CARROLL MILTON

Form 4 April 29, 2013

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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

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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 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) 04/25/2013 | _X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below) | | | |
| HOUSTON, | (Street) TX 77002 | | 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) 1.Title of | (State) 2. Transaction | (Zip) Date 2A. Dee | | equired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of | | | |

| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | | 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | 4. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---|--------|---|------------------|------------|--|--|---|
| | | | Code V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | |
| Common Stock | 04/25/2013 | | A | 5,000 (1) | A | <u>(2)</u> | 45,333 (3) | D | |
| Common Stock | 04/25/2013 | | A | 75,000 (4) | A | <u>(2)</u> | 120,333 | D | |

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

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

| 1. Title o | of 2. | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 5. | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Titl | le and | 8. Price of | 9. Nu |
|------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------|--------------|-------------|--------|
| Derivativ | ve Conversion | (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if | Transaction | orNumber | Expiration D | ate | Amou | ınt of | Derivative | Deriv |
| Security | or Exercise | | any | Code | of | (Month/Day/ | Year) | Under | rlying | Security | Secui |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Derivative | e | | Secur | rities | (Instr. 5) | Bene |
| | Derivative | | | | Securities | | | (Instr. | . 3 and 4) | | Own |
| | Security | | | | Acquired | | | | | | Follo |
| | • | | | | (A) or | | | | | | Repo |
| | | | | | Disposed | | | | | | Trans |
| | | | | | of (D) | | | | | | (Instr |
| | | | | | (Instr. 3, | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 4, and 5) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | A | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Amount | | |
| | | | | | | Date | Expiration | T:41- | or Namel | | |
| | | | | | | Exercisable | Date | Title | Number | | |
| | | | | C-1- V | (A) (D) | | | | of Shares | | |
| | | | | Code V | (A) (I)) | | | | Snares | | |

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

04/29/2013 Date

**Signature of 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).
- Time-based stock unit award under the Long Term Incentive Plan effective as of May 1, 2013. Shares will vest on the first anniversary of (1) the grant 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 5,000 shares of time-based restricted stock awarded in 2012 that will vest on May 1, 2013 if the reporting person is a director of Issuer through such date; provided however, the shares become fully vested in the event of a change of control of issuer.

Shares awarded in connection with Mr. Carroll's compensation arrangements for service as chairman of the board of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Mr. Carroll was granted a cash award on each of June 1, 2013, June 1, 2014 and June 1, 2015, in an amount equal to the product of

(i) 25,000 and (ii) the closing price per share of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s common stock (the "Common Stock") on the consolidated reporting system for the New York Stock Exchange on the award date, with each award contingent on his continued service as chairman of the board on the respective award date. At Mr. Carroll's option, he may elect to receive 25,000 shares of Common Stock in lieu of any such cash award.

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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