

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Prochazka Scott M</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) 1111 LOUISIANA  (Street) HOUSTON TX 77002  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [ CNP ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <b>President &amp; CEO</b>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/03/2017	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	04/03/2017		s <sup>(1)</sup>		1,000	D	\$27.45 <sup>(2)</sup>	253,466 <sup>(3)</sup>	D	
Common Stock								6,594	I	By Savings Plan <sup>(4)</sup>

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			

**Explanation of Responses:**

- The sale of shares reported in this Form 4 was effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the Reporting Person. The adoption of the trading plan was previously disclosed by the Issuer in its Current Report on Form 8-K filed with Securities and Exchange Commission on March 28, 2017.
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$27.32 to \$27.54, inclusive. The Reporting Person undertakes to provide to the Issuer, any security holder of the Issuer, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in this footnote.
- Total includes (i) 37,480 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2018, (ii) 63,258 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2019, and (iii) 54,115 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2020. Each of the above awards shall vest if the Reporting Person continues to be an employee of Issuer from the grant date through the vesting date and on a pro-rata basis in the event of his earlier retirement, disability or death.
- Equivalent shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan.

**Remarks:**

Vincent A. Mercaldi, Attorney-in-Fact 04/05/2017

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.