

CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC
 Form 4
 September 22, 2006

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 CARROLL MILTON

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 09/20/2006

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

1111 LOUISIANA

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

HOUSTON, TX 77002

(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)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	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)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code	V	Amount	
Common Stock	09/20/2006		S	11,000	D	\$ 13.86	86,000 ⁽¹⁾ D
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S	1,600	D	\$ 13.9	84,400 ⁽¹⁾ D
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S	1,400	D	\$ 13.89	83,000 ⁽¹⁾ D
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S	6,000	D	\$ 13.88	77,000 ⁽¹⁾ D

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

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 control number. 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative 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)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 6)
--	--	--------------------------------------	--	--------------------------------	---	--	---	--	--

Reporting Owners

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

Signatures

Richard B. Dauphin, Attorney
in Fact 09/22/2006
**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).
Includes 20,000 shares of common stock that may be issued on October 1, 2006 at the election of Mr. Carroll in lieu of a cash award equal to the product of (i) 20,000 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. Also includes 1,000 shares of time based restricted stock awarded in 2004 that will vest on July 1, 2007; 2,000 shares of time based restricted stock awarded in 2005 that will vest in one-half increments on July 1, 2007 and July 1, 2008; and 3,000 shares of time based restricted stock awarded in 2006 that will vest in one-third increments on June 1, 2007, June 1, 2008 and June 1, 2009 if Mr. Carroll 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.

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.