FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

**OMB APPROVAL** 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Harkel-Rumford Lynne Louise						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]								(Chec	k all app Direc	licable)		rson(s) to Is 10% O Other (:	wner
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1111 LOUISIANA					3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 07/28/2020								X	belov	below)  SVP and Chi		below)	·	
(Street) HOUSTON TX (City) (State) (Zip)				4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Indi Line) X	·						
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transact Date (Month/Date					Execution Da					es Acquired (A) Of (D) (Instr. 3,			5. Amo Securit Benefic Owned Report	ies cially Following	Forn (D) c	n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
									Code	v	Amount	nount (A) or (D)		rice	Transa	ction(s) 3 and 4)			(11341.4)
Common Stock 07/28/2					2020	020			A		2,605 <sup>(1)</sup> A		\ \	\$0.00	29,020(2)			D	
	Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)																		
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deer Execution if any (Month/I					vative irities ired r osed ) r. 3, 4	6. Date Expirati (Month/	ion Da		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		De Se (In	Price of rivative curity str. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficiall Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	у	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercis	able	Expiration Date	Title	or Numb of Share	er					

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Time-based restricted stock units ("RSUs") vesting (i) in February 2023 if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the vesting date; (ii) in the event of her earlier disability or death; or (iii) on a pro-rata basis upon her earlier retirement unless she satisfies various conditions for full vesting.
- 2. Total includes (i) 1,466 time-based restricted stock units ("RSUs") previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan (the "Plan") and vesting in February 2021, (ii) 1,297 RSUs previously awarded under the Plan and vesting in February 2022, and (iii) 1,597 RSUs previously awarded under the Plan and vesting in February 2023. The above awards shall vest (i) if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from grant date through vesting date and (ii) in the event of her disability or death. Also, the above awards shall vest on a pro-rata basis in the event of her retirement unless she satisfies various conditions for full vesting.

## Remarks:

Vincent A. Mercaldi, Attorney-in-Fact

07/30/2020

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.