MCCLANAHAN DAVID M

Form 4 March 02, 2012

FORM 4

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

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

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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * MCCLANAHAN DAVID M			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [CNP]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
(Last) 1111 LOUISIA	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/29/2012	X Director 10% Owner Selective title Other (specify below) President and CEO
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original 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

HOUSTON, 1X //002			Person							
(City)	(State)	(Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned								
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	orDisposed o (Instr. 3, 4	f (D) and 5) (A) or		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	02/29/2012		Code V A	Amount 168,879 (1)	(D)	Price (2)	895,240	D		
Common Stock	02/29/2012		F	61,419	D	\$ 19.19	833,821	D		
Common Stock	03/02/2012		M	103,377	A	\$ 6.4378	937,198	D		
Common Stock	03/02/2012		S	103,377	D	\$ 19.3141 (3)	833,821	D		
Common Stock							39,197	I	By Savings	

Plan (4)

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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of onDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) or (D)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 6.4378	03/02/2012		M	103,377	<u>(5)</u>	03/04/2012	Common Stock	103,37

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
Fg	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
MCCLANAHAN DAVID M 1111 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002	X		President and CEO				

Signatures

David M.

McClanahan 03/02/2012

**Signature of Person 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) Award of performance shares for 2009-2011 performance cycle.
- (2) Price is not applicable.
- (3) The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$19.26 to \$19.35, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to CenterPoint Energy, Inc., any security holder of CenterPoint Energy,

Reporting Owners 2

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Inc., or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the range set forth in this footnote.

- (4) Equivalent Shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan as of 02/01/2012.
- (5) Options from a 2002 grant which vested in three equal installments on March 5, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

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.