CARROLL MILTON

Form 4 April 30, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

Check this box

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

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [CNP]				5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)		(Month/I	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/26/2012			_X Director Officer (gives		6 Owner eer (specify	
HOUSTON,		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 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State) (Z	Zip) Tab	le I - Non-D	erivative S	Securi	ties Ac	quired, Disposed	of, or Beneficia	lly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code		d (A) o))	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	04/26/2012		A	5,000 (1)	A	(2)	115,333 (3) (4)	D	

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

Persons who respond to the collection of **SEC 1474** information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Titl	e and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	onNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	•				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						·
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Exercisable	Date		Number		
				~	<i>(</i> 1) (5)				of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
FB	Director	10% Owner	Officer Other				
CARROLL MILTON							
1111 LOUISIANA	X						
HOUSTON, TX 77002							

Signatures

Richard B. Dauphin, Attorney in Fact 04/30/2012

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

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).
- Time-based restricted stock awarded under the Stock Plan for Outside Directors, as amended, to outside directors then in office as of May (1) 1, 2012. Shares will vest on the first anniversary of the Annual Award Date if the reporting person is a director of the Company through such date; provided however, the shares become fully vested in the event of a change of control of issuer.
- (2) Price is not applicable.
- Includes 1,333 shares of time-based restricted stock awarded in 2009 that will vest on May 1, 2012; and 4,000 shares of time-based (3) restricted stock awarded in 2011 that will vest on May 2, 2012 if the reporting person is a director of Issuer through such dates; provided however, the shares become fully vested in the event of a change of control of issuer.
- Includes 25,000 shares of common stock that may be issued on June 1, 2012 at the election of the reporting person in lieu of a cash award equal to the product of (i) 25,000 and (ii) the closing price per share of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s common stock on the consolidated reporting system for the New York Stock Exchange on the award date in connection with his compensation arrangement as non-executive chairman of the board of the company.

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.

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