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CenterPoint Energy subsidiary closes on \$300 million of general mortgage bonds

Underwriters include MWBE firms

HOUSTON, May 18, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC (Houston Electric), an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (NYSE: CNP), today closed on 1.85% general mortgage bonds totaling \$300 million due June 1, 2021. Net proceeds will be used to repay short-term debt and for general corporate purposes.



Citigroup, Credit Suisse, and Wells Fargo Securities served as joint bookrunners with PNC Capital Markets LLC as a Senior Co-Manager. "We were especially pleased to have the opportunity to work with a distinguished group of MWBE investment banks as co-managers," said Tracy Bridge, executive vice president and president of CenterPoint Energy's Electric Division. The MWBE firms in this offering were Academy Securities, MFR Securities, Inc., Ramirez & Co., Inc., and The Williams Capital Group, L.P.

This news release does not constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of any offer to buy, any security and shall not constitute an offer, solicitation or sale in any jurisdiction in which such offering would be unlawful.

This news release includes forward-looking statements. Actual events and results may differ materially from those projected. The statements in this news release regarding the use of proceeds from the offering and other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. Factors that could affect actual results include the timing and impact of future regulatory and legislative decisions, effects of competition, weather variations, changes in business plans, financial market conditions and other factors discussed in Houston Electric's Form 10-K, as amended, for the period ended December 31, 2015, Houston Electric's Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2016 and Houston Electric's other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. A written prospectus may be obtained by visiting EDGAR on the SEC Website at www.sec.gov.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc., headquartered in Houston, Texas, is a domestic energy delivery company that includes electric transmission & distribution, natural gas distribution and energy services operations. The company serves more than five million metered customers primarily in Arkansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas. The company also owns a 55.4 percent limited partner interest in Enable Midstream Partners, a publicly traded master limited partnership it jointly controls with OGE Energy Corp., which owns, operates and develops natural gas and crude oil infrastructure assets. With more than 7,400 employees, CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor companies have been in business for more than 140 years.

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