

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

☐ Check this box to indicate that a transaction was made pursuant to a contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of equity securities of the issuer that is intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c). See Instruction 10.

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <u>Soto Jesus Jr.</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>1111 LOUISIANA</u> (Street) <u>HOUSTON TX 77002</u> (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [CNP]</u> Foreign Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner ☒ Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>EVP and COO</u>	
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>08/11/2026</u>		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) ☒ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

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	08/11/2026		F		15,151 ⁽¹⁾	D	\$40.18	175,279	D	
Common Stock	08/11/2026		F		1,924 ⁽¹⁾	D	\$40.18	173,355 ⁽²⁾	D	

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:

1. Shares withheld for taxes upon vesting of time-based restricted stock units ("RSUs") previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "Plan").

2. Total includes previous awards under the Plan of: (i) 116,670 RSUs vesting in three equal installments in August 2027, 2028 and 2029, (ii) 9,774 RSUs vesting in two equal installments in August 2027 and 2028, and (iii) 20,207 RSUs vesting in three equal installments in February 2027, 2028 and 2029. The above awards shall vest (a) upon continued employment with Issuer through the respective vesting date, (b) in the event of earlier disability or death, (c) for the award under clause (i), upon earlier involuntary termination without cause, or for the awards under clauses (ii) and (iii), on a full or pro-rata basis upon earlier retirement subject to satisfaction of certain conditions. Vesting of the awards under clauses (ii) and (iii) is conditioned upon achievement of positive operating income for the year preceding the applicable vesting date except in the case of death or disability.

Remarks:

Vincent A. Mercaldi,
Attorney-in-Fact
** Signature of Reporting Person Date
08/13/2026

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.

