, tax and regulatory proceedings before various courts, regulatory commissions and governmental agencies regarding matters arising in the ordinary course of business. From time to time, CERC is also a defendant in legal proceedings with respect to claims brought by various plaintiffs against broad groups of participants in the energy industry. Some of these proceedings involve substantial amounts. CERC regularly analyzes current information and, as necessary, provides accruals for probable and reasonably estimable liabilities on the eventual disposition of these matters. CERC does not expect the disposition of these matters to have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

(13) Income Taxes

The effective tax rate reported for the three months ended March 31, 2018 was 22% compared to 38% for the same period in 2017. The lower effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2018 was primarily due to the reduction in the federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21% effective January 1, 2018 as prescribed by the TCJA.

CERC reported no uncertain tax liability as of March 31, 2018 and expects no significant changes to the uncertain tax liability over the next twelve months. Tax years through 2015 have been audited and settled with the IRS. For the 2016 through 2018 tax years, CenterPoint Energy is a participant in the IRS's Compliance Assurance Process.

(14) Reportable Business Segments

CERC's determination of reportable business segments considers the strategic operating units under which it manages sales, allocates resources and assesses performance of various products and services to wholesale or retail customers in differing regulatory environments. CERC uses operating income as the measure of profit or loss for its business segments other than Midstream Investments, where it uses equity in earnings.

CERC's reportable business segments include the following: Natural Gas Distribution, Energy Services, Midstream Investments and Other Operations. Natural Gas Distribution consists of intrastate natural gas sales to, and natural gas transportation and distribution

for, residential, commercial, industrial and institutional customers. Energy Services represents CERC's non-rate regulated gas sales and services operations. Midstream Investments consists of CERC's equity investment in Enable. The Other Operations business segment includes unallocated corporate costs and inter-segment eliminations.

Financial data for business segments is as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2018			
	Revenues from External Customers	Inter-segment Revenues	Operating Income (Loss)	Total Assets as of March 31, 2018
	(in millions)			
Natural Gas Distribution	\$ 1,143	\$ 10	\$ 156	\$ 6,438
Energy Services	1,257	28	(26)	1,329
Midstream Investments (1)	—	—	—	2,467
Other Operations	—	—	1	81
Reconciling Eliminations	—	(38)	—	(460)
Consolidated	<u>\$ 2,400</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 131</u>	<u>\$ 9,855</u>

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2017			
	Revenues from External Customers	Inter-segment Revenues	Operating Income (Loss) (2)	Total Assets as of December 31, 2017
	(in millions)			
Natural Gas Distribution	\$ 907	\$ 9	\$ 168	\$ 6,608
Energy Services	1,185	11	35	1,521
Midstream Investments (1)	—	—	—	2,472
Other Operations	1	—	(4)	70
Reconciling Eliminations	—	(20)	—	(559)
Consolidated	<u>\$ 2,093</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 199</u>	<u>\$ 10,112</u>

(1) Midstream Investments' equity earnings, net are as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Enable	\$ 69	\$ 72

(2) Amounts for 2017 have been restated to reflect the adoption of ASU 2017-07.

(15) Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information

The table below provides supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Cash Payments:		
Interest, net of capitalized interest	\$ 39	\$ 29
Non-cash transactions:		
Accounts payable related to capital expenditures	\$ 39	\$ 28

(16) Subsequent Events

On May 1, 2018, Enable declared a quarterly cash distribution of \$0.318 per unit on all of its outstanding common units for the quarter ended March 31, 2018. Accordingly, CERC Corp. expects to receive a cash distribution of approximately \$74 million from Enable in the second quarter of 2018 to be made with respect to CERC Corp.'s investment in common units of Enable for the first quarter of 2018.

Item 2. MANAGEMENT'S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following narrative analysis should be read in combination with our Interim Condensed Financial Statements contained in this Form 10-Q and our 2017 Form 10-K.

We meet the conditions specified in General Instruction H(1)(a) and (b) to Form 10-Q and are therefore permitted to use the reduced disclosure format for wholly-owned subsidiaries of reporting companies. Accordingly, we have omitted from this report the information called for by Item 2 (Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations) and Item 3 (Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk) of Part I and the following Part II items of Form 10-Q: Item 2 (Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds), Item 3 (Defaults Upon Senior Securities) and Item 4 (Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders). The following discussion explains material changes in our revenue and expense items between the three months ended March 31, 2018 and the three months ended March 31, 2017. Reference is made to "Management's Narrative Analysis of Results of Operations" in Item 7 of our 2017 Form 10-K.

RECENT EVENTS

Regulatory Proceedings. For details related to our pending and completed regulatory proceedings and orders related to the TCJA to date in 2018, see "—Liquidity and Capital Resources —Regulatory Matters" below.

Debt Issuances. In March 2018, we issued \$600 million aggregate principal amount of unsecured senior notes. For more information about our 2018 debt issuances, see Note 11 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements.

CONSOLIDATED RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Our results of operations are affected by seasonal fluctuations in the demand for natural gas and price movements of energy commodities as well as natural gas basis differentials. Our results of operations are also affected by, among other things, the actions of various federal, state and local governmental authorities having jurisdiction over rates we charge, competition in our various business operations, the effectiveness of our risk management activities, debt service costs and income tax expense. For more information regarding factors that may affect the future results of operations for our business, please read "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of Part I of our 2017 Form 10-K.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Revenues	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,093
Expenses:		
Natural gas	1,910	1,579
Operation and maintenance	238	215
Depreciation and amortization	73	66
Taxes other than income taxes	48	34
Total	2,269	1,894
Operating Income	131	199
Interest and other finance charges	(29)	(29)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliate, net	69	72
Other expense, net	(4)	(5)
Income Before Income Taxes	167	237
Income tax expense	37	90
Net Income	\$ 130	\$ 147

Three months ended March 31, 2018 compared to three months ended March 31, 2017

We reported net income of \$130 million for the three months ended March 31, 2018 compared to net income of \$147 million for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

The decrease in net income of \$17 million was primarily due to the following key factors:

- a \$68 million decrease in operating income, discussed below by segment; and
- a \$3 million decrease in equity earnings from our investment in Enable, discussed further in Note 8 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements.

These decreases were partially offset by a \$53 million decrease in income tax expense due to lower net income and a reduction in the corporate income tax rate resulting from the TCJA.

Income Tax Expense

Our effective tax rate reported for the three months ended March 31, 2018 was 22% compared to 38% for the same period in 2017. The lower effective tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2018 was primarily due to the reduction in the federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21% effective January 1, 2018 as prescribed by the TCJA.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS BY BUSINESS SEGMENT

The following table presents operating income (loss) for each of our business segments. Included in revenues are intersegment sales. We account for intersegment sales as if the sales were to third parties at current market prices.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Natural Gas Distribution	\$ 156	\$ 168
Energy Services	(26)	35
Other Operations	1	(4)
Total Consolidated Operating Income	<u>\$ 131</u>	<u>\$ 199</u>

Natural Gas Distribution

For information regarding factors that may affect the future results of operations of our Natural Gas Distribution business segment, please read “Risk Factors — Risk Factors Associated with Our Consolidated Financial Condition,” “— Risk Factors Affecting Our Natural Gas Distribution and Energy Services Businesses” and “— Other Risk Factors Affecting Our Businesses or Our Interests in Enable Midstream Partners, LP” in Item 1A of Part I of our 2017 Form 10-K. The following table provides summary data of our Natural Gas Distribution business segment:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions, except throughput and customer data)	
Revenues	\$ 1,153	\$ 916
Expenses:		
Natural gas	667	461
Operation and maintenance	213	189
Depreciation and amortization	68	63
Taxes other than income taxes	49	35
Total expenses	997	748
Operating Income	\$ 156	\$ 168
Throughput (in Bcf):		
Residential	87	62
Commercial and industrial	94	82
Total Throughput	181	144
Number of customers at end of period:		
Residential	3,220,262	3,190,678
Commercial and industrial	257,806	255,869
Total	3,478,068	3,446,547

Three months ended March 31, 2018 compared to three months ended March 31, 2017

Our Natural Gas Distribution business segment reported operating income of \$156 million for the three months ended March 31, 2018 compared to \$168 million for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Operating income decreased \$12 million as a result of the following key factors:

- higher operation and maintenance expenses of \$16 million, primarily due to higher labor and benefits, contract services and support services expense;
- lower revenue of \$15 million associated with the recording of a regulatory liability and a corresponding decrease to revenue in certain jurisdictions of \$7 million reflecting the difference in revenues collected under existing customer rates and the revenues that would have been collected had existing rates been set using the lower corporate tax rate from the TCJA and lower rate filings in Minnesota of \$8 million associated with the lower corporate tax rate as a result of the TCJA;
- higher other taxes of \$10 million, primarily due to the Minnesota property tax refund of \$9 million in 2017; and
- increased depreciation and amortization expense of \$5 million, primarily due to ongoing additions to plant-in-service.

These decreases were partially offset by the following:

- rate increases, exclusive of the TCJA impact discussed above, of \$22 million, primarily from Texas rate filings of \$11 million, Minnesota interim rates of \$5 million and the Arkansas FRP filing of \$4 million;
- a \$5 million increase in usage due to colder weather; and
- a \$3 million increase associated with customer growth from the addition of over 31,000 new customers.

Increased operation and maintenance expenses related to energy efficiency programs of \$8 million and increased gross receipts taxes of \$4 million were offset by corresponding increases in the related revenues.

Energy Services

For information regarding factors that may affect the future results of operations of our Energy Services business segment, please read “Risk Factors — Risk Factors Associated with Our Consolidated Financial Condition,” “— Risk Factors Affecting Our Natural Gas Distribution and Energy Services Businesses” and “— Other Risk Factors Affecting Our Businesses or Our Interests in Enable Midstream Partners, LP” in Item 1A of Part I of our 2017 Form 10-K.

The following table provides summary data of our Energy Services business segment:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions, except throughput and customer data)	
Revenues	\$ 1,285	\$ 1,196
Expenses:		
Natural gas	1,281	1,137
Operation and maintenance	25	21
Depreciation and amortization	5	3
Total expenses	1,311	1,161
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (26)	\$ 35
Timing impacts related to mark-to-market gain (loss) (1)	\$ (80)	\$ 15
Throughput (in Bcf)	375	319
Approximate number of customers at end of period (2)	30,000	31,000

(1) Includes the change in unrealized mark-to-market value and the impact from derivative assets and liabilities acquired through the purchase of Continuum and AEM.

(2) Does not include approximately 71,000 and 59,000 natural gas customers as of March 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively, that are under residential and small commercial choice programs invoiced by their host utility.

Three months ended March 31, 2018 compared to three months ended March 31, 2017

Our Energy Services business segment reported an operating loss of \$26 million for the three months ended March 31, 2018 compared to operating income of \$35 million for the three months ended March 31, 2017.

Operating income decreased \$61 million as a result of the following key factors:

- a \$95 million decrease from mark-to-market accounting for derivatives associated with certain natural gas purchases and sales used to lock in economic margins;
- a \$4 million increase in operation and maintenance expense, primarily due to higher contracts and services expense related to pipeline integrity testing, higher bad debt expense and higher support services expense; and
- a \$2 million increase in depreciation and amortization, primarily due to the amortization of AEM acquired intangibles.

These decreases in operating income were partially offset by a \$40 million increase in margin due to incremental volumes from customers and improved margin rates, resulting from realized commercial opportunities attributable to the Continuum and AEM acquisitions and colder than normal weather in several regions of the United States.

Midstream Investments

For information regarding factors that may affect the future results of operations of our Midstream Investments business segment, please read “Risk Factors — Risk Factors Affecting Our Interests in Enable Midstream Partners, LP” and “— Other Risk Factors Affecting Our Businesses or Our Interests in Enable Midstream Partners, LP” in Item 1A of Part I of our 2017 Form 10-K.

The following table provides pre-tax equity income of our Midstream Investments business segment:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions)	
Equity earnings from Enable, net	\$ 69	\$ 72

CERTAIN FACTORS AFFECTING FUTURE EARNINGS

For information on other developments, factors and trends that may have an impact on our future earnings, please read “Risk Factors” in Item 1A of Part I of our 2017 Form 10-K and “Management’s Narrative Analysis of Results of Operations — Certain Factors Affecting Future Earnings” in Item 7 of Part II of our 2017 Form 10-K and “Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information” in this Form 10-Q.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Our liquidity and capital requirements are affected primarily by our results of operations, capital expenditures, debt service requirements, tax payments, working capital needs and various regulatory actions. Our capital expenditures are expected to be used for investment in infrastructure for our natural gas distribution operations. These capital expenditures are anticipated to maintain reliability and safety as well as expand our systems through value-added projects. Our principal anticipated cash requirements for the remaining nine months of 2018 include approximately \$556 million of capital expenditures.

We expect that anticipated cash needs for the remaining nine months of 2018 will be met with borrowings under our credit facility, proceeds from commercial paper, proceeds from the issuance of long-term debt, anticipated cash flows from operations and distributions from Enable. In addition, if we decide to sell all or a portion of the Enable common units that we own in the public equity markets or otherwise in 2018 (reducing the amount of future distributions we receive from Enable to the extent of any such sales), any net proceeds we receive from such sales could provide a source for our remaining 2018 cash needs. Discretionary financing or refinancing may result in the issuance of debt securities in the capital markets or the arrangement of additional credit facilities. Issuances of debt in the capital markets, funds raised in the commercial paper markets, additional credit facilities and any sales of our Enable common units may not, however, be available to us on acceptable terms.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Other than operating leases, we have no off-balance sheet arrangements.

Regulatory Matters

Rate Change Applications

We are routinely involved in rate change applications before state regulatory authorities. Those applications include general rate cases, where the entire cost of service of the utility is assessed and reset. We are periodically involved in proceedings to adjust our capital tracking mechanisms in Texas (GRIP), our cost of service adjustments in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Oklahoma (FRP, RSP, RRA and PBRC, respectively), our decoupling mechanism in Minnesota, and our energy efficiency cost trackers in Arkansas, Minnesota, Mississippi and Oklahoma (EECR, CIP, EECR and EECR, respectively). The table below reflects significant applications pending or completed since our 2017 Form 10-K was filed with the SEC.

Mechanism	Annual Increase (1) (in millions)	Filing Date	Effective Date	Approval Date	Additional Information
South Texas (Railroad Commission)					
Rate Case	\$0.5	November 2017	TBD	TBD	Unanimous settlement agreement filed with the Railroad Commission in April 2018 that recommends a \$3 million annual decrease in current revenues, reflecting approximately \$2 million decrease in the federal income tax rate and amortization of certain EDIT balances and establishing a 9.8% ROE for future GRIP filings for the South Texas jurisdiction.
Beaumont/East Texas and Texas Gulf (Railroad Commission)					
GRIP	14.0	March 2018	July 2018	TBD	Based on net change in invested capital of \$72.0 million and reflects approximately \$1.1 million decrease in the federal income tax rate.
Arkansas (APSC)					
FRP	7.8	April 2018	October 2018	TBD	Based on ROE of 9.5% as approved in the last rate case and reflects approximately \$11.2 million decrease in the federal income tax rate and amortization of EDIT balances.
Minnesota (MPUC)					
Rate Case	56.5	August 2017	TBD	TBD	Reflects a proposed 10.0% ROE on a 52.18% equity ratio. Includes a proposal to extend decoupling beyond current expiration date of June 2018. Interim rates reflecting an annual increase of \$47.8 million were effective October 1, 2017. A unanimous settlement agreement was filed in March 2018, which is subject to MPUC approval. The settlement agreement increases base rates by \$3.9 million, makes decoupling a permanent part of the tariff, incorporates the impact of the decrease in the federal income tax rate and amortization of EDIT balances (approximately \$20 million) and establishes or continues tracker recovery mechanisms that account for approximately \$13.3 million in the initial filing.
Mississippi (MPSC)					
RRA	4.0	May 2018	July 2018	TBD	Authorized ROE of 9.144% and a capital structure of 50% debt and 50% equity. Reflects approximately \$1.7 million decrease in the federal income tax rate.
Oklahoma (OCC)					
PBRC	5.6	March 2018	TBD	TBD	Based on ROE of 10% and reflects approximately \$1.2 million decrease in the federal income tax rate and amortization of certain EDIT balances.

(1) Represents proposed increases when effective date and/or approval date is not yet determined. Approved rates could differ materially from proposed rates.

Tax Reform

For NGD, federal income tax expense is included in the rates approved by state commissions and local municipalities and charged by those utilities to consumers. As NGD files general rate cases and other periodic rate adjustments, the impacts of the TCJA (including the lower tax rate and the calculation and amortization of EDIT), along with other increases and decreases in NGD's revenue requirements, will be incorporated into NGD's future rates as allowed by IRS rules. The effect of any potential return of tax savings resulting from the TCJA to consumers may differ depending on how each regulatory body requires us to return such savings. Regulatory commissions across most of NGD's jurisdictions have issued accounting orders to track or record a regulatory liability for (1) the difference between revenues collected under existing rates and revenues that would have been collected had the existing rates been set using the recently approved federal income tax rates and (2) the balance of EDIT that now exists because of the reduction in federal income tax rates.

FERC Revised Policy Statement and NOPR

On March 15, 2018, the FERC addressed treatment of federal income tax allowances in FERC-regulated pipeline rates. The FERC issued a Revised Policy Statement stating that it will no longer permit pipelines organized as MLPs to recover an income tax allowance in their cost-of-service rates. The FERC issued the Revised Policy Statement in response to a remand from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in *United Airlines v. FERC*. Requests for rehearing or clarification of the Revised Policy Statement are pending, and the FERC may change its decision in response to these requests. Accordingly, the impacts that such changes may have on the rates Enable can charge for transportation services are unknown at this time.

On March 15, 2018, the FERC also proposed, in a NOPR, the method by which it would apply the Revised Policy Statement to FERC-jurisdictional natural gas pipeline rates, as well as account for the corporate income tax rate reduction in the TCJA. The NOPR, if finalized as proposed, would require all FERC-regulated natural gas pipelines that have cost-based rates to make a filing providing certain cost and revenue information and then either propose to reduce or support current cost-based rates, or take no

further action. Comments on the NOPR were due April 25, 2018. At this time, we cannot predict the outcome of the NOPR proceeding, but adoption of the regulation in its proposed form could adversely impact the rates Enable is permitted to charge its customers.

Other Matters

Credit Facility

Our revolving credit facility may be drawn on from time to time to provide funds used for general corporate purposes, including to backstop our commercial paper program. The facility may also be utilized to obtain letters of credit. For further details related to our revolving credit facility, please see Note 11 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements.

As of April 24, 2018, we had the following revolving credit facility and utilization of such facility:

Execution Date	Size of Facility	Amount Utilized	Termination Date
(in millions)			
March 3, 2016	\$ 900	\$ 430 ⁽¹⁾	March 3, 2022

(1) Represents outstanding commercial paper of \$429 million and outstanding letters of credit of \$1 million.

Borrowings under our revolving credit facility are subject to customary terms and conditions. However, there is no requirement that we make representations prior to borrowings as to the absence of material adverse changes or litigation that could be expected to have a material adverse effect. Borrowings under our revolving credit facility are subject to acceleration upon the occurrence of events of default that we consider customary. The revolving credit facility also provides for customary fees, including commitment fees, administrative agent fees, fees in respect of letters of credit and other fees. In our revolving credit facility, the spread to LIBOR and the commitment fees fluctuate based on our credit rating. We are currently in compliance with the various business and financial covenants in our revolving credit facility.

Debt Financing Transactions

In March 2018, we issued \$600 million aggregate principal amount of unsecured senior notes. For further information about our 2018 debt issuances, see Note 11 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements.

Securities Registered with the SEC

On January 31, 2017, we filed a shelf registration statement with the SEC registering an indeterminate principal amount of our senior debt securities. The shelf registration statement will expire on January 31, 2020.

Temporary Investments

As of April 24, 2018, we had no temporary external investments.

Money Pool

We participate in a money pool through which we and certain of our affiliates can borrow or invest on a short-term basis. Funding needs are aggregated and external borrowing or investing is based on the net cash position. The net funding requirements of the money pool are expected to be met with borrowings by CenterPoint Energy under its revolving credit facility or the sale by CenterPoint Energy of its commercial paper. As of April 24, 2018, we had no borrowings from or investments in the money pool. The money pool may not provide sufficient funds to meet our cash needs.

Impact on Liquidity of a Downgrade in Credit Ratings

The interest on borrowings under our credit facility is based on our credit rating. On April 24, 2018, as a result of CenterPoint Energy's announcement of the proposed merger with Vectren, S&P placed its long-term ratings on our unsecured senior debt on CreditWatch with negative implications and affirmed its rating.

As of April 24, 2018, Moody's, S&P and Fitch had assigned the following credit ratings to our senior unsecured debt:

Moody's		S&P		Fitch	
Rating	Outlook (1)	Rating	CreditWatch (2)	Rating	Outlook (3)
Baa2	Stable	A-	Negative	BBB	Positive

- (1) A Moody's rating outlook is an opinion regarding the likely direction of an issuer's rating over the medium term.
- (2) An S&P CreditWatch assesses the potential direction of a short-term or long-term credit rating.
- (3) A Fitch rating outlook indicates the direction a rating is likely to move over a one- to two-year period.

We cannot assure that the ratings set forth above will remain in effect for any given period of time or that one or more of these ratings will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by a rating agency. We note that these credit ratings are included for informational purposes and are not recommendations to buy, sell or hold our securities and may be revised or withdrawn at any time by the rating agency. Each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating. Any future reduction or withdrawal of one or more of our credit ratings could have a material adverse impact on our ability to obtain short- and long-term financing, the cost of such financings and the execution of our commercial strategies.

A decline in credit ratings could increase borrowing costs under our revolving credit facility. If our credit ratings had been downgraded one notch by each of the three principal credit rating agencies from the ratings that existed as of March 31, 2018, the impact on the borrowing costs under our credit facility would have been immaterial. A decline in credit ratings would also increase the interest rate on long-term debt to be issued in the capital markets and could negatively impact our ability to complete capital market transactions and to access the commercial paper market. Additionally, a decline in credit ratings could increase cash collateral requirements and reduce earnings of our Natural Gas Distribution and Energy Services business segments.

CES, our wholly-owned subsidiary operating in our Energy Services business segment, provides natural gas sales and services primarily to commercial and industrial customers and electric and natural gas utilities throughout the United States. To economically hedge its exposure to natural gas prices, CES uses derivatives with provisions standard for the industry, including those pertaining to credit thresholds. Typically, the credit threshold negotiated with each counterparty defines the amount of unsecured credit that such counterparty will extend to CES. To the extent that the credit exposure that a counterparty has to CES at a particular time does not exceed that credit threshold, CES is not obligated to provide collateral. Mark-to-market exposure in excess of the credit threshold is routinely collateralized by CES. Similarly, mark-to-market exposure offsetting and exceeding the credit threshold may cause the counterparty to provide collateral to CES. As of March 31, 2018, the amount posted by CES as collateral aggregated approximately \$69 million. Should the credit ratings of CERC Corp. (as the credit support provider for CES) fall below certain levels, CES would be required to provide additional collateral up to the amount of its previously unsecured credit limit. We estimate that as of March 31, 2018, unsecured credit limits extended to CES by counterparties aggregated \$348 million, and \$1 million of such amount was utilized.

Pipeline tariffs and contracts typically provide that if the credit ratings of a shipper or the shipper's guarantor drop below a threshold level, which is generally investment grade ratings from both Moody's and S&P, cash or other collateral may be demanded from the shipper in an amount equal to the sum of three months' charges for pipeline services plus the unrecovered cost of any lateral built for such shipper. If the credit ratings of CERC Corp. decline below the applicable threshold levels, CERC Corp. might need to provide cash or other collateral of as much as \$193 million as of March 31, 2018. The amount of collateral will depend on seasonal variations in transportation levels.

Cross Defaults

Under CenterPoint Energy's revolving credit facility, a payment default on, or a non-payment default that permits acceleration of, any indebtedness for borrowed money and certain other specified types of obligations (including guarantees) exceeding \$125 million by us will cause a default. A default by CenterPoint Energy would not trigger a default under our debt instruments or revolving credit facility.

Possible Acquisitions, Divestitures and Joint Ventures

From time to time, we consider the acquisition or the disposition of assets or businesses or possible joint ventures, strategic initiatives or other joint ownership arrangements with respect to assets or businesses. Any determination to take action in this regard will be based on market conditions and opportunities existing at the time, and accordingly, the timing, size or success of any efforts and the associated potential capital commitments are unpredictable. We may seek to fund all or part of any such efforts with proceeds

from debt issuances. Debt financing may not, however, be available to us at that time due to a variety of events, including, among others, maintenance of our credit ratings, industry conditions, general economic conditions, market conditions and market perceptions.

In February 2016, CenterPoint Energy announced that it was evaluating strategic alternatives for our investment in Enable, including a sale or spin-off qualifying under Section 355 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. CenterPoint Energy has decided that it will not pursue a spin option at this time. In the fourth quarter of 2017, CenterPoint Energy announced that late-stage discussions with a third party regarding a transaction involving our investment in Enable had terminated because an agreement on mutually acceptable terms could not be reached. We may reduce our ownership in Enable over time through sales in the public equity markets, or otherwise, of the Enable common units we hold, subject to market conditions. Although a transaction for all our interests in Enable is not viable at this time, we may pursue such a transaction if it is viable in the future. There can be no assurances that we will engage in any specific action or that any sale transaction or any sale of Enable common units in the public equity markets or otherwise will be completed, and we do not intend to disclose further developments unless and until CenterPoint Energy's Board of Directors approves a specific transaction or as otherwise required by applicable law or NYSE regulations. Any sale transaction or sale of common units in the public equity markets or otherwise may involve significant costs and expenses, including, in connection with any public offering, a significant underwriting discount. We may not realize any or all of the anticipated strategic, financial, operational or other benefits from any completed sale or reduction in our investment in Enable.

Enable Midstream Partners

We receive quarterly cash distributions from Enable on its common units we own. A reduction in the cash distributions we receive from Enable could significantly impact our liquidity. For additional information about cash distributions from Enable, see Notes 8 and 16 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements.

Hedging of Interest Expense for Future Debt Issuances

During March 2018, we entered into forward interest rate agreements to hedge, in part, volatility in the U.S. treasury rates by reducing variability in cash flows related to interest payments. For further information, see Note 6(a) to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements.

Weather Hedge

We have historically entered into partial weather hedges for certain NGD jurisdictions to mitigate the impact of fluctuations from normal weather. We remain exposed to some weather risk as a result of the partial hedges. For more information about our weather hedges, see Note 6(a) to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements.

Other Factors that Could Affect Cash Requirements

In addition to the above factors, our liquidity and capital resources could be affected by:

- cash collateral requirements that could exist in connection with certain contracts, including our weather hedging arrangements, and gas purchases, gas price and gas storage activities of our Natural Gas Distribution and Energy Services business segments;
- acceleration of payment dates on certain gas supply contracts under certain circumstances, as a result of increased gas prices and concentration of natural gas suppliers;
- increased costs related to the acquisition of natural gas;
- increases in interest expense in connection with debt refinancings and borrowings under our credit facility;
- various legislative or regulatory actions;
- incremental collateral, if any, that may be required due to regulation of derivatives;
- the ability of GenOn and its subsidiaries, currently the subject of bankruptcy proceedings, to satisfy their obligations in respect of GenOn's indemnity obligations to CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries;
- slower customer payments and increased write-offs of receivables due to higher gas prices or changing economic conditions;

- the outcome of litigation brought by or against us;
- restoration costs and revenue losses resulting from future natural disasters such as hurricanes and the timing of recovery of such restoration costs; and
- various other risks identified in “Risk Factors” in Item 1A of Part I of our 2017 Form 10-K.

Certain Contractual Limits on Our Ability to Issue Securities and Borrow Money

For information about the total debt to capitalization financial covenants in our revolving credit facility, see Note 11 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements.

Relationship with CenterPoint Energy

We are an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy. As a result of this relationship, the financial condition and liquidity of our parent company could affect our access to capital, our credit standing and our financial condition.

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

See Note 2 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements, incorporated herein by reference, for a discussion of new accounting pronouncements that affect us.

Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

In accordance with Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2018 to provide assurance that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms and such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding disclosure.

There has been no change in our internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the three months ended March 31, 2018 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

For a description of certain legal and regulatory proceedings affecting us, please read Note 12(b) to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements, which is incorporated herein by reference. See also “Business — Regulation” and “— Environmental Matters” in Item 1 and “Legal Proceedings” in Item 3 of our 2017 Form 10-K.

Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

There have been no material changes from the risk factors disclosed in our 2017 Form 10-K.

Item 5. OTHER INFORMATION

Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges. The ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017 was 6.73 and 8.68, respectively. We do not believe that the ratios for these three-month periods are necessarily indicative of the ratios for the 12-month periods due to the seasonal nature of our business. The ratios were calculated pursuant to applicable rules of the SEC.

Item 6. EXHIBITS

The following exhibits are filed herewith:

Exhibits not incorporated by reference to a prior filing are designated by a cross (+); all exhibits not so designated are incorporated by reference to a prior filing as indicated.

Agreements included as exhibits are included only to provide information to investors regarding their terms. Agreements listed below may contain representations, warranties and other provisions that were made, among other things, to provide the parties thereto with specified rights and obligations and to allocate risk among them, and no such agreement should be relied upon as constituting or providing any factual disclosures about CERC Corp., any other persons, any state of affairs or other matters.

Exhibit Number	Description	Report or Registration Statement	SEC File or Registration Number	Exhibit Reference
3.1.1	Certificate of Incorporation of RERC Corp.	Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997	1-13265	3(a)(1)
3.1.2	Certificate of Merger merging former NorAm Energy Corp. with and into HI Merger, Inc. dated August 6, 1997	Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997	1-13265	3(a)(2)
3.1.3	Certificate of Amendment changing the name to Reliant Energy Resources Corp.	Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1998	1-13265	3(a)(3)
3.1.4	Certificate of Amendment changing the name to CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.	Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2003	1-13265	3(a)(4)
3.2	Bylaws of RERC Corp.	Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1997	1-13265	3(b)
4.1	\$600,000,000 Credit Agreement, dated as of March 3, 2016, among CERC Corp., as Borrower, and the banks named therein	Form 8-K dated March 3, 2016	1-13265	4.3
4.2	First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of June 16, 2017, among CERC Corp., as Borrower, and the banks named therein	Form 8-K dated June 16, 2017	1-13265	4.3
4.3	Indenture, dated as of February 1, 1998, between Reliant Energy Resources Corp. and Chase Bank of Texas, National Association, as Trustee	Form 8-K dated February 5, 1998	1-13265	4.1
+4.4	Supplemental Indenture No. 17 to Exhibit 4.3, dated as of March 28, 2018, providing for the issuance of CERC Corp.'s 3.55% Senior Notes due 2023 and 4.00% Senior Notes due 2028			
+12	Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges			
+31.1	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Scott M. Prochazka			
+31.2	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of William D. Rogers			
+32.1	Section 1350 Certification of Scott M. Prochazka			
+32.2	Section 1350 Certification of William D. Rogers			
+101.INS	XBRL Instance Document			
+101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document			
+101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document			
+101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document			
+101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase Document			
+101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document			

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

(formerly known as NorAm Energy Corp.)

To

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A.

(successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association (formerly Chase Bank of Texas, National Association))

Trustee

SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE NO. 17

Dated as of March 28, 2018

\$300,000,000 3.55% Senior Notes due 2023

\$300,000,000 4.00% Senior Notes due 2028

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.
SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE NO. 17

3.55% Senior Notes due 2023
4.00% Senior Notes due 2028

SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE No. 17, dated as of March 28, 2018, between CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., a Delaware corporation formerly known as NorAm Energy Corp. (the “Company”), and THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. (successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association (formerly Chase Bank of Texas, National Association)), as Trustee (the “Trustee”).

RECITALS

The Company has heretofore executed and delivered to the Trustee an Indenture, dated as of February 1, 1998 (the “Original Indenture” and, as previously and hereby supplemented and amended, the “Indenture”), providing for the issuance from time to time of one or more series of the Company’s Securities.

The Company has changed its name from “NorAm Energy Corp.” to “CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.” and all references in the Indenture to the “Company” or “NorAm Energy Corp.” shall be deemed to refer to CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.

Pursuant to the terms of the Indenture, the Company desires to provide for the establishment of two new series of Securities to be designated as the “3.55% Senior Notes due 2023” (the “2023 Notes”) and the “4.00% Senior Notes due 2028” (the “2028 Notes” and, together with the 2023 Notes, the “Notes”), the form and substance of such Notes and the terms, provisions and conditions thereof to be set forth as provided in the Original Indenture and this Supplemental Indenture No. 17.

Section 301 of the Original Indenture provides that various matters with respect to any series of Securities issued under the Indenture may be established in an indenture supplemental to the Indenture.

Subparagraph (7) of Section 901 of the Original Indenture provides that the Company and the Trustee may enter into an indenture supplemental to the Indenture to establish the form or terms of Securities of any series as permitted by Sections 201 and 301 of the Original Indenture.

For and in consideration of the premises and the issuance of the series of Securities provided for herein, it is mutually covenanted and agreed, for the equal and proportionate benefit of the Holders of the Securities of such series, as follows:

ARTICLE ONE

Relation to Indenture; Additional Definitions

Section 101 *Relation to Indenture.* This Supplemental Indenture No. 17 constitutes an integral part of the Original Indenture.

Section 102 *Additional Definitions.* For all purposes of this Supplemental Indenture No. 17:

Capitalized terms used herein shall have the meaning specified herein or in the Original Indenture, as the case may be;

“2023 Notes” has the meaning set forth in the third paragraph of the Recitals hereof;

“2028 Notes” has the meaning set forth in the third paragraph of the Recitals hereof;

“2023 Notes Maturity Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 203 hereof;

“2028 Notes Maturity Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 203 hereof;

“2023 Par Call Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 401 hereof;

“2028 Par Call Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 401 hereof;

“Business Day” means, with respect to any Note, any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which banking institutions in The City of New York are authorized or required by law, regulation or executive order to close. If any Interest Payment Date, Stated Maturity or Redemption Date of a Note falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the required payment will be made on the next succeeding Business Day with the same force and effect as if made on the relevant date that the payment was due and no interest will accrue on such payment for the period from and after the Interest Payment Date, Stated Maturity or Redemption Date, as the case may be, to the date of that payment on the next succeeding Business Day. The definition of “Business Day” in this Supplemental Indenture No. 17 and the provisions described in the preceding sentence shall supersede the definition of Business Day in the Original Indenture and Section 113 of the Original Indenture;

“Capital Lease” means a lease that, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, would be recorded as a capital lease on the balance sheet of the lessee;

“Comparable Treasury Issue” has the meaning set forth in Section 402 hereof;

“Comparable Treasury Price” has the meaning set forth in Section 402 hereof;

“Consolidated Net Tangible Assets” means the total amount of assets of the Company, including the assets of its Subsidiaries, less, without duplication: (a) total current liabilities (excluding indebtedness due within 12 months); (b) all reserves for depreciation and other asset valuation reserves, but excluding reserves for deferred federal income taxes; (c) all intangible assets such as goodwill, trademarks, trade names, patents and unamortized debt discount and expense carried as an asset; and (d) all appropriate adjustments on account of minority interests of other Persons holding common stock of any Subsidiary, all as reflected in the Company’s most recent audited consolidated balance sheet preceding the date of such determination;

“Corporate Trust Office” means the principal office of the Trustee at which at any particular time its corporate trust business shall be administered, which office as of the date hereof is located at: 601 Travis Street, 16th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002, Attention: Global Corporate Trust; telephone: (713) 483-6817; telecopy: (713) 483-7038;

“Equity Interests” means any capital stock, partnership, joint venture, member or limited liability or unlimited liability company interest, beneficial interest in a trust or similar entity or other equity interest or investment of whatever nature;

The term “indebtedness” as applied to the Company or any Subsidiary, means bonds, debentures, notes and other instruments or arrangements representing obligations created or assumed by the Company or any such Subsidiary, including any and all: (i) obligations for money borrowed (other than unamortized debt discount or premium); (ii) obligations evidenced by a note or similar instrument given in connection with the acquisition of any business, properties or assets of any kind; (iii) obligations as lessee under a Capital Lease; and (iv) amendments, renewals, extensions, modifications and refundings of any such indebtedness or obligation listed in clause (i), (ii) or (iii) above. All indebtedness secured by a lien upon property owned by the Company or any Subsidiary and upon which indebtedness the Company or any such Subsidiary customarily pays interest, although the Company or any such Subsidiary has not assumed or become liable for the payment of such indebtedness, shall for all purposes hereof be deemed to be indebtedness of the Company or any such Subsidiary. All indebtedness for borrowed money incurred by other Persons which is directly guaranteed as to payment of principal by the Company or any Subsidiary shall for all purposes hereof be deemed to be indebtedness of the Company or any such Subsidiary, as applicable, but no other contingent obligation of the Company or any such Subsidiary in respect of indebtedness incurred by other Persons shall for any purpose be deemed to be indebtedness of the Company or any such Subsidiary;

“Independent Investment Banker” has the meaning set forth in Section 402 hereof;

“Interest Payment Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 204(a) hereof;

“Issue Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 204(a) hereof;

“lien” means any mortgage, deed of trust, pledge, hypothecation, assignment, deposit arrangement, charge, security interest, encumbrance or lien of any kind whatsoever (including any Capital Lease);

“Non-Recourse Debt” means (i) any indebtedness for borrowed money incurred by any Project Finance Subsidiary to finance the acquisition, improvement, installation, design, engineering, construction, development, completion, maintenance or operation of, or otherwise to pay costs and expenses relating to or providing financing for, any project, which indebtedness for borrowed money does not provide for recourse against the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company (other than a Project Finance Subsidiary and such recourse as exists under a Performance Guaranty) or any property or asset of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company (other than Equity Interests in, or the property or assets of, a Project Finance Subsidiary and such recourse as exists under a Performance Guaranty) and (ii) any refinancing of such indebtedness for borrowed money that does not increase the outstanding principal amount thereof (other than to pay costs incurred in connection therewith and the capitalization of any interest or fees) at the time of the refinancing or increase the property subject to any lien securing such indebtedness for borrowed money or otherwise add additional security or support for such indebtedness for borrowed money;

“Notes” has the meaning set forth in the third paragraph of the Recitals hereof;

“Original Indenture” has the meaning set forth in the first paragraph of the Recitals hereof;

“Par Call Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 401 hereof;

“Performance Guaranty” means any guaranty issued in connection with any Non-Recourse Debt that (i) if secured, is secured only by assets of or Equity Interests in a Project Finance Subsidiary, and (ii) guarantees to the provider of such Non-Recourse Debt or any other person (a) performance of the improvement, installation, design, engineering, construction, acquisition, development, completion, maintenance or operation of, or otherwise affects any such act in respect of, all or any portion of the project that is financed by such Non-Recourse Debt, (b) completion of the minimum agreed equity or other contributions or support to the relevant Project Finance Subsidiary, or (c) performance by a Project Finance Subsidiary of obligations to persons other than the provider of such Non-Recourse Debt;

“Project Finance Subsidiary” means any Subsidiary designated by the Company whose principal purpose is to incur Non-Recourse Debt and/or construct, lease, own or operate the assets financed thereby, or to become a direct or indirect partner, member or other equity participant or owner in a Person created for such purpose, and substantially all the assets of which Subsidiary or Person are limited to (x) those assets being financed (or to be financed), or the operation of which is being financed (or to be financed), in whole or in part by Non-Recourse Debt, or (y) Equity Interests in, or indebtedness or other obligations

of, one or more other such Subsidiaries or Persons, or (z) indebtedness or other obligations of the Company or any Subsidiary or other Persons. At the time of designation of any Project Finance Subsidiary, the sum of the net book value of the assets of such Subsidiary and the net book value of the assets of all other Project Finance Subsidiaries then existing shall not in the aggregate exceed 10 percent of the Consolidated Net Tangible Assets;

“Reference Treasury Dealer” has the meaning set forth in Section 402 hereof;

“Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations” has the meaning set forth in Section 402 hereof;

“Regular Record Date” has the meaning set forth in Section 204(a) hereof;

“Remaining Term” has the meaning set forth in Section 402 hereof;

“Subsidiary” of any entity means any corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, trust or estate of which (or in which) more than 50% of (i) the issued and outstanding capital stock having ordinary voting power to elect a majority of the Board of Directors of such corporation (irrespective of whether at the time capital stock of any other class or classes of such corporation shall or might have voting power upon the occurrence of any contingency), (ii) the interest in the capital or profits of such limited liability company, partnership, joint venture or other entity or (iii) the beneficial interest in such trust or estate is at the time directly or indirectly owned or controlled by such entity, by such entity and one or more of its other subsidiaries or by one or more of such entity’s other subsidiaries;

“Treasury Rate” has the meaning set forth in Section 402 hereof;

All references herein to Articles and Sections, unless otherwise specified, refer to the corresponding Articles and Sections of this Supplemental Indenture No. 17; and

The terms “herein,” “hereof,” “hereunder” and other words of similar import refer to this Supplemental Indenture No. 17.

ARTICLE TWO

The Series of Securities

Section 201 *Title of the Securities.* The 2023 Notes shall be designated as the “3.55% Senior Notes due 2023,” and the 2028 Notes shall be designated as the “4.00% Senior Notes due 2028.”

Section 202 *Limitation on Aggregate Principal Amount.* The Trustee shall authenticate and deliver (i) the 2023 Notes for original issue on the Issue Date in the aggregate principal amount of \$300,000,000 and (ii) the 2028 Notes for original issue on the Issue Date in the aggregate principal amount of \$300,000,000, upon a Company Order for the authentication and delivery thereof and

satisfaction of Sections 301 and 303 of the Original Indenture. Such order shall specify the amount of the Notes to be authenticated, the date on which the original issue of Notes is to be authenticated and the name or names of the initial Holder or Holders. The aggregate principal amount of 2023 Notes and 2028 Notes that may initially be outstanding shall not exceed \$300,000,000 and \$300,000,000, respectively; provided, however, that the authorized aggregate principal amount of either series of the Notes may be increased above such amount by a Board Resolution to such effect.

Section 203 *Stated Maturity*. The Stated Maturity of the 2023 Notes shall be April 1, 2023 (the “2023 Notes Maturity Date”), and the Stated Maturity of the 2028 Notes shall be April 1, 2028 (the “2028 Notes Maturity Date”).

Section 204 *Interest and Interest Rates*.

(a) The 2023 Notes shall bear interest at a rate of 3.55% per year, from and including March 28, 2018 (the “Issue Date”) to, but excluding, the 2023 Notes Maturity Date. The 2028 Notes shall bear interest at a rate of 4.00% per year, from and including the Issue Date to, but excluding, the 2028 Notes Maturity Date. Such interest shall be payable semi-annually in arrears on April 1 and October 1 of each year (each an “Interest Payment Date”), beginning October 1, 2018 to the persons in whose names the Notes (or one or more Predecessor Securities) are registered at the close of business on March 15 and September 15 (each a “Regular Record Date”) (whether or not a Business Day), as the case may be, immediately preceding such Interest Payment Date.

(b) Any such interest not so punctually paid or duly provided for shall forthwith cease to be payable to the Holder on such Regular Record Date and shall either (i) be paid to the Person in whose name such Note (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on the Special Record Date for the payment of such Defaulted Interest to be fixed by the Trustee, notice whereof shall be given to Holders of such Notes not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, or (ii) be paid at any time in any other lawful manner not inconsistent with the requirements of any securities exchange or automated quotation system on which such Notes may be listed or traded, and upon such notice as may be required by such exchange or automated quotation system, all as more fully provided in the Indenture.

(c) The amount of interest payable for any period shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months. The amount of interest payable for any partial period shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months and the days elapsed in any partial month. In the event that any date on which interest is payable on a Note is not a Business Day, then a payment of the interest payable on such date will be made on the next succeeding day which is a Business Day (and without any interest or other payment in respect of any such delay) with the same force and effect as if made on the date the payment was originally payable.

(d) Any principal and premium, if any, and any installment of interest, which is overdue shall bear interest at the rate of 3.55% per annum (to the extent permitted by law), in the case of the 2023 Notes, or 4.00% per annum (to the extent permitted by law), in the case of the 2028 Notes, in each case from the dates such amounts are due until they are paid or made available for payment, and such interest shall be payable on demand.

Section 205 *Paying Agent; Place of Payment.* The Trustee shall initially serve as the Paying Agent for the Notes. The Company may appoint and change any Paying Agent or approve a change in the office through which any Paying Agent acts without notice, other than notice to the Trustee. The Company or any of its Subsidiaries or any of their Affiliates may act as Paying Agent. The Place of Payment where the Notes may be presented or surrendered for payment shall be the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee. At the option of the Company, payment of interest may be made (i) by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the Security Register or (ii) by wire transfer in immediately available funds at such place and to such account as may be designated in writing by the Person entitled thereto as specified in the Security Register.

Section 206 *Place of Registration or Exchange; Notices and Demands With Respect to the Notes.* The place where the Holders of the Notes may present the Notes for registration of transfer or exchange and may make notices and demands to or upon the Company in respect of the Notes shall be the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee.

Section 207 *Percentage of Principal Amount.* The 2023 Notes and 2028 Notes shall be initially issued at 99.782% and 99.942% of their principal amount, respectively, plus accrued interest, if any, from the Issue Date.

Section 208 *Global Securities.* The Notes shall be issuable in whole or in part in the form of one or more Global Securities. Such Global Securities shall be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, which shall act as Depository with respect to the Notes. Such Global Securities shall bear the legends set forth in the forms of Security attached as Exhibit A and Exhibit B hereto.

Section 209 *Form of Securities.* The 2023 Notes shall be substantially in the form attached as Exhibit A hereto and the 2028 Notes shall be substantially in the form attached as Exhibit B hereto.

Section 210 *Securities Registrar.* The Trustee shall initially serve as the Security Registrar for the Notes.

Section 211 *Defeasance and Discharge; Covenant Defeasance.*

(a) Article Fourteen of the Original Indenture, including without limitation Sections 1402 and 1403 thereof (as modified by Section 211(b) hereof), shall apply to each series of Notes.

(b) Solely with respect to each series of Notes issued hereby, the first sentence of Section 1403 of the Original Indenture is hereby deleted in its entirety, and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

“Upon the Company’s exercise of its option (if any) to have this Section 1403 applied to any Securities or any series of Securities, as the case may be, (1) the Company shall

be released from its obligations under Article Eight and under any covenants provided pursuant to Section 301(20), 901(2) or 901(7) for the benefit of the Holders of such Securities, including without limitation, the covenants provided for in Article Three of Supplemental Indenture No. 17 to the Indenture, and (2) the occurrence of any event specified in Sections 501(4) (with respect to Article Eight and to any such covenants provided pursuant to Section 301(20), 901(2) or 901(7)) and 501(7) shall be deemed not to be or result in an Event of Default, in each case with respect to such Securities as provided in this Section 1403 on and after the date the conditions set forth in Section 1404 are satisfied (hereinafter called “Covenant Defeasance”).”

Section 212 *Sinking Fund Obligations*. The Company shall have no obligation to redeem or purchase any Notes pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous requirement or upon the happening of a specified event or at the option of a Holder thereof.

ARTICLE THREE

Additional Covenants

Section 301. *Maintenance of Properties*. The Company shall cause all properties used or useful in the conduct of its business or the business of any Subsidiary to be maintained and kept in good condition, repair and working order and supplied with all necessary equipment and shall cause to be made all necessary repairs, renewals, replacements, betterments and improvements thereof, all as in the judgment of the Company may be necessary so that the business carried on in connection therewith may be properly conducted at all times; provided, however, that nothing in this Section 301 shall prevent the Company from discontinuing the operation or maintenance of any of such properties if such discontinuance is, in the judgment of the Company, desirable in the conduct of its business or the business of any Subsidiary.

Section 302. *Payment of Taxes and Other Claims*. The Company shall pay or discharge or cause to be paid or discharged, before the same shall become delinquent, (1) all taxes, assessments and governmental charges levied or imposed upon the Company or any Subsidiary or upon the income, profits or property of the Company or any Subsidiary, and (2) all lawful claims for labor, materials and supplies which, if unpaid, might by law become a lien upon the property of the Company or any Subsidiary; provided, however, that the Company shall not be required to pay or discharge or cause to be paid or discharged any such tax, assessment, charge or claim whose amount, applicability or validity is being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings.

ARTICLE FOUR

Optional Redemption of the Notes

Section 401 *Redemption Price*. The Notes shall be redeemable, at the option of the Company, at any time and from time to time, in whole or in part, (1) in the case of the 2023 Notes, on any date prior to March 1, 2023 (the “2023 Par Call Date”) and (2) in the case of the 2028 Notes,

on any date prior to January 1, 2028 (the “2028 Par Call Date”; each of the 2028 Par Call Date and the 2023 Par Call Date, a “Par Call Date”), at a price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be redeemed or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the Notes to be redeemed that would be due if such Notes matured on the applicable Par Call Date but for the redemption (not including any portion of such payments of interest accrued to the Redemption Date discounted to the Redemption Date on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the applicable Treasury Rate plus 15 basis points for the 2023 Notes or 20 basis points 2028 Notes, plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed, if any, to, but excluding, the Redemption Date. On or after the 2023 Par Call Date or the 2028 Par Call Date, as applicable, the Company may redeem, at its option, the 2023 Notes or the 2028 Notes, respectively, at any time or from time to time, in whole or in part, by paying 100% of the principal amount of the Notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed, if any, to, but excluding, the Redemption Date. The Trustee shall have no responsibility for the calculation of such amount.

Section 402 *Calculation.* The Treasury Rate will be calculated by the Independent Investment Banker on the third Business Day preceding the Redemption Date. For purposes of this Article Four, the following terms shall mean as follows:

“Treasury Rate” means, with respect to any Redemption Date, the yield calculated on the third Business Day preceding the Redemption Date, as follows: for the latest day that appears in the most recent statistical release published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System designated as “Selected Interest Rates (Daily) - H.15” (or any successor publication) under the caption “Treasury Constant Maturities - Nominal”, the Independent Investment Banker shall select two yields – one for the maturity immediately before and one for the maturity immediately after the remaining maturity of the Notes to be redeemed (assuming the Notes matured on the applicable Par Call Date) – and shall interpolate on a straight-line basis using such yields; if there is no such maturity either before or after, the Independent Investment Banker shall select the maturity closest to the applicable Par Call Date that appears on the release; or if such release (or any successor release) is not published during the week preceding the calculation date or does not contain such yields, the rate per annum equal to the semiannual equivalent yield to maturity of the applicable Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated by the Independent Investment Banker using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such Redemption Date.

“Comparable Treasury Issue” means the U.S. Treasury security selected by an Independent Investment Banker as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term (“Remaining Term”) of the Notes to be redeemed (assuming for this purpose that the Notes matured on the applicable Par Call Date) that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the Remaining Term of such Notes.

“Comparable Treasury Price” means (1) the average of four Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such Redemption Date, after excluding the highest and lowest Reference Treasury

Dealer Quotations, or (2) if the Independent Investment Banker obtains fewer than four such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

“Independent Investment Banker” means one of Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated or MUFG Securities Americas Inc., as specified by the Company, or if these firms are unwilling or unable to select the Comparable Treasury Issue, an independent investment banking institution of national standing appointed by the Company.

“Reference Treasury Dealer” means each of (1) Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and a primary U.S. government securities dealer in the United States of America (a “Primary Treasury Dealer”) designated by MUFG Securities Americas Inc. and their respective affiliates or successors, each of which is a Primary Treasury Dealer, provided, however, that if any of the foregoing shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Company shall substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer and (2) any other Primary Treasury Dealer selected by the Company after consultation with the Independent Investment Banker.

“Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations” means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any Redemption Date, the average, as determined by the Independent Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Independent Investment Banker at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third Business Day preceding such Redemption Date.

Section 403 *Partial Redemption*. If fewer than all of the Notes of a series are to be redeemed by the Company pursuant to this Article Four, not more than 60 days prior to the Redemption Date, the particular Notes or portions thereof for redemption will be selected from the outstanding Notes of such series not previously called by such method as the Trustee deems fair and appropriate. The Trustee may select for redemption Notes and portions of Notes in amounts of \$1,000 or whole multiples of \$1,000. A new Note in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the original Note shall be issued upon the cancellation of the original Note. In the case of a partial redemption of Notes of a series registered in the name of Cede & Co., the Notes to be redeemed will be determined in accordance with the procedures of The Depository Trust Company.

Section 404 *Notice of Optional Redemption*. The Trustee, at the written direction of the Company, will send a notice of redemption prepared by the Company to each holder of Notes to be redeemed by first-class mail (or in accordance with the procedures of The Depository Trust Company with respect to Notes registered in the name of Cede & Co.) at least 15 and not more than 60 days prior to the date fixed for redemption. Unless the Company defaults on payment of the redemption price, interest will cease to accrue on the Notes or portions thereof called for redemption on the Redemption Date. If any Note is to be redeemed in part only, the notice of redemption shall state the portion of the principal amount to be redeemed.

ARTICLE FIVE

Remedies

Section 501 *Additional Event of Default; Acceleration of Maturity.*

(a) Solely with respect to the Notes of each series issued hereby, Section 501(7) of the Original Indenture is hereby deleted in its entirety, and the following is substituted in lieu thereof as an Event of Default in addition to the other events set forth in Section 501 of the Original Indenture:

“(7) the default by the Company or any Subsidiary, other than a Project Finance Subsidiary, in the payment, when due, after the expiration of any applicable grace period, of principal of indebtedness for money borrowed, other than Non-Recourse Debt, in the aggregate principal amount then outstanding of \$125 million or more, or acceleration of any indebtedness for money borrowed in such aggregate principal amount so that it becomes due and payable prior to the date on which it would otherwise have become due and payable and such acceleration is not rescinded or such default is not cured within 30 days after there has been given, by registered or certified mail, to the Company by the Trustee or to the Company and the Trustee by the holders of at least 33% in principal amount of the Notes of such series written notice specifying such default and requiring the Company to cause such acceleration to be rescinded or such default to be cured and stating that such notice is a “Notice of Default” under the Indenture;”.

(b) Solely with respect to the Notes of each series issued hereby, the first paragraph of Section 502 of the Original Indenture is hereby deleted in its entirety, and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

“If an Event of Default (other than an Event of Default specified in Section 501(5) or 501(6)) with respect to the Notes of either series at the time Outstanding occurs and is continuing, then in every such case the Trustee or the Holders of not less than 33% in principal amount of the Notes of such series Outstanding may declare the principal amount of all the Notes of such series to be due and payable immediately, by a notice in writing to the Company (and to the Trustee if given by Holders), and upon any such declaration such principal amount (or specified amount) shall become immediately due and payable. If an Event of Default specified in Section 501(5) or 501(6) with respect to the Notes of such series at the time Outstanding occurs and is continuing, the principal amount of all the Notes of such series shall automatically, and without any declaration or other action on the part of the Trustee or any Holder, become immediately due and payable.”

Section 502 *Amendment of Certain Provisions*. Solely with respect to the Notes of each series issued hereby, references to “25%” in Article Five of the Indenture are hereby deleted in their entirety and “33%” is substituted in lieu thereof.

ARTICLE SIX

Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 601 The Indenture, as supplemented and amended by this Supplemental Indenture No. 17, is in all respects hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed.

Section 602 This Supplemental Indenture No. 17 may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original, but such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same instrument.

Section 603 THIS SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE NO. 17 AND EACH NOTE SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE A CONTRACT MADE UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK WITHOUT REGARD TO CONFLICTS OF LAWS PRINCIPLES THEREOF.

Section 604 If any provision in this Supplemental Indenture No. 17 limits, qualifies or conflicts with another provision hereof which is required to be included herein by any provisions of the Trust Indenture Act, such required provision shall control.

Section 605 In case any provision in this Supplemental Indenture No. 17 or the Notes shall be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Supplemental Indenture No. 17 to be duly executed, as of the day and year first written above.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

By: /s/ Carla A. Kneipp
Carla A. Kneipp
Vice President and Treasurer

Attest

/s/ Vincent A. Mercaldi
Vincent A. Mercaldi
Corporate Secretary

(SEAL)

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST
COMPANY, N.A.,
As Trustee

By: /s/ R. Tarnas
Authorized Signatory

Exhibit A

[FORM OF FACE OF SECURITY]

[IF THIS SECURITY IS TO BE A GLOBAL SECURITY -] THIS SECURITY IS A GLOBAL SECURITY WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE INDENTURE HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AND IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF A DEPOSITARY OR A NOMINEE OF A DEPOSITARY. THIS SECURITY IS EXCHANGEABLE FOR SECURITIES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF A PERSON OTHER THAN THE DEPOSITARY OR ITS NOMINEE ONLY IN THE LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN THE INDENTURE AND MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED EXCEPT AS A WHOLE BY THE DEPOSITARY TO A NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY OR BY A NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY TO THE DEPOSITARY OR ANOTHER NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY.

[FOR AS LONG AS THIS GLOBAL SECURITY IS DEPOSITED WITH OR ON BEHALF OF THE DEPOSITARY TRUST COMPANY IT SHALL BEAR THE FOLLOWING LEGEND.] UNLESS THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITARY TRUST COMPANY, A NEW YORK CORPORATION ("DTC"), TO CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, OR PAYMENT, AND ANY CERTIFICATE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR IN SUCH OTHER NAME AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC (AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO. OR TO SUCH OTHER ENTITY AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE, OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL INASMUCH AS THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

3.55% Senior Notes due 2023

Original Interest Accrual Date: March 28, 2018

Stated Maturity: April 1, 2023

Interest Rate: 3.55%

Interest Payment Dates: April 1 and October 1

Initial Interest Payment Date: October 1, 2018

Regular Record Dates: March 15 and September 15 immediately preceding the applicable Interest Payment Date

Redeemable: Yes [] No []

Redemption Date: At any time.

Redemption Price: 1) On any date prior to March 1, 2023 (the "Par Call Date") at a price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of this Security or the portion hereof to be redeemed or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on this Security, or the portion thereof to be redeemed, that would be due if this Security matured on the Par Call Date but for the redemption (not including any portion of such payments of interest accrued to the Redemption Date) discounted to the Redemption Date on a semiannual basis at the applicable Treasury Rate plus 15 basis points; plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the Redemption Date; or 2) on or after the Par Call Date, at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount of this Security or the portion thereof to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the Redemption Date.

This Security is not an Original Issue Discount Security within the meaning of the within-mentioned Indenture.

Principal Amount

\$ _____¹

Registered No. T-1

CUSIP 15189W AK6

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, formerly known as NorAm Energy Corp. (herein called the "Company," which term includes any successor Person under the Indenture referred to below), for value received, hereby promises to pay to

CEDE & Co.

¹ Reference is made to Schedule A attached hereto with respect to decreases and increases in the aggregate principal amount of Securities evidenced hereby.

, or its registered assigns, the principal sum of DOLLARS on the Stated Maturity specified above, and to pay interest thereon from the Original Interest Accrual Date specified above or from the most recent Interest Payment Date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, semi-annually in arrears on the Interest Payment Dates specified above in each year, commencing on October 1, 2018, and at Maturity, at the Interest Rate per annum specified above, until the principal hereof is paid or made available for payment, *provided* that any principal and premium, and any such installment of interest, which is overdue shall bear interest at the rate of 3.55% per annum (to the extent permitted by applicable law), from the dates such amounts are due until they are paid or made available for payment, and such interest shall be payable on demand. The amount of interest payable for any period shall be computed on the basis of twelve 30-day months and a 360-day year. The amount of interest payable for any partial period shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months and the days elapsed in any partial month. In the event that any date on which interest is payable on this Security is not a Business Day, then a payment of the interest payable on such date will be made on the next succeeding day which is a Business Day (and without any interest or other payment in respect of any such delay) with the same force and effect as if made on the date the payment was originally payable. A "Business Day" shall mean any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which banking institutions in The City of New York are authorized or required by law, regulation or executive order to close. The interest so payable, and punctually paid or duly provided for, on any Interest Payment Date will, as provided in such Indenture, be paid to the Person in whose name this Security (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on the Regular Record Date for such interest, which shall be March 15 or September 15 (whether or not a Business Day), as the case may be, next preceding such Interest Payment Date. Any such interest not so punctually paid or duly provided for shall forthwith cease to be payable to the Holder on such Regular Record Date and shall either be paid to the Person in whose name this Security (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on a Special Record Date for the payment of such Defaulted Interest to be fixed by the Trustee, notice whereof shall be given to Holders of Securities of this series not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, or be paid at any time in any other lawful manner not inconsistent with the requirements of any securities exchange or automated quotation system on which the Securities of this series may be listed or traded, and upon such notice as may be required by such exchange or automated quotation system, all as more fully provided in said Indenture.

Payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and any such interest on this Security will be made at the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts; *provided, however*, that at the option of the Company payment of interest may be made (i) by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the Security Register or (ii) by wire transfer in immediately available funds at such place and to such account as may be designated in writing by the Person entitled thereto as specified in the Security Register.

Reference is hereby made to the further provisions of this Security set forth on the reverse hereof, which further provisions shall for all purposes have the same effect as if set forth at this place.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by the Trustee referred to on the reverse hereof by manual signature, this Security shall not be entitled to any benefit under the Indenture or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be duly executed.

Dated: _____ CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

By: _____

Name: Carla A. Kneipp

Title: Vice President and Treasurer

(SEAL)

Attest:

Name: Vincent A. Mercaldi

Title: Corporate Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This is one of the Securities of the series designated therein referred to in the within-mentioned Indenture.

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A.,
As Trustee

Dated: _____

By:

Authorized Signatory

SCHEDULE A

The initial aggregate principal amount of Securities evidenced by the Certificate to which this Schedule is attached is \$. The notations on the following table evidence decreases and increases in the aggregate principal amount of Securities evidenced by such Certificate.

<u>Date of Adjustment</u>	<u>Decrease in Aggregate Principal Amount of Securities</u>	<u>Increase in Aggregate Principal Amount of Securities</u>	<u>Aggregate Principal Amount of Securities Remaining After Such Decrease or Increase</u>	<u>Notation by Security Registrar</u>
---------------------------	---	---	---	---------------------------------------

[FORM OF REVERSE SIDE OF SECURITY]

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

3.55% NOTES DUE 2023

This Security is one of a duly authorized issue of securities of the Company (herein called the “Securities”), issued and to be issued in one or more series under an Indenture, dated as of February 1, 1998 (herein called the “Indenture,” which term shall have the meaning assigned to it in such instrument), between the Company and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association (formerly Chase Bank of Texas, National Association)), as Trustee (herein called the “Trustee,” which term includes any successor trustee under the Indenture), to which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights, limitations of rights, duties and immunities thereunder of the Company, the Trustee and the Holders of the Securities and of the terms upon which the Securities are, and are to be, authenticated and delivered. This Security is one of the series designated on the face hereof, initially limited in aggregate principal amount to \$300,000,000; *provided, however*, that the authorized aggregate principal amount of the Securities may be increased above such amount by a Board Resolution to such effect.

This Security shall be redeemable, at the option of the Company, at any time or from time to time, in whole or in part, on any date prior to March 1, 2023 (the “Par Call Date”) at a price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of this Security (or the portion hereof to be redeemed) or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the Securities to be redeemed that would be due if this Security (or the portion hereof to be redeemed) matured on the Par Call Date but for the redemption (not including any portion of such payments of interest accrued to the Redemption Date) discounted to the Redemption Date on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the applicable Treasury Rate plus 15 basis points plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed, if any, to, but excluding, the Redemption Date. On or after the Par Call Date, the Company may redeem this Security, at any time or from time to time, in whole or in part, by paying 100% of the principal amount of this Security (or such portion to be redeemed) plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed, if any, to, but excluding, the Redemption Date. The Trustee shall have no responsibility for the calculation of such amount.

The Treasury Rate will be calculated by the Independent Investment Banker on the third Business Day preceding the Redemption Date. For purposes of calculating the Redemption Price, the following terms shall mean as follows:

“Treasury Rate” means, with respect to any Redemption Date, the yield calculated on the third Business Day preceding the Redemption Date, as follows: for the latest day that appears in the most recent statistical release published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System designated as “Selected Interest Rates (Daily) - H.15” (or any successor publication) under the caption “Treasury Constant Maturities - Nominal”, the Independent Investment Banker shall

select two yields – one for the maturity immediately before and one for the maturity immediately after the remaining maturity of this Security (assuming this Security matured on the Par Call Date) – and shall interpolate on a straight-line basis using such yields; if there is no such maturity either before or after, the Independent Investment Banker shall select the maturity closest to the Par Call Date that appears on the release; or if such release (or any successor release) is not published during the week preceding the calculation date or does not contain such yields, the rate per annum equal to the semiannual equivalent yield to maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated by the Independent Investment Banker using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such Redemption Date.

“Comparable Treasury Issue” means the U.S. Treasury security selected by an Independent Investment Banker as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term (“Remaining Term”) of this Security to be redeemed (assuming for this purpose that the Securities matured on the Par Call Date) that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the Remaining Term of this Security.

“Comparable Treasury Price” means (1) the average of four Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such Redemption Date, after excluding the highest and lowest Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (2) if the Independent Investment Banker obtains fewer than four such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

“Independent Investment Banker” means one of Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated or MUFG Securities Americas Inc., as specified by the Company, or if these firms are unwilling or unable to select the Comparable Treasury Issue, an independent investment banking institution of national standing appointed by the Company.

“Reference Treasury Dealer” means each of (1) Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and a primary U.S. government securities dealer in the United States of America (a “Primary Treasury Dealer”) designated by MUFG Securities Americas Inc. and their respective affiliates or successors, each of which is a Primary Treasury Dealer, provided, however, that if any of the foregoing shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Company shall substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer and (2) any other Primary Treasury Dealer selected by the Company after consultation with the Independent Investment Banker.

“Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations” means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any Redemption Date, the average, as determined by the Independent Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Independent Investment Banker at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third Business Day preceding such Redemption Date.

In the event of redemption of this Security in part only, a new Security or Securities of this series and of like tenor for the unredeemed portion hereof will be issued in the name of the Holder hereof upon the cancellation hereof.

The Securities of this series are not entitled to the benefit of any sinking fund.

The Indenture contains provisions for satisfaction and discharge of the entire indebtedness of this Security upon compliance by the Company with certain conditions set forth in the Indenture.

The Indenture contains provisions for defeasance at any time of the entire indebtedness of this Security or certain restrictive covenants and Events of Default with respect to this Security, in each case upon compliance with certain conditions set forth in the Indenture.

If an Event of Default with respect to Securities of this series shall occur and be continuing, the principal of the Securities of this series may be declared due and payable in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

The Indenture permits, with certain exceptions as therein provided, the amendment thereof and the modification of the rights and obligations of the Company and the rights of the Holders of the Securities of each series to be affected under the Indenture at any time by the Company and the Trustee with the consent of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the Securities at the time Outstanding of each series to be affected. The Indenture also contains provisions permitting the Holders of specified percentages in principal amount of the Securities of each series at the time Outstanding, on behalf of the Holders of all Securities of such series, to waive compliance by the Company with certain provisions of the Indenture and certain past defaults under the Indenture and their consequences. Any such consent or waiver by the Holder of this Security shall be conclusive and binding upon such Holder and upon all future Holders of this Security and of any Security issued upon the registration of transfer hereof or in exchange herefor or in lieu hereof, whether or not notation of such consent or waiver is made upon this Security.

As provided in and subject to the provisions of the Indenture, the Holder of this Security shall not have the right to institute any proceeding with respect to the Indenture or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee or for any other remedy thereunder, unless such Holder shall have previously given the Trustee written notice of a continuing Event of Default with respect to the Securities of this series, the Holders of not less than 33% in principal amount of the Securities of this series at the time Outstanding shall have made written request to the Trustee to institute proceedings in respect of such Event of Default as Trustee and offered the Trustee reasonable indemnity, and the Trustee shall not have received from the Holders of a majority in principal amount of Securities of this series at the time Outstanding a direction inconsistent with such request, and shall have failed to institute any such proceeding, for 60 days after receipt of such notice, request and offer of indemnity. The foregoing shall not apply to any suit instituted by the Holder of this Security for the enforcement of any payment of principal hereof or any premium or interest hereon on or after the respective due dates expressed herein.

No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Security or of the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Company, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and any premium and interest on this Security at the times, place and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, the transfer of this Security is registrable in the Security Register, upon surrender of this Security for registration of transfer at the office or agency of the Company in any place where the principal of and any premium and interest on this Security are payable, duly endorsed by, or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company and the Security Registrar duly executed by the Holder hereof or his attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon one or more new Securities of this series and of like tenor, of authorized denominations and for the same aggregate principal amount, will be issued to the designated transferee or transferees. No service charge shall be made for any such registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Prior to due presentment of this Security for registration of transfer, the Company, the Trustee and any agent of the Company or the Trustee may treat the Person in whose name this Security is registered as the owner hereof for all purposes, whether or not this Security be overdue, and neither the Company, the Trustee nor any such agent shall be affected by notice to the contrary.

The Securities of this series are issuable only in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof. As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, Securities of this series are exchangeable for a like aggregate principal amount of Securities of this series and of like tenor of a different authorized denomination, as requested by the Holder surrendering the same.

All terms used in this Security which are defined in the Indenture shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indenture.

THE INDENTURE AND THIS SECURITY SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK WITHOUT REGARD TO CONFLICTS OF LAWS PRINCIPLES THEREOF.

Exhibit B

[FORM OF FACE OF SECURITY]

[IF THIS SECURITY IS TO BE A GLOBAL SECURITY -] THIS SECURITY IS A GLOBAL SECURITY WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE INDENTURE HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AND IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF A DEPOSITARY OR A NOMINEE OF A DEPOSITARY. THIS SECURITY IS EXCHANGEABLE FOR SECURITIES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF A PERSON OTHER THAN THE DEPOSITARY OR ITS NOMINEE ONLY IN THE LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED IN THE INDENTURE AND MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED EXCEPT AS A WHOLE BY THE DEPOSITARY TO A NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY OR BY A NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY TO THE DEPOSITARY OR ANOTHER NOMINEE OF THE DEPOSITARY.

[FOR AS LONG AS THIS GLOBAL SECURITY IS DEPOSITED WITH OR ON BEHALF OF THE DEPOSITARY TRUST COMPANY IT SHALL BEAR THE FOLLOWING LEGEND.] UNLESS THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITARY TRUST COMPANY, A NEW YORK CORPORATION ("DTC"), TO CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE, OR PAYMENT, AND ANY CERTIFICATE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR IN SUCH OTHER NAME AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC (AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO. OR TO SUCH OTHER ENTITY AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE, OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL INASMUCH AS THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

4.00% Senior Notes due 2028

Original Interest Accrual Date: March 28, 2018

Stated Maturity: April 1, 2028

Interest Rate: 4.00%

Interest Payment Dates: April 1 and October 1

Initial Interest Payment Date: October 1, 2018

Regular Record Dates: March 15 and September 15 immediately preceding the applicable Interest Payment Date

Redeemable: Yes No

Redemption Date: At any time.

Redemption Price: 1) On any date prior to January 1, 2028 (the "Par Call Date") at a price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of this Security or the portion hereof to be redeemed or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on this Security, or the portion thereof to be redeemed, that would be due if this Security matured on the Par Call Date but for the redemption (not including any portion of such payments of interest accrued to the Redemption Date) discounted to the Redemption Date on a semiannual basis at the applicable Treasury Rate plus 20 basis points; plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the Redemption Date; or 2) on or after the Par Call Date, at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount of this Security or the portion thereof to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the Redemption Date.

This Security is not an Original Issue Discount Security within the meaning of the within-mentioned Indenture.

Principal Amount

\$ _____ †

Registered No. T-1

CUSIP 15189W AL4

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, formerly known as NorAm Energy Corp. (herein called the "Company," which term includes any successor Person under the Indenture referred to below), for value received, hereby promises to pay to

CEDE & Co.

†Reference is made to Schedule A attached hereto with respect to decreases and increases in the aggregate principal amount of Securities evidenced hereby.

, or its registered assigns, the principal sum of DOLLARS on the Stated Maturity specified above, and to pay interest thereon from the Original Interest Accrual Date specified above or from the most recent Interest Payment Date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, semi-annually in arrears on the Interest Payment Dates specified above in each year, commencing on October 1, 2018, and at Maturity, at the Interest Rate per annum specified above, until the principal hereof is paid or made available for payment, *provided* that any principal and premium, and any such installment of interest, which is overdue shall bear interest at the rate of 4.00% per annum (to the extent permitted by applicable law), from the dates such amounts are due until they are paid or made available for payment, and such interest shall be payable on demand. The amount of interest payable for any period shall be computed on the basis of twelve 30-day months and a 360-day year. The amount of interest payable for any partial period shall be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months and the days elapsed in any partial month. In the event that any date on which interest is payable on this Security is not a Business Day, then a payment of the interest payable on such date will be made on the next succeeding day which is a Business Day (and without any interest or other payment in respect of any such delay) with the same force and effect as if made on the date the payment was originally payable. A "Business Day" shall mean any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or a day on which banking institutions in The City of New York are authorized or required by law, regulation or executive order to close. The interest so payable, and punctually paid or duly provided for, on any Interest Payment Date will, as provided in such Indenture, be paid to the Person in whose name this Security (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on the Regular Record Date for such interest, which shall be March 15 or September 15 (whether or not a Business Day), as the case may be, next preceding such Interest Payment Date. Any such interest not so punctually paid or duly provided for shall forthwith cease to be payable to the Holder on such Regular Record Date and shall either be paid to the Person in whose name this Security (or one or more Predecessor Securities) is registered at the close of business on a Special Record Date for the payment of such Defaulted Interest to be fixed by the Trustee, notice whereof shall be given to Holders of Securities of this series not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, or be paid at any time in any other lawful manner not inconsistent with the requirements of any securities exchange or automated quotation system on which the Securities of this series may be listed or traded, and upon such notice as may be required by such exchange or automated quotation system, all as more fully provided in said Indenture.

Payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and any such interest on this Security will be made at the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts; *provided, however*, that at the option of the Company payment of interest may be made (i) by check mailed to the address of the Person entitled thereto as such address shall appear in the Security Register or (ii) by wire transfer in immediately available funds at such place and to such account as may be designated in writing by the Person entitled thereto as specified in the Security Register.

Reference is hereby made to the further provisions of this Security set forth on the reverse hereof, which further provisions shall for all purposes have the same effect as if set forth at this place.

Unless the certificate of authentication hereon has been executed by the Trustee referred to on the reverse hereof by manual signature, this Security shall not be entitled to any benefit under the Indenture or be valid or obligatory for any purpose.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be duly executed.

Dated: _____ CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

By: _____

Name: Carla A. Kneipp

Title: Vice President and Treasurer

(SEAL)

Attest:

Name: Vincent A. Mercaldi

Title: Corporate Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This is one of the Securities of the series designated therein referred to in the within-mentioned Indenture.

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A.,
As Trustee

Dated: _____

By:

Authorized Signatory

SCHEDULE A

The initial aggregate principal amount of Securities evidenced by the Certificate to which this Schedule is attached is \$. The notations on the following table evidence decreases and increases in the aggregate principal amount of Securities evidenced by such Certificate.

<u>Date of Adjustment</u>	<u>Decrease in Aggregate Principal Amount of Securities</u>	<u>Increase in Aggregate Principal Amount of Securities</u>	<u>Aggregate Principal Amount of Securities Remaining After Such Decrease or Increase</u>	<u>Notation by Security Registrar</u>
---------------------------	---	---	---	---------------------------------------

[FORM OF REVERSE SIDE OF SECURITY]

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP.

4.00% NOTES DUE 2028

This Security is one of a duly authorized issue of securities of the Company (herein called the “Securities”), issued and to be issued in one or more series under an Indenture, dated as of February 1, 1998 (herein called the “Indenture,” which term shall have the meaning assigned to it in such instrument), between the Company and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association (formerly Chase Bank of Texas, National Association)), as Trustee (herein called the “Trustee,” which term includes any successor trustee under the Indenture), to which Indenture and all indentures supplemental thereto reference is hereby made for a statement of the respective rights, limitations of rights, duties and immunities thereunder of the Company, the Trustee and the Holders of the Securities and of the terms upon which the Securities are, and are to be, authenticated and delivered. This Security is one of the series designated on the face hereof, initially limited in aggregate principal amount to \$300,000,000; *provided, however*, that the authorized aggregate principal amount of the Securities may be increased above such amount by a Board Resolution to such effect.

This Security shall be redeemable, at the option of the Company, at any time or from time to time, in whole or in part, on any date prior to January 1, 2028 (the “Par Call Date”) at a price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of this Security (or the portion hereof to be redeemed) or (ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the Securities to be redeemed that would be due if this Security (or the portion hereof to be redeemed) matured on the Par Call Date but for the redemption (not including any portion of such payments of interest accrued to the Redemption Date) discounted to the Redemption Date on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the applicable Treasury Rate plus 20 basis points plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed, if any, to, but excluding, the Redemption Date. On or after the Par Call Date, the Company may redeem this Security, at any time or from time to time, in whole or in part, by paying 100% of the principal amount of this Security (or such portion to be redeemed) plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed, if any, to, but excluding, the Redemption Date. The Trustee shall have no responsibility for the calculation of such amount.

The Treasury Rate will be calculated by the Independent Investment Banker on the third Business Day preceding the Redemption Date. For purposes of calculating the Redemption Price, the following terms shall mean as follows:

“Treasury Rate” means, with respect to any Redemption Date, the yield calculated on the third Business Day preceding the Redemption Date, as follows: for the latest day that appears in the most recent statistical release published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System designated as “Selected Interest Rates (Daily) - H.15” (or any successor publication) under the caption “Treasury Constant Maturities - Nominal”, the Independent Investment Banker shall

select two yields – one for the maturity immediately before and one for the maturity immediately after the remaining maturity of this Security (assuming this Security matured on the Par Call Date) – and shall interpolate on a straight-line basis using such yields; if there is no such maturity either before or after, the Independent Investment Banker shall select the maturity closest to the Par Call Date that appears on the release; or if such release (or any successor release) is not published during the week preceding the calculation date or does not contain such yields, the rate per annum equal to the semiannual equivalent yield to maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated by the Independent Investment Banker using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such Redemption Date.

“Comparable Treasury Issue” means the U.S. Treasury security selected by an Independent Investment Banker as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term (“Remaining Term”) of this Security to be redeemed (assuming for this purpose that the Securities matured on the Par Call Date) that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the Remaining Term of this Security.

“Comparable Treasury Price” means (1) the average of four Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such Redemption Date, after excluding the highest and lowest Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (2) if the Independent Investment Banker obtains fewer than four such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

“Independent Investment Banker” means one of Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated or MUFG Securities Americas Inc., as specified by the Company, or if these firms are unwilling or unable to select the Comparable Treasury Issue, an independent investment banking institution of national standing appointed by the Company.

“Reference Treasury Dealer” means each of (1) Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and a primary U.S. government securities dealer in the United States of America (a “Primary Treasury Dealer”) designated by MUFG Securities Americas Inc. and their respective affiliates or successors, each of which is a Primary Treasury Dealer, provided, however, that if any of the foregoing shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Company shall substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer and (2) any other Primary Treasury Dealer selected by the Company after consultation with the Independent Investment Banker.

“Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations” means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any Redemption Date, the average, as determined by the Independent Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Independent Investment Banker at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third Business Day preceding such Redemption Date.

In the event of redemption of this Security in part only, a new Security or Securities of this series and of like tenor for the unredeemed portion hereof will be issued in the name of the Holder hereof upon the cancellation hereof.

The Securities of this series are not entitled to the benefit of any sinking fund.

The Indenture contains provisions for satisfaction and discharge of the entire indebtedness of this Security upon compliance by the Company with certain conditions set forth in the Indenture.

The Indenture contains provisions for defeasance at any time of the entire indebtedness of this Security or certain restrictive covenants and Events of Default with respect to this Security, in each case upon compliance with certain conditions set forth in the Indenture.

If an Event of Default with respect to Securities of this series shall occur and be continuing, the principal of the Securities of this series may be declared due and payable in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

The Indenture permits, with certain exceptions as therein provided, the amendment thereof and the modification of the rights and obligations of the Company and the rights of the Holders of the Securities of each series to be affected under the Indenture at any time by the Company and the Trustee with the consent of the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the Securities at the time Outstanding of each series to be affected. The Indenture also contains provisions permitting the Holders of specified percentages in principal amount of the Securities of each series at the time Outstanding, on behalf of the Holders of all Securities of such series, to waive compliance by the Company with certain provisions of the Indenture and certain past defaults under the Indenture and their consequences. Any such consent or waiver by the Holder of this Security shall be conclusive and binding upon such Holder and upon all future Holders of this Security and of any Security issued upon the registration of transfer hereof or in exchange herefor or in lieu hereof, whether or not notation of such consent or waiver is made upon this Security.

As provided in and subject to the provisions of the Indenture, the Holder of this Security shall not have the right to institute any proceeding with respect to the Indenture or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee or for any other remedy thereunder, unless such Holder shall have previously given the Trustee written notice of a continuing Event of Default with respect to the Securities of this series, the Holders of not less than 33% in principal amount of the Securities of this series at the time Outstanding shall have made written request to the Trustee to institute proceedings in respect of such Event of Default as Trustee and offered the Trustee reasonable indemnity, and the Trustee shall not have received from the Holders of a majority in principal amount of Securities of this series at the time Outstanding a direction inconsistent with such request, and shall have failed to institute any such proceeding, for 60 days after receipt of such notice, request and offer of indemnity. The foregoing shall not apply to any suit instituted by the Holder of this Security for the enforcement of any payment of principal hereof or any premium or interest hereon on or after the respective due dates expressed herein.

No reference herein to the Indenture and no provision of this Security or of the Indenture shall alter or impair the obligation of the Company, which is absolute and unconditional, to pay the principal of and any premium and interest on this Security at the times, place and rate, and in the coin or currency, herein prescribed.

As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, the transfer of this Security is registrable in the Security Register, upon surrender of this Security for registration of transfer at the office or agency of the Company in any place where the principal of and any premium and interest on this Security are payable, duly endorsed by, or accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company and the Security Registrar duly executed by the Holder hereof or his attorney duly authorized in writing, and thereupon one or more new Securities of this series and of like tenor, of authorized denominations and for the same aggregate principal amount, will be issued to the designated transferee or transferees. No service charge shall be made for any such registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith.

Prior to due presentment of this Security for registration of transfer, the Company, the Trustee and any agent of the Company or the Trustee may treat the Person in whose name this Security is registered as the owner hereof for all purposes, whether or not this Security be overdue, and neither the Company, the Trustee nor any such agent shall be affected by notice to the contrary.

The Securities of this series are issuable only in registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof. As provided in the Indenture and subject to certain limitations therein set forth, Securities of this series are exchangeable for a like aggregate principal amount of Securities of this series and of like tenor of a different authorized denomination, as requested by the Holder surrendering the same.

All terms used in this Security which are defined in the Indenture shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indenture.

THE INDENTURE AND THIS SECURITY SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK WITHOUT REGARD TO CONFLICTS OF LAWS PRINCIPLES THEREOF.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES
(An Indirect, Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.)

COMPUTATION OF RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2018	2017
	(in millions, except ratios)	
Net income	\$ 130	\$ 147
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates, net of distributions	5	2
Income tax expense	37	90
Capitalized interest	—	(1)
	<u>172</u>	<u>238</u>
Fixed charges, as defined:		
Interest	29	29
Capitalized interest	—	1
Interest component of rentals charged to operating expense	1	1
Total fixed charges	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>
Earnings, as defined	<u>\$ 202</u>	<u>\$ 269</u>
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	<u>6.73</u>	<u>8.68</u>

CERTIFICATIONS

I, Scott M. Prochazka, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 4, 2018

/s/ Scott M. Prochazka

Scott M. Prochazka

President and Chief Executive Officer

CERTIFICATIONS

I, William D. Rogers, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 4, 2018

/s/ William D. Rogers

William D. Rogers

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2018 (the "Report"), as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof, I, Scott M. Prochazka, Chief Executive Officer, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to the best of my knowledge, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Scott M. Prochazka

Scott M. Prochazka

President and Chief Executive Officer

May 4, 2018

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2018 (the "Report"), as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof, I, William D. Rogers, Chief Financial Officer, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to the best of my knowledge, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ William D. Rogers

William D. Rogers

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

May 4, 2018