#### CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC

Form 4

February 26, 2016

### FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB Number:

3235-0287

0.5

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average

burden hours per response...

**OMB APPROVAL** 

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

Check this box

obligations may continue. See Instruction

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)

1. Name and Ad O'Brien Dana	•	rting Person *	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [CNP]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1111 LOUISIANA		(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/24/2016	Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specifical below) SVP, Gen Counsel, Corp Sec			
HOUSTON,	(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 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acq	quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owner			

(City)	(State)	Table Table	e I - Non-D	erivative	Secur	ities Acq	uired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned	
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securi	ties A	cquired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of	
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	on(A) or Di	ispose	d of (D)	Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial	
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)				Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership	
							Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)	
					(4)		Reported			
					(A)		Transaction(s)			
			Code V	Amount	or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)			
Common Stock	02/24/2016		A	9,719 (1)	A	\$ 18.86	21,089 (2)	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 Exer	cisable and	7. Titl	le and	8. Price of	9. Nu
D	erivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	onNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	ınt of	Derivative	Deriv
S	ecurity	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secui
(I	nstr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Secur	ities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
		Derivative				Securities	3		(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	Title	Number		
							Lacicisable	Date		of		
					Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

O'Brien Dana C. 1111 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002

SVP, Gen Counsel, Corp Sec

## **Signatures**

Vincent A. Mercaldi, Attorney-in-Fact

\*\*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).
- (1) Time-based restricted stock units vesting in February 2019 if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the vesting date and on a pro-rata basis in the event of her earlier retirement, disability or death.
- Total includes (i) 4,910 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2017 and (ii) 6,460 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2018. Each award shall vest if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the vesting date and on a pro-rata basis in the event of her earlier retirement, disability or death.

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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