

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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM _____ TO _____.

Commission file number 1-3187

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

22-3865106

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1111 Louisiana

Houston, Texas 77002

(Address and zip code of principal executive offices)

(713) 207-1111

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC meets the conditions set forth in General Instruction H(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-Q and is therefore filing this Form 10-Q with the reduced disclosure format.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of May 1, 2007, all 1,000 common shares of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC were held by Utility Holding, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

From time to time we make statements concerning our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance and underlying assumptions and other statements that are not historical facts. These statements are “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements. You can generally identify our forward-looking statements by the words “anticipate,” “believe,” “continue,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “forecast,” “goal,” “intend,” “may,” “objective,” “plan,” “potential,” “predict,” “projection,” “should,” “will,” or other similar words.

We have based our forward-looking statements on our management’s beliefs and assumptions based on information available to our management at the time the statements are made. We caution you that assumptions, beliefs, expectations, intentions and projections about future events may and often do vary materially from actual results. Therefore, we cannot assure you that actual results will not differ materially from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements.

The following are some of the factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in forward-looking statements:

- the timing and amount of our recovery of the true-up components, including, in particular, the results of appeals to the courts of determinations on rulings obtained to date;
- state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments, including deregulation, re-regulation, changes in or application of laws or regulations applicable to the various aspects of our business;
- timely and appropriate rate actions and increases, allowing recovery of costs and a reasonable return on investment;
- industrial, commercial and residential growth in our service territory and changes in market demand and demographic patterns;
- changes in interest rates or rates of inflation;
- weather variations and other natural phenomena;
- commercial bank and financial market conditions, our access to capital, the cost of such capital, and the results of our financing and refinancing efforts, including availability of funds in the debt capital markets;
- actions by rating agencies;
- non-payment for our services due to financial distress of our customers, including Reliant Energy, Inc. (RRI);
- the ability of RRI to satisfy its obligations to us, including indemnity obligations;
- the outcome of litigation brought by or against us;
- our ability to control costs;
- the investment performance of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.’s employee benefit plans;
- our potential business strategies, including acquisitions or dispositions of assets or businesses, which we cannot assure will be completed or will have the anticipated benefits to us; and
- other factors we discuss in “Risk Factors” in Item 1A of Part I of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, which is incorporated herein by reference, and other reports we file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of the particular statement.

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED INCOME
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2007
Revenues	\$ 385	\$ 406
Expenses:		
Operation and maintenance	135	155
Depreciation and amortization	84	90
Taxes other than income taxes	56	57
Total	<u>275</u>	<u>302</u>
Operating Income	<u>110</u>	<u>104</u>
Other Income (Expense):		
Interest and other finance charges	(28)	(28)
Interest on transition bonds	(33)	(31)
Other, net	15	17
Total	<u>(46)</u>	<u>(42)</u>
Income Before Income Taxes	64	62
Income tax expense	(21)	(21)
Net Income	<u>\$ 43</u>	<u>\$ 41</u>

See Notes to the Company's Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

ASSETS

	December 31, 2006	March 31, 2007
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 122	\$ 48
Accounts and notes receivable, net	165	165
Accounts and notes receivable – affiliated companies	49	40
Accrued unbilled revenues	95	90
Materials and supplies	63	59
Taxes receivable	34	—
Other	69	67
Total current assets	<u>597</u>	<u>469</u>
Property, Plant and Equipment:		
Property, plant and equipment	6,823	6,882
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(2,566)</u>	<u>(2,585)</u>
Property, plant and equipment, net	4,257	4,297
Other Assets:		
Regulatory assets	2,820	2,782
Notes receivable — affiliated companies	750	750
Other	<u>39</u>	<u>44</u>
Total other assets	<u>3,609</u>	<u>3,576</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 8,463</u>	<u>\$ 8,342</u>

See Notes to the Company's Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS — (Continued)
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY

	December 31, 2006	March 31, 2007
Current Liabilities:		
Current portion of transition bond long-term debt	\$ 147	\$ 152
Accounts payable	72	43
Accounts and notes payable — affiliated companies	141	171
Taxes accrued	105	67
Interest accrued	85	36
Other	67	68
Total current liabilities	<u>617</u>	<u>537</u>
Other Liabilities:		
Accumulated deferred income taxes, net	1,341	1,261
Unamortized investment tax credits	35	33
Benefit obligations	197	196
Regulatory liabilities	336	344
Notes payable — affiliated companies	151	151
Other	53	119
Total other liabilities	<u>2,113</u>	<u>2,104</u>
Long-term Debt:		
Transition bonds	2,260	2,183
Other	1,591	1,592
Total long-term debt	<u>3,851</u>	<u>3,775</u>
Commitments and Contingencies (Note 7)		
Member's Equity:		
Common stock	—	—
Paid-in capital	1,712	1,712
Retained earnings	170	214
Total member's equity	<u>1,882</u>	<u>1,926</u>
Total Liabilities and Member's Equity	<u>\$ 8,463</u>	<u>\$ 8,342</u>

See Notes to the Company's Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOWS
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2007
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 43	\$ 41
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	84	90
Amortization of deferred financing costs	3	3
Deferred income taxes	(11)	(13)
Investment tax credits	(2)	(2)
Changes in other assets and liabilities:		
Accounts and notes receivable, net	32	5
Accounts receivable/payable, affiliates	(20)	5
Inventory	5	4
Accounts payable	(9)	(24)
Taxes receivable	—	34
Interest and taxes accrued	(28)	(87)
Net regulatory assets and liabilities	3	14
Other current assets	1	(3)
Other current liabilities	5	1
Other assets	(11)	(2)
Other liabilities	2	1
Other, net	(1)	1
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>96</u>	<u>68</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Capital expenditures	(92)	(115)
Decrease (increase) in restricted cash of transition bond companies	(7)	5
Other, net	4	6
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(95)</u>	<u>(104)</u>
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Payments of long-term debt	(18)	(72)
Increase in short-term notes with affiliates, net	80	34
Dividend to parent	(61)	—
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>1</u>	<u>(38)</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	(74)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	40	122
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	<u>\$ 42</u>	<u>\$ 48</u>
Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:		
Cash Payments:		
Interest, net of capitalized interest	\$ 65	\$ 108
Income taxes (refunds), net	59	(20)

See Notes to the Company's Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Background and Basis of Presentation

General. Included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (Form 10-Q) of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC are the condensed consolidated interim financial statements and notes (Interim Condensed Financial Statements) of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC and its subsidiaries (collectively, CenterPoint Houston or the Company). The Interim Condensed Financial Statements are unaudited, omit certain financial statement disclosures and should be read with the Annual Report on Form 10-K of CenterPoint Houston for the year ended December 31, 2006 (CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K).

Background. The Company engages in the electric transmission and distribution business in a 5,000-square mile area of the Texas Gulf Coast that includes Houston. The Company is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (CenterPoint Energy), a public utility holding company created on August 31, 2002 as part of a corporate restructuring of Reliant Energy, Incorporated (Reliant Energy) that implemented certain requirements of the Texas Electric Choice Plan (Texas electric restructuring law).

Basis of Presentation. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The Company's Interim Condensed Financial Statements reflect all normal recurring adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary to present fairly the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the respective periods. Amounts reported in the Company's Condensed Statements of Consolidated Income are not necessarily indicative of amounts expected for a full-year period due to the effects of, among other things, (a) seasonal fluctuations in demand for energy, (b) timing of maintenance and other expenditures and (c) acquisitions and dispositions of businesses, assets and other interests.

(2) New Accounting Pronouncements

In July 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued FASB Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes — an Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109" (FIN 48). FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for uncertain income tax positions and requires the Company to recognize management's best estimate of the impact of a tax position if it is considered "more likely than not", as defined in Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies", of being sustained on audit based solely on the technical merits of the position. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. The cumulative effect of adopting FIN 48 as of January 1, 2007 was an approximately \$3 million credit to retained earnings. The Company recognizes interest and penalties as a component of income taxes.

The implementation of FIN 48 also impacted other balance sheet accounts. The balance sheet as of January 1, 2007, upon adoption, would have reflected approximately \$70 million of total unrecognized tax benefits in "Other Liabilities." This amount includes \$56 million reclassified from accumulated deferred income taxes to the liability for uncertain tax positions. The remaining \$14 million represents amounts previously accrued for uncertain tax positions that, if recognized, would reduce the effective income tax rate. In addition to these amounts, the Company, at January 1, 2007, accrued approximately \$3 million for the payment of interest for these uncertain tax positions. The amount of unrecognized tax benefits was not materially different as of March 31, 2007.

CenterPoint Energy's consolidated federal income tax returns have been settled through the 1996 tax year.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" (SFAS No. 157). SFAS No. 157 establishes a framework for measuring fair value and requires expanded disclosure about the information used to measure fair value. The statement applies whenever other statements require or permit assets or

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liabilities to be measured at fair value. The statement does not expand the use of fair value accounting in any new circumstances and is effective for the Company for the year ended December 31, 2008 and for interim periods included in that year, with early adoption encouraged. The Company is currently evaluating the effect of adoption of this new standard on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities, including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115" (SFAS No. 159). SFAS No. 159 permits the Company to choose, at specified election dates, to measure eligible items at fair value (the "fair value option"). The Company would report unrealized gains and losses on items for which the fair value option has been elected in earnings at each subsequent reporting period. This accounting standard is effective as of the beginning of the first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. The Company is currently evaluating the effect of adoption of this new standard on its financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

(3) Employee Benefit Plans

The Company's employees participate in CenterPoint Energy's postretirement benefit plan. The Company's net periodic cost includes the following components relating to postretirement benefits:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2007
	(in millions)	
Interest cost Service cost	\$ 4	\$ 4
Expected return on plan assets	(3)	(3)
Amortization of transition obligation	2	2
Net periodic cost	<u>\$ 3</u>	<u>\$ 3</u>

The Company expects to contribute approximately \$10 million to its postretirement benefits plan in 2007, of which \$2 million had been contributed as of March 31, 2007.

(4) Regulatory Matters

(a) Recovery of True-Up Balance

In March 2004, the Company filed its true-up application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Texas Utility Commission), requesting recovery of \$3.7 billion, excluding interest, as allowed under the Texas electric restructuring law. In December 2004, the Texas Utility Commission issued its final order (True-Up Order) allowing the Company to recover a true-up balance of approximately \$2.3 billion, which included interest through August 31, 2004, and providing for adjustment of the amount to be recovered to include interest on the balance until recovery, the principal portion of additional excess mitigation credits returned to customers after August 31, 2004 and certain other matters. The Company and other parties filed appeals of the True-Up Order to a district court in Travis County, Texas. In August 2005, the court issued its final judgment on the various appeals. In its judgment, the court affirmed most aspects of the True-Up Order, but reversed two of the Texas Utility Commission's rulings. The judgment would have the effect of restoring approximately \$650 million, plus interest, of the \$1.7 billion the Texas Utility Commission had disallowed from the Company's initial request. The Company and other parties appealed the district court's judgment. Oral arguments before the Texas 3rd Court of Appeals were held in January 2007, but a decision is not expected for several months. No amounts related to the district court's judgment have been recorded in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

Among the issues raised in the Company's appeal of the True-Up Order is the Texas Utility Commission's reduction of the Company's stranded cost recovery by approximately \$146 million for the present value of certain deferred tax benefits associated with its former electric generation assets. Such reduction was considered in the Company's recording of an after-tax extraordinary loss of \$977 million in the last half of 2004. The Company believes that the Texas Utility Commission based its order on proposed regulations issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in March 2003 related to those tax benefits. Those proposed regulations would have allowed utilities owning assets that were deregulated before March 4, 2003 to make a retroactive election to pass the benefits of Accumulated Deferred Investment Tax Credits (ADITC) and Excess Deferred Federal Income Taxes (EDFIT) back to customers. However, in December 2005, the IRS withdrew those proposed normalization regulations and issued

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new proposed regulations that do not include the provision allowing a retroactive election to pass the tax benefits back to customers. In a May 2006 Private Letter Ruling (PLR) issued to a Texas utility on facts similar to the Company's, the IRS, without referencing its proposed regulations, ruled that a normalization violation would occur if ADITC and EDFIT were required to be returned to customers. The Company has requested a PLR asking the IRS whether the Texas Utility Commission's order reducing the Company's stranded cost recovery by \$146 million for ADITC and EDFIT would cause a normalization violation. If the IRS determines that such reduction would cause a normalization violation with respect to the ADITC and the Texas Utility Commission's order relating to such reduction is not reversed or otherwise modified, the IRS could require CenterPoint Energy to pay an amount equal to the Company's unamortized ADITC balance as of the date that the normalization violation is deemed to have occurred. In addition, if a normalization violation with respect to EDFIT is deemed to have occurred and the Texas Utility Commission's order relating to such reduction is not reversed or otherwise modified, the IRS could deny the Company the ability to elect accelerated tax depreciation benefits beginning in the taxable year that the normalization violation is deemed to have occurred. If a normalization violation should ultimately be found to exist, it could have a material adverse impact on the Company's results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. However, the Company and CenterPoint Energy are vigorously pursuing the appeal of this issue and will seek other relief from the Texas Utility Commission to avoid a normalization violation. Although the Texas Utility Commission has not previously required a company subject to its jurisdiction to take action that would result in a normalization violation, no prediction can be made as to the ultimate action the Texas Utility Commission may take on this issue.

Pursuant to a financing order issued by the Texas Utility Commission in March 2005 and affirmed in August 2005 by a Travis County district court, in December 2005, a subsidiary of the Company issued \$1.85 billion in transition bonds with interest rates ranging from 4.84 percent to 5.30 percent and final maturity dates ranging from February 2011 to August 2020. Through issuance of the transition bonds, the Company recovered approximately \$1.7 billion of the true-up balance determined in the True-Up Order plus interest through the date on which the bonds were issued.

In July 2005, the Company received an order from the Texas Utility Commission allowing it to implement a competition transition charge (CTC) designed to collect approximately \$596 million over 14 years plus interest at an annual rate of 11.075 percent (CTC Order). The CTC Order authorizes the Company to impose a charge on retail electric providers to recover the portion of the true-up balance not covered by the financing order. The CTC Order also allows the Company to collect approximately \$24 million of rate case expenses over three years without a return through a separate tariff rider (Rider RCE). The Company implemented the CTC and Rider RCE effective September 13, 2005 and began recovering approximately \$620 million. Effective September 13, 2005, the return on the CTC portion of the true-up balance is included in the Company's tariff-based revenues.

Certain parties appealed the CTC Order to a district court in Travis County. In May 2006, the district court issued a judgment reversing the CTC Order in three respects. First, the court ruled that the Texas Utility Commission had improperly relied on provisions of its rule dealing with the interest rate applicable to CTC amounts. The district court reached that conclusion on the grounds that the Texas Supreme Court had previously invalidated that entire section of the rule. Second, the district court reversed the Texas Utility Commission's ruling that allows the Company to recover through the Rider RCE the costs (approximately \$5 million) for a panel appointed by the Texas Utility Commission in connection with the valuation of the Company's electric generation assets. Finally, the district court accepted the contention of one party that the CTC should not be allocated to retail customers that have switched to new on-site generation. The Texas Utility Commission and the Company disagree with the district court's conclusions and, in May 2006, appealed the judgment to the Texas 3rd Court of Appeals, and if required, plan to seek further review from the Texas Supreme Court. All briefs in the appeal have been filed. Oral arguments were held in December 2006. Pending completion of judicial review and any action required by the Texas Utility Commission following a remand from the courts, the CTC remains in effect. The 11.075 percent interest rate in question was applicable from the implementation of the CTC Order on September 13, 2005 until August 1, 2006, the effective date of the implementation of a new CTC in compliance with the new rule discussed below. The ultimate outcome of this matter cannot be predicted at this time. However, the Company does not expect the disposition of this matter to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

In June 2006, the Texas Utility Commission adopted the revised rule governing the carrying charges on unrecovered true-up balances as recommended by its staff (Staff). The rule, which applies to the Company, reduced

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the allowed interest rate on the unrecovered CTC balance prospectively from 11.075 percent to a weighted average cost of capital of 8.06 percent. The annualized impact on operating income is a reduction of approximately \$18 million per year for the first year with lesser impacts in subsequent years. In July 2006, the Company made a compliance filing necessary to implement the rule changes effective August 1, 2006 per the settlement agreement entered into in connection with the Company's rate proceeding.

During the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2007, the Company recognized approximately \$16 million and \$11 million, respectively, in operating income from the CTC. Additionally, during the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2007, the Company recognized approximately \$2 million and \$3 million, respectively, of the allowed equity return not previously recorded. As of March 31, 2007, the Company had not recorded an allowed equity return of \$231 million on its true-up balance because such return will be recognized as it is recovered in rates.

(b) Final Fuel Reconciliation

The results of the Texas Utility Commission's final decision related to the Company's final fuel reconciliation were a component of the True-Up Order. The Company has appealed certain portions of the True-Up Order involving a disallowance of approximately \$67 million relating to the final fuel reconciliation in 2003 plus interest of \$10 million. The Company has fully reserved for the disallowance and related interest accrual. A judgment was entered by a Travis County district court in May 2005 affirming the Texas Utility Commission's decision. The Company filed an appeal to the Texas 3rd Court of Appeals in June 2005, but in April 2006, that court issued a judgment affirming the Texas Utility Commission's decision. The Company filed an appeal with the Texas Supreme Court in August 2006, but in February 2007, the Company made a filing with the Texas Supreme Court indicating that the parties had reached a tentative settlement of the appeal and requesting the Texas Supreme Court to abate the appeal in order to allow the Texas Utility Commission to review the settlement. The Texas Supreme Court granted the abatement of the appeal, and the Company has filed the settlement agreement with the Texas Utility Commission, which has established a procedural schedule for interventions, any requests for a hearing and submissions of a proposed order. If the Texas Utility Commission does not approve the agreement or modifies the agreement in a manner unacceptable to the Company, the Company would be entitled to ask the Texas Supreme Court to reinstate the appeal. If the Texas Utility Commission approves the agreement, the parties will request the Texas Supreme Court to set aside the lower court decisions and remand the case for entry of an order approving that settlement. As of March 31, 2007, the Company has not recorded any amounts related to this pending settlement.

(c) Refund of Environmental Retrofit Costs

The True-Up Order allowed recovery of approximately \$699 million of environmental retrofit costs related to the Company's generation assets. The sale of the Company's interest in its generation assets was completed in early 2005. The True-Up Order required the Company to provide evidence by January 31, 2007 that the entire \$699 million was actually spent by December 31, 2006 on environmental programs. The Texas Utility Commission will determine the appropriate manner to return to customers any unused portion of these funds, including interest on the funds and on stranded costs attributable to the environmental costs portion of the stranded costs recovery. In January 2007, the Company was notified by the successor in interest to the Company's generation assets that, as of December 31, 2006, it had only spent approximately \$664 million. On January 31, 2007, the Company made the required filing with the Texas Utility Commission, identifying approximately \$35 million in unspent funds to be refunded to customers along with approximately \$7 million of interest and requesting permission to refund these amounts through a reduction to the CTC. Such amounts were recorded as regulatory liabilities as of December 31, 2006. Certain parties have requested a hearing in this docket, and the Texas Utility Commission has requested briefing on whether the \$699 million included amounts spent by the successor in interest to CenterPoint Energy's generating assets after CenterPoint Energy sold its interest in those assets. At this time, the Company cannot predict whether the Texas Utility Commission will approve the Company's request.

(5) Related Party Transactions and Major Customers

Related Party Transactions. The Company participates in a money pool through which it can borrow or invest on a short-term basis. Funding needs are aggregated and external borrowing or investing is based on the net cash position. The net funding requirements of the money pool are expected to be met with borrowings under CenterPoint Energy's revolving credit facility or the sale of CenterPoint Energy's commercial paper. The Company had

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borrowings from the money pool of \$117 million and \$151 million at December 31, 2006 and March 31, 2007, respectively.

At December 31, 2006 and March 31, 2007, the Company had a \$750 million note receivable from its parent.

For the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2007, the Company had net interest income related to affiliate borrowings of \$11 million and \$12 million, respectively.

CenterPoint Energy provides some corporate services to the Company. The costs of services have been charged directly to the Company using methods that management believes are reasonable. These methods include negotiated usage rates, dedicated asset assignment and proportionate corporate formulas based on operating expenses, assets, gross margin, employees and a composite of assets, gross margin and employees. These charges are not necessarily indicative of what would have been incurred had the Company not been an affiliate. Amounts charged to the Company for these services were \$30 million and \$28 million for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2007, respectively, and are included primarily in operation and maintenance expenses.

Major Customers. During the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2007, revenues derived from energy delivery charges provided by the Company to subsidiaries of Reliant Energy, Inc. (RRI) totaled \$162 million and \$149 million, respectively.

(6) Long-Term Debt

As of March 31, 2007, the Company had no borrowings and approximately \$4 million of outstanding letters of credit under its \$300 million credit facility. The Company was in compliance with all covenants as of March 31, 2007.

The Company has \$151 million of first mortgage bonds and \$527 million of general mortgage bonds that it has issued as collateral for long-term debt of CenterPoint Energy. These bonds are not reflected in the consolidated financial statements because of the contingent nature of the obligations.

(7) Commitments and Contingencies

Legal Matters

RRI Indemnified Litigation

The Company, CenterPoint Energy or their predecessor, Reliant Energy, and certain of their former subsidiaries are named as defendants in several lawsuits described below. Under a master separation agreement between CenterPoint Energy and RRI, CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries, including the Company, are entitled to be indemnified by RRI for any losses, including attorneys' fees and other costs, arising out of the lawsuits described below under "*Electricity and Gas Market Manipulation Cases and Other Class Action Lawsuits.*" Pursuant to the indemnification obligation, RRI is defending CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries to the extent named in these lawsuits. The ultimate outcome of these matters cannot be predicted at this time.

Electricity and Gas Market Manipulation Cases. A large number of lawsuits have been filed against numerous market participants and remain pending in federal court in Wisconsin and Nevada and in state court in California, Missouri and Nevada in connection with the operation of the electricity and natural gas markets in California and certain other states in 2000-2001, a time of power shortages and significant increases in prices. These lawsuits, many of which have been filed as class actions, are based on a number of legal theories, including violation of state and federal antitrust laws, laws against unfair and unlawful business practices, the federal Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organization Act, false claims statutes and similar theories and breaches of contracts to supply power to governmental entities. Plaintiffs in these lawsuits, which include state officials and governmental entities as well as private litigants, are seeking a variety of forms of relief, including recovery of compensatory damages (in some cases in excess of \$1 billion), a trebling of compensatory damages and punitive damages, injunctive relief, restitution, interest due, disgorgement, civil penalties and fines, costs of suit and attorneys' fees. CenterPoint Energy's former subsidiary, RRI, was a participant in the California markets, owning generating plants in the state and participating in both electricity and natural gas trading in that state and in western power markets generally.

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CenterPoint Energy and/or Reliant Energy have been named in approximately 35 of these lawsuits, which were instituted between 2001 and 2007 and are pending in California state court in San Diego County, in Nevada state court in Clark County, in Missouri state court in Buchanan County, in federal district court in Wisconsin and Nevada and before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. However, the Company, CenterPoint Energy and Reliant Energy were not participants in the electricity or natural gas markets in California. CenterPoint Energy and Reliant Energy have been dismissed from certain of the lawsuits, either voluntarily by the plaintiffs or by order of the court, and CenterPoint Energy believes it is not a proper defendant in the remaining cases and will continue to seek dismissal from such remaining cases.

To date, several of the electricity complaints have been dismissed, and several of the dismissals have been affirmed by appellate courts. Others have been resolved by the settlement described in the following paragraph. Six of the gas complaints have also been dismissed based on defendants' claims of federal preemption and the filed rate doctrine, and these dismissals either have been appealed or are expected to be appealed. In June 2005, a San Diego state court refused to dismiss other gas complaints on the same basis. In October 2006, RRI reached a tentative settlement of the 12 class action natural gas cases pending in state court in California. This settlement remains subject to final court approval. The other gas cases remain in the early procedural stages.

In August 2005, RRI reached a settlement with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) enforcement staff, the states of California, Washington and Oregon, California's three largest investor-owned utilities, classes of consumers from California and other western states, and a number of California city and county government entities that resolves their claims against RRI related to the operation of the electricity markets in California and certain other western states in 2000-2001. The settlement also resolves the claims of the three states and the investor-owned utilities related to the 2000-2001 natural gas markets. The settlement has been approved by the FERC, by the California Public Utilities Commission, and by the courts in which the electricity class action cases are pending. Two parties have appealed the courts' approval of the settlement to the California Court of Appeals. A party in the FERC proceedings filed a motion for rehearing of the FERC's order approving the settlement, which the FERC denied on May 30, 2006. That party has filed for review of the FERC's orders in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. CenterPoint Energy is not a party to the settlement, but may rely on the settlement as a defense to any claims brought against it related to the time when CenterPoint Energy was an affiliate of RRI. The terms of the settlement do not require payment by CenterPoint Energy.

Other Class Action Lawsuits. In May 2002, three class action lawsuits were filed in federal district court in Houston on behalf of participants in various employee benefits plans sponsored by CenterPoint Energy. Two of the lawsuits were dismissed without prejudice. In the remaining lawsuit, CenterPoint Energy and certain current and former members of its benefits committee are defendants. That lawsuit alleged that the defendants breached their fiduciary duties to various employee benefits plans, directly or indirectly sponsored by CenterPoint Energy, in violation of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 by permitting the plans to purchase or hold securities issued by CenterPoint Energy when it was imprudent to do so, including after the prices for such securities became artificially inflated because of alleged securities fraud engaged in by the defendants. The complaint sought monetary damages for losses suffered on behalf of the plans and a putative class of plan participants whose accounts held CenterPoint Energy or RRI securities, as well as restitution. In January 2006, the federal district judge granted a motion for summary judgment filed by CenterPoint Energy and the individual defendants. The plaintiffs appealed the ruling to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. CenterPoint Energy believes that this lawsuit is without merit and will continue to vigorously defend the case. However, the ultimate outcome of this matter cannot be predicted at this time.

Environmental Matters

Asbestos. Some facilities owned by CenterPoint Energy contain or have contained asbestos insulation and other asbestos-containing materials. CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries, including the Company, have been named, along with numerous others, as a defendant in lawsuits filed by a number of individuals who claim injury due to exposure to asbestos. Some of the claimants have worked at locations owned by CenterPoint Energy, but most existing claims relate to facilities previously owned by CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries. CenterPoint Energy anticipates that additional claims like those received may be asserted in the future. In 2004, CenterPoint Energy sold its generating business, to which most of these claims relate, to Texas Genco LLC, which is now known as NRG Texas LP (NRG). Under the terms of the arrangements regarding separation of the generating business from CenterPoint Energy and its sale to Texas Genco LLC, ultimate financial responsibility for uninsured losses from

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claims relating to the generating business has been assumed by Texas Genco LLC and its successor, but CenterPoint Energy has agreed to continue to defend such claims to the extent they are covered by insurance maintained by CenterPoint Energy, subject to reimbursement of the costs of such defense from the purchaser. Although their ultimate outcome cannot be predicted at this time, CenterPoint Energy intends to continue vigorously contesting claims that it does not consider to have merit and the Company does not expect, based on its experience to date, these matters, either individually or in the aggregate, to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Other Environmental. From time to time the Company has received notices from regulatory authorities or others regarding its status as a PRP in connection with sites found to require remediation due to the presence of environmental contaminants. In addition, the Company has been named from time to time as a defendant in litigation related to such sites. Although the ultimate outcome of such matters cannot be predicted at this time, the Company does not expect, based on its experience to date, these matters, either individually or in the aggregate, to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Other Proceedings

The Company is involved in other legal, environmental, tax and regulatory proceedings before various courts, regulatory commissions and governmental agencies regarding matters arising in the ordinary course of business. Some of these proceedings involve substantial amounts. The Company regularly analyzes current information and, as necessary, provides accruals for probable liabilities on the eventual disposition of these matters. The Company does not expect the disposition of these matters to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following narrative analysis should be read in combination with our Interim Condensed Financial Statements contained in this Form 10-Q.

We meet the conditions specified in General Instruction H(1)(a) and (b) to Form 10-Q and are therefore permitted to use the reduced disclosure format for wholly owned subsidiaries of reporting companies. Accordingly, we have omitted from this report the information called for by Item 2 (Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations), Item 3 (Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk) of Part I and the following Part II items of Form 10-Q: Item 2 (Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds), Item 3 (Defaults Upon Senior Securities) and Item 4 (Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders). The following discussion explains material changes in our results of operations between the three months ended March 31, 2006 and the three months ended March 31, 2007. Reference is made to "Management's Narrative Analysis of Results of Operations" in Item 7 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 (CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K).

CONSOLIDATED RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Our results of operations are affected by seasonal fluctuations in the demand for electricity. Our results of operations are also affected by, among other things, the actions of various governmental authorities having jurisdiction over rates we charge, debt service costs, income tax expense, our ability to collect receivables from retail electric providers and our ability to recover our stranded costs and regulatory assets. For more information regarding factors that may affect the future results of operations of our business, please read "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of Part I of the CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K.

The following table sets forth our consolidated results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2007, followed by a discussion of our consolidated results of operations based on operating income.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2007
	(in millions)	
Revenues:		
Electric transmission and distribution utility	\$ 331	\$ 347
Transition bond companies	54	59
Total revenues	<u>385</u>	<u>406</u>
Expenses:		
Operation and maintenance, excluding transition bond companies	134	154
Depreciation and amortization, excluding transition bond companies	63	63
Taxes other than income taxes	56	57
Transition bond companies	22	28
Total expenses	<u>275</u>	<u>302</u>
Operating income	110	104
Interest and other finance charges	(28)	(28)
Interest on transition bonds	(33)	(31)
Other income, net	15	17
Income before income taxes	<u>64</u>	<u>62</u>
Income tax expense	(21)	(21)
Net income	<u>\$ 43</u>	<u>\$ 41</u>

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	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2006	2007
Throughput (in gigawatt-hours (GWh)):		
Residential	3,986	4,658
Total	15,987	16,660
Average number of metered customers:		
Residential	1,717,836	1,752,264
Total	1,950,829	1,989,744

Three months ended March 31, 2007 compared to three months ended March 31, 2006

We reported operating income of \$104 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007, consisting of \$73 million for the regulated electric transmission and distribution utility (TDU) (including \$11 million for the competition transition charge (CTC)) and \$31 million related to the transition bonds. For the three months ended March 31, 2006, operating income totaled \$110 million, consisting of \$78 million for the TDU (including \$16 million for the CTC) and \$32 million related to the transition bonds. Revenues for the TDU increased due to higher usage primarily from favorable weather (\$22 million), customer growth, with nearly 39,000 metered customers added since March 31, 2006 (\$4 million), higher transmission revenues (\$4 million) and revised charges for discretionary services (\$3 million). This was partially offset by the impact of the rate reduction resulting from the 2006 rate settlement that was implemented October 2006 (\$11 million) and lower CTC return resulting from the reduction in our allowed rate of return (\$5 million). Operation and maintenance expense increased primarily due to a gain on the sale of property in 2006 (\$14 million), higher transmission costs (\$7 million), and increased low income expenses largely due to the 2006 rate settlement (\$3 million), partially offset by lower corporate support services costs (\$4 million) primarily due to staff reductions in 2006.

CERTAIN FACTORS AFFECTING FUTURE EARNINGS

For information on other developments, factors and trends that may have an impact on our future earnings, please read “Risk Factors” in Item 1A of Part I and “Management’s Narrative Analysis of Results of Operations — Certain Factors Affecting Future Earnings” in Item 7 of Part II of the CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K and “Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information.”

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Our liquidity and capital requirements are affected primarily by our results of operations, capital expenditures, debt service requirements, working capital needs, various regulatory actions and appeals relating to such regulatory actions. Our principal cash requirements for the remaining nine months of 2007 include approximately \$300 million of capital expenditures and \$75 million of scheduled payments on transition bonds.

We expect that borrowings under our credit facility, anticipated cash flows from operations and intercompany borrowings will be sufficient to meet our cash needs for the remaining nine months of 2007. Cash needs or discretionary financing or refinancing may also result in the issuance of debt securities in the capital markets.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements. Other than operating leases and first mortgage bonds and general mortgage bonds issued as collateral for long-term debt of CenterPoint Energy as discussed below, we have no off-balance sheet arrangements.

Credit Facility. As of May 1, 2007, we had no borrowings and approximately \$4 million of outstanding letters of credit under our \$300 million credit facility. Under our credit facility, an additional utilization fee of 10 basis points applies to borrowings any time more than 50% of the facility is utilized, and the spread to London Interbank Offered Rate fluctuates based on our credit rating. Borrowings under the facility are subject to customary terms and conditions. However, there is no requirement that we make representations prior to borrowings as to the absence of material adverse changes or litigation that could be expected to have a material adverse effect. Borrowings under the credit facility are subject to acceleration upon the occurrence of events of default that we consider customary. We are currently in compliance with the various business and financial covenants contained in our credit facility.

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Temporary Investments. As of March 31, 2007 and May 1, 2007, we had no external temporary investments.

Money Pool. We participate in a money pool through which we and certain of our affiliates can borrow or invest on a short-term basis. Funding needs are aggregated and external borrowing or investing is based on the net cash position. The net funding requirements of the money pool are expected to be met with borrowings under CenterPoint Energy's revolving credit facility or the sale of CenterPoint Energy's commercial paper. At May 1, 2007, we had borrowings from the money pool aggregating \$160 million. The money pool may not provide sufficient funds to meet our cash needs.

Long-term Debt. Our long-term debt consists of our obligations and the obligations of our subsidiaries, including transition bonds issued by wholly owned subsidiaries. The following table shows future maturity dates of long-term debt issued by us to third parties and affiliates and scheduled future payment dates of transition bonds issued by our subsidiaries, CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company, LLC (Bond Company) and CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company II, LLC (Bond Company II), as of May 1, 2007. Amounts are expressed in millions.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Third-Party</u>	<u>Affiliate</u>	<u>Sub-Total</u>	<u>Transition Bonds</u>	<u>Total</u>
2007	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 75	\$ 75
2008	—	—	—	159	159
2009	—	—	—	175	175
2010	—	—	—	190	190
2011	—	—	—	207	207
2012	46	—	46	227	273
2013	450	—	450	245	695
2014	300	—	300	147	447
2015	—	151	151	158	309
2016	—	—	—	169	169
2017	127	—	127	181	308
2018	—	—	—	194	194
2019	—	—	—	208	208
2021	102	—	102	—	102
2023	200	—	200	—	200
2027	56	—	56	—	56
2033	312	—	312	—	312
Total	<u>\$ 1,593</u>	<u>\$ 151</u>	<u>\$ 1,744</u>	<u>\$ 2,335</u>	<u>\$ 4,079</u>

As of May 1, 2007, outstanding first mortgage bonds and general mortgage bonds aggregated approximately \$2.3 billion as shown in the following table. Amounts are expressed in millions.

	<u>Issued Directly to Third Parties</u>	<u>Issued as Collateral for the Company's Debt</u>	<u>Issued as Collateral for CenterPoint Energy's Debt</u>	<u>Total</u>
First Mortgage Bonds	\$ 102	\$ —	\$ 151	\$ 253
General Mortgage Bonds	1,262	229	527	2,018
Total	<u>\$ 1,364</u>	<u>\$ 229</u>	<u>\$ 678</u>	<u>\$ 2,271</u>

The lien of the general mortgage indenture is junior to that of the mortgage pursuant to which the first mortgage bonds are issued. We may issue additional general mortgage bonds on the basis of retired bonds, 70% of property additions or cash deposited with the trustee. Approximately \$2.3 billion of additional first mortgage bonds and general mortgage bonds could be issued on the basis of retired bonds and 70% of property additions as of March 31, 2007. However, we are contractually prohibited, subject to certain exceptions, from issuing additional first mortgage bonds.

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The following table shows the maturity dates of the \$678 million of first mortgage bonds and general mortgage bonds that we have issued as collateral for long-term debt of CenterPoint Energy. These bonds are not reflected in our consolidated financial statements because of the contingent nature of the obligations. Amounts are expressed in millions.

<u>Year</u>	<u>First Mortgage Bonds</u>	<u>General Mortgage Bonds</u>	<u>Total</u>
2011	\$ —	\$ 19	\$ 19
2015	151	—	151
2018	—	50	50
2019	—	200	200
2020	—	90	90
2026	—	100	100
2028	—	68	68
Total	<u>\$ 151</u>	<u>\$ 527</u>	<u>\$ 678</u>

At March 31, 2007, Bond Company had \$554 million aggregate principal amount of outstanding transition bonds that were issued in 2001 in accordance with the Texas electric restructuring law. At March 31, 2007, Bond Company II had \$1.78 billion aggregate principal amount of outstanding transition bonds that were issued in 2005 in accordance with the Texas electric restructuring law. The transition bonds are secured by “transition property,” as defined in the Texas electric restructuring law, which includes the irrevocable right to recover, through non-bypassable transition charges payable by retail electric customers, qualified costs provided in the Texas electric restructuring law. The transition bonds are reported as our long-term debt, although the holders of the transition bonds have no recourse to any of our assets or revenues, and our creditors have no recourse to any assets or revenues (including, without limitation, the transition charges) of the bond companies. We have no payment obligations with respect to the transition bonds except to remit collections of transition charges as set forth in a servicing agreement between us and the bond companies and in an intercreditor agreement among us, the bond companies and other parties.

Impact on Liquidity of a Downgrade in Credit Ratings. As of March 31, 2007, Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (Moody’s), Standard & Poor’s Ratings Services, a division of The McGraw Hill Companies (S&P), and Fitch, Inc. (Fitch) had assigned the following credit ratings to our senior debt.

<u>Instrument</u>	<u>Moody’s</u>		<u>S&P</u>		<u>Fitch</u>	
	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Outlook(1)</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Outlook (2)</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Outlook (3)</u>
Senior Secured Debt (First Mortgage Bonds)	Baa2	Stable	BBB	Positive	A-	Stable

- (1) A “stable” outlook from Moody’s indicates that Moody’s does not expect to put the rating on review for an upgrade or downgrade within 18 months from when the outlook was assigned or last affirmed.
- (2) An S&P rating outlook assesses the potential direction of a long-term credit rating over the intermediate to longer term.
- (3) A “stable” outlook from Fitch encompasses a one-to-two year horizon as to the likely ratings direction.

We cannot assure you that these ratings will remain in effect for any given period of time or that one or more of these ratings will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by a rating agency. We note that these credit ratings are not recommendations to buy, sell or hold our securities and may be revised or withdrawn at any time by the rating agency. Each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating. Any future reduction or withdrawal of one or more of our credit ratings could have a material adverse impact on our ability to obtain short- and long-term financing, the cost of such financings and the execution of our commercial strategies.

A decline in credit ratings could increase borrowing costs under our \$300 million credit facility. A decline in credit ratings would also increase the interest rate on long-term debt to be issued in the capital markets and could negatively impact our ability to complete capital market transactions.

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Cross Defaults. Under CenterPoint Energy's revolving credit facility, a payment default on, or a non-payment default that permits acceleration of, any indebtedness exceeding \$50 million by us will cause a default. Pursuant to the indenture governing CenterPoint Energy's senior notes, a payment default by us, in respect of, or an acceleration of, borrowed money and certain other specified types of obligations, in the aggregate principal amount of \$50 million will cause a default. As of May 1, 2007, CenterPoint Energy had six series of senior notes outstanding aggregating \$1.4 billion in principal amount under this indenture. A default by CenterPoint Energy would not trigger a default under our debt instruments or bank credit facilities.

Other Factors that Could Affect Cash Requirements. In addition to the above factors, our liquidity and capital resources could be affected by:

- increases in interest expense in connection with debt refinancings and borrowings under our credit facility;
- various regulatory actions;
- the ability of RRI and its subsidiaries to satisfy their obligations as our principal customers and in respect of RRI's indemnity obligations to us;
- the outcome of litigation brought by and against us;
- contributions to benefit plans;
- restoration costs and revenue losses resulting from natural disasters such as hurricanes; and
- various other risks identified in "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of Part I of the CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K.

Certain Contractual Limits on Our Ability to Issue Securities and Borrow Money. Our credit facility limits our debt (excluding transition bonds) as a percentage of our total capitalization to 65 percent. Additionally, we are contractually prohibited, subject to certain exceptions, from issuing additional first mortgage bonds.

Relationship with CenterPoint Energy. We are an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy. As a result of this relationship, the financial condition and liquidity of our parent company could affect our access to capital, our credit standing and our financial condition.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A critical accounting policy is one that is both important to the presentation of our financial condition and results of operations and requires management to make difficult, subjective or complex accounting estimates. An accounting estimate is an approximation made by management of a financial statement element, item or account in the financial statements. Accounting estimates in our historical consolidated financial statements measure the effects of past business transactions or events, or the present status of an asset or liability. The accounting estimates described below require us to make assumptions about matters that are highly uncertain at the time the estimate is made. Additionally, different estimates that we could have used or changes in an accounting estimate that are reasonably likely to occur could have a material impact on the presentation of our financial condition or results of operations. The circumstances that make these judgments difficult, subjective and/or complex have to do with the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain. Estimates and assumptions about future events and their effects cannot be predicted with certainty. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments. These estimates may change as new events occur, as more experience is acquired, as additional information is obtained and as our operating environment changes. Our significant accounting policies are discussed in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements in the CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K. We believe the following accounting policies involve the application of critical accounting estimates. Accordingly, these accounting estimates have been reviewed and discussed with the audit committee of the board of directors of CenterPoint Energy.

Accounting for Rate Regulation

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 71, “Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation” (SFAS No. 71), provides that rate-regulated entities account for and report assets and liabilities consistent with the recovery of those incurred costs in rates if the rates established are designed to recover the costs of providing the regulated service and if the competitive environment makes it probable that such rates can be charged and collected. We apply SFAS No. 71, which results in our accounting for the regulatory effects of recovery of stranded costs and other regulatory assets resulting from the unbundling of the transmission and distribution business from our former electric generation operations in our consolidated financial statements. Certain expenses and revenues subject to utility regulation or rate determination normally reflected in income are deferred on the balance sheet and are recognized in income as the related amounts are included in service rates and recovered from or refunded to customers. Significant accounting estimates embedded within the application of SFAS No. 71 relate to \$292 million of recoverable electric generation-related regulatory assets as of March 31, 2007. These costs are recoverable under the provisions of the 1999 Texas Electric Choice Plan. Based on our analysis of the final order issued by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Texas Utility Commission), we recorded an after-tax charge to earnings in 2004 of approximately \$977 million to write down our electric generation-related regulatory assets to their realizable value, which was reflected as an extraordinary loss. Based on subsequent orders received from the Texas Utility Commission, we recorded an extraordinary gain of \$30 million after-tax in the second quarter of 2005 related to the regulatory asset. Additionally, a district court in Travis County, Texas issued a judgment that would have the effect of restoring approximately \$650 million, plus interest, of disallowed costs. We and other parties appealed the district court judgment. Oral arguments before the Texas 3rd Court of Appeals were held in January 2007, but a decision is not expected for several months. No amounts related to the district court’s judgment have been recorded in our consolidated financial statements.

Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and Intangibles

We review the carrying value of our long-lived assets, including identifiable intangibles, whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that such carrying values may not be recoverable. Unforeseen events and changes in circumstances and market conditions and material differences in the value of long-lived assets and intangibles due to changes in estimates of future cash flows, regulatory matters and operating costs could negatively affect the fair value of our assets and result in an impairment charge.

Fair value is the amount at which the asset could be bought or sold in a current transaction between willing parties and may be estimated using a number of techniques, including quoted market prices or valuations by third parties, present value techniques based on estimates of cash flows, or multiples of earnings or revenue performance measures. The fair value of the asset could be different using different estimates and assumptions in these valuation techniques.

Asset Retirement Obligations

We account for our long-lived assets under SFAS No. 143, “Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations” (SFAS No. 143), and Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 47, “Accounting for Conditional Asset Retirement Obligations — An Interpretation of SFAS No. 143” (FIN 47). SFAS No. 143 and FIN 47 require that an asset retirement obligation be recorded at fair value in the period in which it is incurred if a reasonable estimate of fair value can be made. In the same period, the associated asset retirement costs are capitalized as part of the carrying amount of the related long-lived asset. Rate-regulated entities may recognize regulatory assets or liabilities as a result of timing differences between the recognition of costs as recorded in accordance with SFAS No. 143 and FIN 47, and costs recovered through the ratemaking process.

We estimate the fair value of asset retirement obligations by calculating the discounted cash flows that are dependent upon the following components:

- Inflation adjustment — The estimated cash flows are adjusted for inflation estimates for labor, equipment, materials, and other disposal costs;
- Discount rate — The estimated cash flows include contingency factors that were used as a proxy for the market risk premium; and

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- Third-party markup adjustments — Internal labor costs included in the cash flow calculation were adjusted for costs that a third party would incur in performing the tasks necessary to retire the asset.

Changes in these factors could materially affect the obligation recorded to reflect the ultimate cost associated with retiring the assets under SFAS No. 143 and FIN 47. For example, if the inflation adjustment increased 25 basis points, this would increase the balance for asset retirement obligations by approximately 2%. Similarly, an increase in the discount rate by 25 basis points would decrease asset retirement obligations by approximately the same percentage. At March 31, 2007, our estimated cost of retiring these assets was approximately \$19 million.

Unbilled Energy Revenues

Revenues related to the delivery of electricity are generally recorded when electricity is delivered to customers. However, the determination of electricity deliveries to individual customers is based on the reading of their meters, which is performed on a systematic basis throughout the month. At the end of each month, amounts of electricity delivered to customers since the date of the last meter reading are estimated and the corresponding unbilled revenue is estimated. Unbilled electricity delivery revenue is estimated each month based on daily supply volumes, applicable rates and analyses reflecting significant historical trends and experience. As additional information becomes available, or actual amounts are determinable, the recorded estimates are revised. Consequently, operating results can be affected by revisions to prior accounting estimates.

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

See Note 2 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements for a discussion of new accounting pronouncements that affect us.

Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

In accordance with Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2007 to provide assurance that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms and such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding disclosure.

There has been no change in our internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the three months ended March 31, 2007 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

For a discussion of material legal and regulatory proceedings affecting us, please read Notes 4 and 7 to our Interim Condensed Financial Statements, each of which is incorporated herein by reference. See also "Business — Regulation" and "— Environmental Matters" in Item 1 and "Legal Proceedings" in Item 3 of the CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes from the risk factors disclosed in the CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K.

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Item 5. Other Information

Our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the three months ended March 31, 2006 and 2007 was 2.02 and 1.97, respectively. We do not believe that the ratios for these three-month periods are necessarily indicators of the ratios for the twelve-month periods due to the seasonal nature of our business. The ratios were calculated pursuant to applicable rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Item 6. Exhibits

The following exhibits are filed herewith:

Exhibits not incorporated by reference to a prior filing are designated by a cross (+); all exhibits not so designated are incorporated by reference to a prior filing of CenterPoint Houston or CenterPoint Energy as indicated.

Exhibit Number	Description	Report or Registration Statement	SEC File or Registration Number	Exhibit References
3.1	Articles of Organization of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	CenterPoint Houston's Form 8-K dated August 31, 2002 filed with the SEC on September 3, 2002	1-3187	3(b)
3.2	Limited Liability Company Regulations of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	CenterPoint Houston's Form 8-K dated August 31, 2002 filed with the SEC on September 3, 2002	1-3187	3(c)
4.1	\$300,000,000 Credit Agreement dated as of March 31, 2006 among CenterPoint Houston, as Borrower, and the Initial Lenders named therein, as Initial Lenders	CenterPoint Houston's Form 8-K dated March 31, 2006	1-3187	4.2
+12	Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges			
+31.1	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of David M. McClanahan			
+31.2	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Gary L. Whitlock			
+32.1	Section 1350 Certification of David M. McClanahan			
+32.2	Section 1350 Certification of Gary L. Whitlock			
+99.1	Items incorporated by reference from the CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K. Item 1A "—Risk Factors."			

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC

By: _____ /s/ James S. Brian
James S. Brian
Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer

Date: May 9, 2007

EXHIBIT INDEX

The following exhibits are filed herewith:

Exhibits not incorporated by reference to a prior filing are designated by a cross (+); all exhibits not so designated are incorporated by reference to a prior filing of CenterPoint Houston or CenterPoint Energy as indicated.

Exhibit Number	Description	Report or Registration Statement	SEC File or Registration Number	Exhibit References
3.1	Articles of Organization of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	CenterPoint Houston's Form 8-K dated August 31, 2002 filed with the SEC on September 3, 2002	1-3187	3(b)
3.2	Limited Liability Company Regulations of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	CenterPoint Houston's Form 8-K dated August 31, 2002 filed with the SEC on September 3, 2002	1-3187	3(c)
4.1	\$300,000,000 Credit Agreement dated as of March 31, 2006 among CenterPoint Houston, as Borrower, and the Initial Lenders named therein, as Initial Lenders	CenterPoint Houston's Form 8-K dated March 31, 2006	1-3187	4.2
+12	Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges			
+31.1	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of David M. McClanahan			
+31.2	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Gary L. Whitlock			
+32.1	Section 1350 Certification of David M. McClanahan			
+32.2	Section 1350 Certification of Gary L. Whitlock			
+99.1	Items incorporated by reference from the CenterPoint Houston Form 10-K. Item 1A "—Risk Factors."			

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES
(AN INDIRECT WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.)
COMPUTATION OF RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES
(Millions of Dollars)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2006	2007
Net Income	\$ 43	\$ 41
Income taxes	21	21
Capitalized interest	(1)	(2)
	<u>63</u>	<u>60</u>
Fixed charges, as defined:		
Interest	61	59
Capitalized interest	1	2
Interest component of rentals charged to operating income	—	—
Total fixed charges	<u>62</u>	<u>61</u>
Earnings, as defined	\$ 125	\$ 121
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	<u>2.02</u>	<u>1.97</u>

CERTIFICATIONS

I, David M. McClanahan, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (c) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 9, 2007

/s/ David M. McClanahan

David M. McClanahan

Chairman (Principal Executive Officer)

CERTIFICATIONS

I, Gary L. Whitlock, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (c) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 9, 2007

/s/ Gary L. Whitlock

Gary L. Whitlock

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2007 (the "Report"), as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof, I, David M. McClanahan, Chairman (Principal Executive Officer), certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to the best of my knowledge, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ David M. McClanahan

David M. McClanahan
Chairman (Principal Executive Officer)
May 9, 2007

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2007 (the "Report"), as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof, I, Gary L. Whitlock, Chief Financial Officer, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to the best of my knowledge, that:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Gary L. Whitlock

Gary L. Whitlock

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

May 9, 2007

Item 1A. Risk Factors

The following, along with any additional legal proceedings identified or incorporated by reference in Item 3 of this report, summarizes the principal risk factors associated with our business.

Risk Factors Affecting Our Business

We may not be successful in ultimately recovering the full value of our true-up components, which could result in the elimination of certain tax benefits and could have an adverse impact on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

In March 2004, we filed our true-up application with the Texas Utility Commission, requesting recovery of \$3.7 billion, excluding interest, as allowed under the Texas electric restructuring law. In December 2004, the Texas Utility Commission issued its final order (True-Up Order) allowing us to recover a true-up balance of approximately \$2.3 billion, which included interest through August 31, 2004, and providing for adjustment of the amount to be recovered to include interest on the balance until recovery, the principal portion of additional excess mitigation credits returned to customers after August 31, 2004 and certain other matters. We and other parties filed appeals of the True-Up Order to a district court in Travis County, Texas. In August 2005, the court issued its final judgment on the various appeals. In its judgment, the court affirmed most aspects of the True-Up Order, but reversed two of the Texas Utility Commission's rulings. The judgment would have the effect of restoring approximately \$650 million, plus interest, of the \$1.7 billion the Texas Utility Commission had disallowed from our initial request. We and other parties appealed the district court's judgment. Oral arguments before the Texas 3rd Court of Appeals were held in January 2007, but a decision is not expected for several months. No amounts related to the district court's judgment have been recorded in our consolidated financial statements.

Among the issues raised in our appeal of the True-Up Order is the Texas Utility Commission's reduction of our stranded cost recovery by approximately \$146 million for the present value of certain deferred tax benefits associated with our former electric generation assets. Such reduction was considered in our recording of an after-tax extraordinary loss of \$977 million in the last half of 2004. We believe that the Texas Utility Commission based its order on proposed regulations issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in March 2003 related to those tax benefits. Those proposed regulations would have allowed utilities owning assets that were deregulated before March 4, 2003 to make a retroactive election to pass the benefits of Accumulated Deferred Investment Tax Credits (ADITC) and Excess Deferred Federal Income Taxes (EDFIT) back to customers. However, in December 2005, the IRS withdrew those proposed normalization regulations and issued new proposed regulations that do not include the provision allowing a retroactive election to pass the tax benefits back to customers. In a May 2006 Private Letter Ruling (PLR) issued to a Texas utility on facts similar to ours, the IRS, without referencing its proposed regulations, ruled that a normalization violation would occur if ADITC and EDFIT were required to be returned to customers. We have requested a PLR asking the IRS whether the Texas Utility Commission's order reducing our stranded cost recovery by \$146 million for ADITC and EDFIT would cause a normalization violation. If the IRS determines that such reduction would cause a normalization violation with respect to the ADITC and the Texas Utility Commission's order relating to such reduction is not reversed or otherwise modified, the IRS could require us to pay an amount equal to our unamortized ADITC balance as of the date that the normalization violation is deemed to have occurred. In addition, if a normalization violation with respect to EDFIT is deemed to have occurred and the Texas Utility Commission's order relating to such reduction is not reversed or otherwise modified, the IRS could

deny us the ability to elect accelerated tax depreciation benefits beginning in the taxable year that the normalization violation is deemed to have occurred. If a normalization violation should ultimately be found to exist, it could have an adverse impact on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. However, we and CenterPoint Energy are vigorously pursuing the appeal of this issue and will seek other relief from the Texas Utility Commission to avoid a normalization violation. The Texas Utility Commission has not previously required a company subject to its jurisdiction to take action that would result in a normalization violation.

Our receivables are concentrated in a small number of REPs, and any delay or default in payment could adversely affect our cash flows, financial condition and results of operations.

Our receivables from the distribution of electricity are collected from REPs that supply the electricity we distribute to their customers. Currently, we do business with 68 REPs. Adverse economic conditions, structural problems in the market served by ERCOT or financial difficulties of one or more REPs could impair the ability of these retail providers to pay for our services or could cause them to delay such payments. We depend on these REPs to remit payments on a timely basis. Applicable regulatory provisions require that customers be shifted to a provider of last resort if a retail electric provider cannot make timely payments. Reliant Energy, Inc. (RRI), through its subsidiaries, is our largest customer. Approximately 53% of our \$140 million in billed receivables from REPs at December 31, 2006 was owed by subsidiaries of RRI. Any delay or default in payment could adversely affect our cash flows, financial condition and results of operations.

Rate regulation of our business may delay or deny our ability to earn a reasonable return and fully recover our costs.

Our rates are regulated by certain municipalities and the Texas Utility Commission based on an analysis of our invested capital and our expenses in a test year. Thus, the rates that we are allowed to charge may not match our expenses at any given time. In this connection, pursuant to the Settlement Agreement discussed in “Business— Regulation — State and Local Regulation — Rate Case” in Item 1 of this report, until June 30, 2010, we are limited in our ability to request rate relief. The regulatory process by which rates are determined may not always result in rates that will produce full recovery of our costs and enable us to earn a reasonable return on our invested capital.

Disruptions at power generation facilities owned by third parties could interrupt our sales of transmission and distribution services.

We transmit and distribute to customers of REPs electric power that the REPs obtain from power generation facilities owned by third parties. We do not own or operate any power generation facilities. If power generation is disrupted or if power generation capacity is inadequate, our sales of transmission and distribution services may be diminished or interrupted, and our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows may be adversely affected.

Our revenues and results of operations are seasonal.

A significant portion of our revenues is derived from rates that we collect from each REP based on the amount of electricity we distribute on behalf of such REP. Thus, our revenues and results of operations are subject to seasonality, weather conditions and other changes in electricity usage, with revenues being higher during the warmer months.

Risk Factors Associated with Our Consolidated Financial Condition

If we are unable to arrange future financings on acceptable terms, our ability to refinance existing indebtedness could be limited.

As of December 31, 2006, we had \$4.0 billion of outstanding indebtedness on a consolidated basis, which includes \$2.4 billion of non-recourse transition bonds. Our future financing activities may depend, at least in part, on:

- the timing and amount of our recovery of the true-up components, including, in particular, the results of appeals to the courts of determination on rulings obtained to date;
- general economic and capital market conditions;
- credit availability from financial institutions and other lenders;
- investor confidence in us and the markets in which we operate;
- maintenance of acceptable credit ratings by us and CenterPoint Energy;
- market expectations regarding our future earnings and probable cash flows;
- market perceptions of our and CenterPoint Energy's ability to access capital markets on reasonable terms;
- our exposure to RRI as our customer and in connection with its indemnification obligations arising in connection with its separation from CenterPoint Energy; and
- provisions of relevant tax and securities laws.

As of December 31, 2006, we had outstanding \$2.0 billion aggregate principal amount of general mortgage bonds, including approximately \$527 million held in trust to secure pollution control bonds for which CenterPoint Energy is obligated and approximately \$229 million held in trust to secure pollution control bonds for which we are obligated. Additionally, we had outstanding approximately \$253 million aggregate principal amount of first mortgage bonds, including approximately \$151 million held in trust to secure certain pollution control bonds for which CenterPoint Energy is obligated. We may issue additional general mortgage bonds on the basis of retired bonds, 70% of property additions or cash deposited with the trustee. Approximately \$2.2 billion of additional first mortgage bonds and general mortgage bonds in the aggregate could be issued on the basis of retired bonds and 70% of property additions as of December 31, 2006. However, we are contractually prohibited, subject to certain exceptions, from issuing additional first mortgage bonds.

Our current credit ratings are discussed in "Management's Narrative Analysis of Results of Operations — Liquidity — Impact on Liquidity of a Downgrade in Credit Ratings" in Item 7 of this report. These credit ratings may not remain in effect for any given period of time and one or more of these ratings may be lowered or withdrawn entirely by a rating agency. We note that these credit ratings are not recommendations to buy, sell or hold our securities. Each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating. Any future reduction or withdrawal of one or more of our credit ratings could have a material adverse impact on our ability to access capital on acceptable terms.

The financial condition and liquidity of our parent company could affect our access to capital, our credit standing and our financial condition.

Our ratings and credit may be impacted by CenterPoint Energy's credit standing. As of December 31, 2006, CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries other than us have approximately \$875 million principal amount of debt required to be paid through 2009. This amount excludes amounts related to capital leases, transition bonds and indexed debt securities obligations. In addition, CenterPoint Energy has cash settlement obligations with respect to \$575 million of outstanding 3.75% convertible notes on which holders could exercise their conversion rights during the first quarter of 2007 and in subsequent quarters in which CenterPoint Energy's common stock price causes such notes to be convertible. If CenterPoint Energy were to experience a deterioration in its credit standing or liquidity difficulties, our access to credit and our ratings could be adversely affected and the repayment of notes receivable from CenterPoint Energy in the amount of \$750 million as of December 31, 2006 could be adversely affected.

We are an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy. CenterPoint Energy can exercise substantial control over our dividend policy and business and operations and could do so in a manner that is adverse to our interests.

We are managed by officers and employees of CenterPoint Energy. Our management will make determinations with respect to the following:

- our payment of dividends;
- decisions on our financings and our capital raising activities;
- mergers or other business combinations; and
- our acquisition or disposition of assets.

There are no contractual restrictions on our ability to pay dividends to CenterPoint Energy. Our management could decide to increase our dividends to CenterPoint Energy to support its cash needs. This could adversely affect our liquidity. However, under our credit facility and our receivables facility, our ability to pay dividends is restricted by a covenant that debt, excluding transition bonds, as a percentage of total capitalization may not exceed 65%.

Risks Common to Our Business and Other Risks

We are subject to operational and financial risks and liabilities arising from environmental laws and regulations.

Our operations are subject to stringent and complex laws and regulations pertaining to health, safety and the environment. As an owner or operator of electric transmission and distribution systems, we must comply with these laws and regulations at the federal, state and local levels. These laws and regulations can restrict or impact our business activities in many ways, such as:

- restricting the way we can handle or dispose of wastes;
- limiting or prohibiting construction activities in sensitive areas such as wetlands, coastal regions, or areas inhabited by endangered species;
- requiring remedial action to mitigate pollution conditions caused by our operations, or attributable to former operations; and
- enjoining the operations of facilities deemed in non-compliance with permits issued pursuant to such environmental laws and regulations.

In order to comply with these requirements, we may need to spend substantial amounts and devote other resources from time to time to:

- construct or acquire new equipment;
 - acquire permits for facility operations;
 - modify or replace existing and proposed equipment; and
 - clean up or decommission waste disposal areas, fuel storage and management facilities and other locations and facilities.
-

Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may trigger a variety of administrative, civil and criminal enforcement measures, including the assessment of monetary penalties, the imposition of remedial actions, and the issuance of orders enjoining future operations. Certain environmental statutes impose strict, joint and several liability for costs required to clean up and restore sites where hazardous substances have been disposed or otherwise released. Moreover, it is not uncommon for neighboring landowners and other third parties to file claims for personal injury and property damage allegedly caused by the release of hazardous substances or other waste products into the environment.

Our insurance coverage may not be sufficient. Insufficient insurance coverage and increased insurance costs could adversely impact our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

We currently have general liability and property insurance in place to cover certain of our facilities in amounts that we consider appropriate. Such policies are subject to certain limits and deductibles and do not include business interruption coverage. Insurance coverage may not be available in the future at current costs or on commercially reasonable terms, and the insurance proceeds received for any loss of, or any damage to, any of our facilities may not be sufficient to restore the loss or damage without negative impact on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

In common with other companies in our line of business that serve coastal regions, we do not have insurance covering our transmission and distribution system because we believe it to be cost prohibitive. If we were to sustain any loss of, or damage to, our transmission and distribution properties, we may not be able to recover such loss or damage through a change in our regulated rates, and any such recovery may not be timely granted. Therefore, we may not be able to restore any loss of, or damage to, any of our transmission and distribution properties without negative impact on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

We and CenterPoint Energy could incur liabilities associated with businesses and assets that we have transferred to others.

Under some circumstances, we and CenterPoint Energy could incur liabilities associated with assets and businesses we and CenterPoint Energy no longer own. These assets and businesses were previously owned by Reliant Energy, Incorporated (Reliant Energy), our predecessor, directly or through subsidiaries and include:

- those transferred to RRI or its subsidiaries in connection with the organization and capitalization of RRI prior to its initial public offering in 2001; and
- those transferred to Texas Genco in connection with its organization and capitalization.

In connection with the organization and capitalization of RRI, RRI and its subsidiaries assumed liabilities associated with various assets and businesses Reliant Energy transferred to them. RRI also agreed to indemnify, and cause the applicable transferee subsidiaries to indemnify, CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries, including us, with respect to liabilities associated with the transferred assets and businesses. These indemnity provisions were intended to place sole financial responsibility on RRI and its subsidiaries for all liabilities associated with the current and historical businesses and operations of RRI, regardless of the time those liabilities arose. If RRI is unable to satisfy a liability that has been so assumed in circumstances in which Reliant Energy has not been released from the liability in connection with the transfer, we and CenterPoint Energy could be responsible for satisfying the liability.

RRI's unsecured debt ratings are currently below investment grade. If RRI were unable to meet its obligations, it would need to consider, among various options, restructuring under the bankruptcy laws, in which event RRI might not honor its indemnification obligations and claims by RRI's creditors might be made against us as its former owner.

Reliant Energy and RRI are named as defendants in a number of lawsuits arising out of energy sales in California and other markets and financial reporting matters. Although these matters relate to the business and operations of RRI, claims against Reliant Energy have been made on grounds that include the effect of RRI's financial results on Reliant Energy's historical financial statements and liability of Reliant Energy as a controlling shareholder of RRI. We or CenterPoint Energy could incur liability if claims in one or more of these lawsuits were

successfully asserted against us or CenterPoint Energy and indemnification from RRI were determined to be unavailable or if RRI were unable to satisfy indemnification obligations owed with respect to those claims.

In connection with the organization and capitalization of Texas Genco, Texas Genco assumed liabilities associated with the electric generation assets Reliant Energy transferred to it. Texas Genco also agreed to indemnify, and cause the applicable transferee subsidiaries to indemnify, CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries, including us, with respect to liabilities associated with the transferred assets and businesses. In many cases the liabilities assumed were our obligations and we were not released by third parties from these liabilities. The indemnity provisions were intended generally to place sole financial responsibility on Texas Genco and its subsidiaries for all liabilities associated with the current and historical businesses and operations of Texas Genco, regardless of the time those liabilities arose. In connection with the sale of Texas Genco's fossil generation assets (coal, lignite and gas-fired plants) to Texas Genco LLC, the separation agreement CenterPoint Energy entered into with Texas Genco in connection with the organization and capitalization of Texas Genco was amended to provide that all of Texas Genco's rights and obligations under the separation agreement relating to its fossil generation assets, including Texas Genco's obligation to indemnify CenterPoint Energy with respect to liabilities associated with the fossil generation assets and related business, were assigned to and assumed by Texas Genco LLC. In addition, under the amended separation agreement, Texas Genco is no longer liable for, and CenterPoint Energy has assumed and agreed to indemnify Texas Genco LLC against, liabilities that Texas Genco originally assumed in connection with its organization to the extent, and only to the extent, that such liabilities are covered by certain insurance policies or other similar agreements held by CenterPoint Energy. If Texas Genco or Texas Genco LLC were unable to satisfy a liability that had been so assumed or indemnified against, and provided CenterPoint Energy had not been released from the liability in connection with the transfer, we could be responsible for satisfying the liability.

CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries have been named, along with numerous others, as a defendant in lawsuits filed by a large number of individuals who claim injury due to exposure to asbestos. Most claimants in such litigation have been workers who participated in construction of various industrial facilities, including power plants. Some of the claimants have worked at locations CenterPoint Energy owns, but most existing claims relate to facilities previously owned by its subsidiaries but currently owned by Texas Genco LLC, which is now known as NRG Texas LP. We anticipate that additional claims like those received may be asserted in the future. Under the terms of the arrangements regarding separation of the generating business from CenterPoint Energy and its sale to Texas Genco LLC, ultimate financial responsibility for uninsured losses from claims relating to the generating business has been assumed by Texas Genco LLC and its successor, but CenterPoint Energy has agreed to continue to defend such claims to the extent they are covered by insurance maintained by CenterPoint Energy, subject to reimbursement of the costs of such defense by Texas Genco LLC.