#### STANDISH THOMAS R

Form 4

November 12, 2010

Section 16.

Form 4 or

#### **OMB APPROVAL** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION **OMB** Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box Expires: if no longer subject to Estimated average

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES** 

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

Symbol

1(b).

Stock

(Print or Type Responses)

STANDISH THOMAS R

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*

			CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [CNP]					NC	(Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 11/11/2010						Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify below)  Sr. VP and Group Pres				
				Filed(Month/Day/Year)					6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person			
HOUSTON, TX 77002									Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned											
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Dat (Month/Day/Year)		Date, if	3. Transact Code (Instr. 8)	)	4. Securition Dispose (Instr. 3, 4)	ed of (		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	11/11/2010			M		54,106	A	\$ 6.4378	8 172,756	D		
Common Stock	11/11/2010			S		54,106	D	\$ 16.5196	118,650	D		
Common Stock									23,067	I	By Savings Plan (1)	
Common Stock									14,867	I	By Estate	
Common Stock									1,450	I	By Spouse (2)	

Spouse (2)

3235-0287

January 31,

burden hours per

response...

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

2005

0.5

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 6.4378	11/11/2010		M	54,106	(3)	03/04/2012	Common Stock	54,106

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

STANDISH THOMAS R 1111 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002

Sr. VP and Group Pres

## **Signatures**

Thomas R. Standish 11/11/2010

\*\*Signature of Date
Reporting Person

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- \* 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).
- (1) Equivalent Shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan as of 11/01/2010.
- (2) The filing of this Form 4 shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is, for purposes of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the beneficial owner of such equity securities.
- (3) Stock options totaling 54,106 vested in three equal installments on March 5, 2003, 2004 and 2005.
- (4) Price is not applicable.

Reporting Owners 2

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Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.