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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): May 10, 2016

CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-31447
(Commission
File Number)

74-0694415
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

1111 Louisiana
Houston, Texas
(Address of principal executive offices)

77002
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (713) 207-1111

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Conditions.

On May 10, 2016, CenterPoint Energy, Inc. ("CenterPoint Energy") reported first quarter 2016 earnings. For additional information regarding CenterPoint Energy's first quarter 2016 earnings, please refer to CenterPoint Energy's press release attached to this report as Exhibit 99.1 (the "Press Release"), which Press Release is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

CenterPoint Energy is holding a conference call to discuss its first quarter 2016 earnings on May 10, 2016. Information about the call can be found in the Press Release furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1. For additional information regarding CenterPoint Energy's first quarter 2016 earnings, please refer to the supplemental materials which are being posted on CenterPoint Energy's website and are attached to this report as Exhibit 99.2 (the "Supplemental Materials"), which Supplemental Materials are incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

The information in the Press Release and the Supplemental Materials is being furnished, not filed, pursuant to Item 2.02 and 7.01, respectively. Accordingly, the information in the Press Release and the Supplemental Materials will not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement filed by CenterPoint Energy under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, unless specifically identified therein as being incorporated therein by reference.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>EXHIBIT NUMBER</u>	<u>EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION</u>
99.1	Press Release issued May 10, 2016 regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s first quarter 2016 earnings
99.2	Supplemental Materials regarding CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s first quarter 2016 earnings

SIGNATURE

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 hereunto duly authorized.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.

Date: May 10, 2016

By: /s/ Kristie L. Colvin
Kristie L. Colvin
Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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For Immediate Release

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CenterPoint Energy reports first quarter 2016 earnings of \$0.36 per diluted share and reaffirms full year guidance of \$1.12 to \$1.20

- Strong utility performance despite milder weather
- Midstream Investments delivers earnings contributions in-line with expectations

Houston, TX – May 10, 2016 - CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (NYSE: CNP) today reported net income of \$154 million, or \$0.36 per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2016, compared with \$131 million, or \$0.30 per diluted share for the same period of the prior year. On a guidance basis, first quarter 2016 earnings were \$0.32 per diluted share, consisting of \$0.23 from utility operations and \$0.09 from midstream investments.

Operating income for the first quarter of 2016 was \$250 million, compared with \$256 million in the first quarter of the prior year. Equity income from midstream investments was \$60 million for the first quarter of 2016, compared with \$52 million for the same period in the prior year.

“2016 is off to a solid start with strong performance from our gas and electric utilities,” said Scott M. Prochazka, president and chief executive officer of CenterPoint Energy. “Enable Midstream provided first quarter earnings in-line with expectations as they continue to execute their strategy.”

Electric Transmission & Distribution

The electric transmission & distribution segment reported operating income of \$83 million for the first quarter of 2016, consisting of \$59 million from the regulated electric transmission & distribution utility operations (TDU) and \$24 million related to securitization bonds. Operating income for the first quarter of 2015 was \$96 million, consisting of \$68 million from the TDU and \$28 million related to securitization bonds.

Operating income for the TDU benefited primarily from higher net transmission related revenues (\$11 million) and customer growth (\$6 million). These benefits were more than offset by higher depreciation (\$12 million), lower right of way revenues (\$6 million) and higher operations and maintenance expense (\$5 million).

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Natural Gas Distribution

The natural gas distribution segment reported operating income of \$160 million for the first quarter of 2016, compared with \$146 million for the same period of 2015. Operating income benefited from rate increases (\$21 million) and customer growth (\$2 million). These benefits were partially offset by decreased usage (\$4 million), higher depreciation and amortization expenses (\$4 million) and higher labor and benefits expenses (\$3 million).

Energy Services

The energy services segment reported operating income of \$6 million for the first quarter of 2016, which included a mark-to-market accounting loss of \$9 million, compared with \$13 million for the same period of 2015, which included a mark-to-market loss of \$4 million. Excluding mark-to-market losses, the remaining \$2 million decrease was margin related, primarily due to reduced weather-related optimization opportunities.

Midstream Investments

The midstream investments segment reported \$60 million of equity income for the first quarter of 2016, compared with \$52 million in the first quarter of the prior year.

Enable Midstream also declared a quarterly cash distribution on April 26, 2016, of \$0.318 per common and subordinated unit. Please refer to Enable's May 4, 2016, earnings press release for details.

Dividend Declaration

On April 28, 2016, CenterPoint Energy's board of directors declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.2575 per share of common stock payable on June 10, 2016, to shareholders of record as of the close of business on May 16, 2016.

Outlook for 2016

On a consolidated basis, CenterPoint Energy reaffirms its earnings estimate for 2016 in the range of \$1.12 to \$1.20 per diluted share.

The guidance range considers utility operations performance to date and certain significant variables that may impact earnings, such as weather, regulatory and judicial proceedings, throughput, commodity prices, effective tax rates, and financing activities. In providing this guidance, the company does not include other potential impacts, such as changes in accounting standards or unusual items, earnings from the change in the value of the ZENS securities and the related stocks, or the timing effects of mark-to-market accounting in the company's energy service business.

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In providing guidance, the company assumes for midstream investments a 55.4 percent limited partner ownership interest in Enable Midstream and includes the amortization of our basis differential in Enable Midstream. The company's guidance takes into account such factors as Enable Midstream's most recent public outlook for 2016 dated May 4, 2016, and effective tax rates. The company does not include other potential impacts such as any changes in accounting standards or Enable Midstream's unusual items.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Reconciliation of Net Income and diluted EPS to the basis used in providing 2016 annual earnings guidance

	Quarter Ended	
	March 31, 2016	
	Net Income (in millions)	EPS
Consolidated as reported	\$ 154	\$ 0.36
Midstream Investments	(37)	(0.09)
Utility Operations (1)	117	0.27
Timing effects impacting CES⁽²⁾:		
Mark-to-market (gains) losses	6	0.01
ZENS-related mark-to-market (gains) losses:		
Marketable securities (3)	(58)	(0.13)
Indexed debt securities	36	0.08
Utility operations earnings on an adjusted guidance basis	\$ 101	\$ 0.23
Per the basis used in providing 2016 earnings guidance:		
Utility Operations on a guidance basis	\$ 101	\$ 0.23
Midstream Investments	37	0.09
2016 Consolidated on a guidance basis	\$ 138	\$ 0.32

- (1) CenterPoint earnings excluding Midstream Investments
(2) Energy Services segment
(3) Time Warner Inc., Time Warner Cable Inc., and Time Inc.

Filing of Form 10-Q for CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

Today, CenterPoint Energy, Inc. filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2016. A copy of that report is available on the company's website, under the [Investors section](#). Other filings the company makes with the SEC and certain documents relating to its corporate governance can also be found under the Investors section.

Webcast of Earnings Conference Call

CenterPoint Energy's management will host an earnings conference call on Tues., May 10, 2016, at 10 a.m. Central time or 11 a.m. Eastern time. Interested parties may listen to a live audio broadcast of the conference call on the company's website under the [Investors section](#). A replay of the call can be accessed approximately two hours after the completion of the call and will be archived on the website for at least one year.

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. For more information, visit the website at www.CenterPointEnergy.com.

This news release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements are based upon assumptions of management which are believed to be reasonable at the time made and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual events and results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Any statements in this news release regarding future earnings, and future financial performance and results of operations, including, but not limited to earnings guidance, targeted dividend growth rate and any other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement contained in this news release speaks only as of the date of this release. Factors that could affect actual results include (1) state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments affecting various aspects of CenterPoint Energy's businesses (including the businesses of Enable Midstream Partners (Enable Midstream)), including, among others, energy deregulation or re-regulation, pipeline integrity and safety, health care reform, financial reform, tax legislation, and actions regarding the rates charged by CenterPoint Energy's regulated businesses; (2) state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments relating to the environment, including those related to global climate change; (3) recording of non-cash goodwill, long-lived asset or other than temporary impairment charges by or related to Enable Midstream; (4) timely and appropriate rate actions that allow recovery of costs and a reasonable return on investment; (5) the timing and outcome of any audits, disputes or other proceedings related to taxes; (6) problems with construction, implementation of necessary technology or other issues with respect to major capital projects that result in delays or in cost overruns that cannot be recouped in rates; (7) industrial, commercial and residential growth in CenterPoint Energy's service territories and changes in market demand, including the effects of energy efficiency measures and demographic patterns; (8) the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices, particularly natural gas and natural gas liquids, and the effects of geographic and seasonal commodity price differentials, and the impact of commodity changes on producer related activities; (9) weather variations and other natural phenomena, including the impact on operations and capital from severe weather events; (10) any direct or indirect effects on CenterPoint Energy's facilities, operations and financial condition resulting from terrorism, cyber-attacks, data security breaches or other attempts to disrupt its businesses or the businesses of third parties, or other catastrophic events; (11) the impact of unplanned facility outages; (12) timely and appropriate regulatory

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actions allowing securitization or other recovery of costs associated with any future hurricanes or natural disasters; (13) changes in interest rates or rates of inflation; (14) commercial bank and financial market conditions, CenterPoint Energy's access to capital, the cost of such capital, and the results of its financing and refinancing efforts, including availability of funds in the debt capital markets; (15) actions by credit rating agencies; (16) effectiveness of CenterPoint Energy's risk management activities; (17) inability of various counterparties to meet their obligations; (18) non-payment for services due to financial distress of CenterPoint Energy's and Enable Midstream's customers; (19) the ability of GenOn Energy, Inc. (formerly known as RRI Energy, Inc.), a wholly owned subsidiary of NRG Energy, Inc., and its subsidiaries to satisfy their obligations to CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries; (20) the ability of retail electric providers, and particularly the largest customers of the TDU, to satisfy their obligations to CenterPoint Energy and its subsidiaries; (21) the outcome of litigation; (22) CenterPoint Energy's ability to control costs, invest planned capital, or execute growth projects; (23) the investment performance of pension and postretirement benefit plans; (24) potential business strategies, including restructurings, joint ventures, and acquisitions or dispositions of assets or businesses, for which no assurance can be given that they will be completed or will provide the anticipated benefits to CenterPoint Energy; (25) acquisition and merger activities and successful integration of such activities, involving CenterPoint Energy or its competitors; (26) the ability to recruit, effectively transition and retain management and key employees and maintain good labor relations; (27) future economic conditions in regional and national markets and their effects on sales, prices and costs; (28) the performance of Enable Midstream, the amount of cash distributions CenterPoint Energy receives from Enable Midstream, and the value of its interest in Enable Midstream, and factors that may have a material impact on such performance, cash distributions and value, including certain of the factors specified above and: (A) the integration of the operations of the businesses contributed to Enable Midstream; (B) the achievement of anticipated operational and commercial synergies and expected growth opportunities, and the successful implementation of Enable Midstream's business plan; (C) competitive conditions in the midstream industry, and actions taken by Enable Midstream's customers and competitors, including the extent and timing of the entry of additional competition in the markets served by Enable Midstream; (D) the timing and extent of changes in the supply of natural gas and associated commodity prices, particularly natural gas and natural gas liquids, the competitive effects of the available pipeline capacity in the regions served by Enable Midstream, and the effects of geographic and seasonal commodity price differentials, including the effects of these circumstances on re-contracting available capacity on Enable Midstream's interstate pipelines; (E) the demand for crude oil, natural gas, NGLs and transportation and storage services; (F) changes in tax status; (G) access to growth capital; and (H) the availability and prices of raw materials for current and future construction projects; (29) effective tax rate; (30) the effect of changes in and application of accounting standards and pronouncements; (31) other factors discussed in CenterPoint Energy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, as well as in CenterPoint Energy's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2016, and other reports CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries may file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In addition to presenting its financial results in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), CenterPoint Energy also provides guidance based on adjusted diluted earnings per share, which is a non-GAAP financial measure. Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's historical or future financial performance that excludes or includes amounts that are not normally excluded or included in the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. A reconciliation of net income and diluted earnings per share to the basis used in providing 2016 guidance is provided in this news release.

Management evaluates financial performance in part based on adjusted diluted earnings per share and believes that presenting this non-GAAP financial measure enhances an investor's understanding of CenterPoint Energy's overall financial performance by providing them with an additional meaningful and relevant comparison of current and anticipated future results across periods by excluding items that Management does not believe most accurately reflect its fundamental business performance, which items include the items reflected in the reconciliation table of this news release. This non-GAAP financial measure should be considered as a supplement and complement to, and not as a substitute for, or superior to, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure and may be different than non-GAAP financial measures used by other companies.

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CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Statements of Consolidated Income
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
	2016	2015
Revenues:		
Electric Transmission & Distribution	\$ 660	\$ 612
Natural Gas Distribution	895	1,193
Energy Services	439	650
Other Operations	4	4
Eliminations	(14)	(26)
Total	<u>1,984</u>	<u>2,433</u>
Expenses:		
Natural gas	852	1,354
Operation and maintenance	521	498
Depreciation and amortization	260	217
Taxes other than income taxes	101	108
Total	<u>1,734</u>	<u>2,177</u>
Operating Income	<u>250</u>	<u>256</u>
Other Income (Expense) :		
Gain (loss) on marketable securities	90	(17)
Gain (loss) on indexed debt securities	(56)	24
Interest and other finance charges	(87)	(89)
Interest on securitization bonds	(24)	(28)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliate	60	52
Other - net	7	11
Total	<u>(10)</u>	<u>(47)</u>
Income Before Income Taxes	240	209
Income Tax Expense	86	78
Net Income	<u>\$ 154</u>	<u>\$ 131</u>

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
contained in the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Selected Data From Statements of Consolidated Income
(Millions of Dollars, Except Share and Per Share Amounts)
(Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
	2016	2015
Basic Earnings Per Common Share	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.30
Diluted Earnings Per Common Share	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.30
Dividends Declared per Common Share	0.2575	\$ 0.2475
Weighted Average Common Shares Outstanding (000):		
- Basic	430,407	429,955
- Diluted	432,594	431,183
<u>Operating Income by Segment</u>		
Electric Transmission & Distribution:		
Electric Transmission and Distribution Operations	\$ 59	\$ 68
Transition and System Restoration Bond Companies	24	28
Total Electric Transmission & Distribution	83	96
Natural Gas Distribution	160	146
Energy Services	6	13
Other Operations	1	1
Total	\$ 250	\$ 256

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
contained in the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Results of Operations by Segment
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Electric Transmission & Distribution		
	Quarter Ended March 31,		% Diff Fav/(Unfav)
	2016	2015	
Results of Operations:			
Revenues:			
Electric transmission and distribution utility	\$ 540	\$ 514	5%
Transition and system restoration bond companies	120	98	22%
Total	<u>660</u>	<u>612</u>	8%
Expenses:			
Operation and maintenance	329	307	(7%)
Depreciation and amortization	95	83	(14%)
Taxes other than income taxes	57	56	(2%)
Transition and system restoration bond companies	96	70	(37%)
Total	<u>577</u>	<u>516</u>	(12%)
Operating Income	<u>\$ 83</u>	<u>\$ 96</u>	(14%)
Operating Income:			
Electric transmission and distribution operations	\$ 59	\$ 68	(13%)
Transition and system restoration bond companies	24	28	(14%)
Total Segment Operating Income	<u>\$ 83</u>	<u>\$ 96</u>	(14%)
Electric Transmission & Distribution Operating Data:			
Actual MWH Delivered			
Residential	5,019,455	5,412,794	(7%)
Total	18,130,601	18,014,776	1%
Weather (average for service area):			
Percentage of 10-year average:			
Cooling degree days	111%	57%	54%
Heating degree days	86%	135%	(49%)
Number of metered customers - end of period:			
Residential	2,095,035	2,043,463	3%
Total	2,364,784	2,310,706	2%
Natural Gas Distribution			
	Quarter Ended March 31,		% Diff Fav/(Unfav)
	2016	2015	
Results of Operations:			
Revenues			
Natural gas	\$ 895	\$ 1,193	(25%)
Gross Margin	<u>445</u>	<u>756</u>	41%
Expenses:			
Operation and maintenance	450	437	3%
Operation and maintenance	189	186	(2%)
Depreciation and amortization	59	55	(7%)
Taxes other than income taxes	42	50	16%
Total	<u>290</u>	<u>291</u>	—
Operating Income	<u>\$ 160</u>	<u>\$ 146</u>	10%
Natural Gas Distribution Operating Data:			
Throughput data in BCF			
Residential	73	97	(25%)
Commercial and Industrial	86	88	(2%)
Total Throughput	<u>159</u>	<u>185</u>	(14%)
Weather (average for service area)			
Percentage of 10-year average:			
Heating degree days	87%	113%	(26%)
Number of customers - end of period:			
Residential	3,163,094	3,137,337	1%
Commercial and Industrial	254,781	251,811	1%
Total	<u>3,417,875</u>	<u>3,389,148</u>	1%

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
contained in the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Results of Operations by Segment
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Energy Services		
	Quarter Ended March 31,		% Diff Fav/(Unfav)
	2016	2015	
Results of Operations:			
Revenues	\$ 439	\$ 650	(32%)
Natural gas	421	624	33%
Gross Margin	18	26	(31%)
Expenses:			
Operation and maintenance	10	12	17%
Depreciation and amortization	1	1	—
Taxes other than income taxes	1	—	—
Total	12	13	8%
Operating Income	\$ 6	\$ 13	(54%)
Mark-to-market loss	\$ (9)	\$ (4)	(125%)
Energy Services Operating Data:			
Throughput data in BCF	171	185	(8%)
Number of customers - end of period	18,073	18,206	(1%)

	Other Operations		
	Quarter Ended March 31,		% Diff Fav/(Unfav)
	2016	2015	
Results of Operations:			
Revenues	\$ 4	\$ 4	—
Expenses	3	3	—
Operating Income	\$ 1	\$ 1	—

Capital Expenditures by Segment
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
	2016	2015
	Capital Expenditures by Segment	
Electric Transmission & Distribution	\$212	\$208
Natural Gas Distribution	89	91
Energy Services	—	1
Other Operations	8	9
Total	<u>\$309</u>	<u>\$309</u>

Interest Expense Detail
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Quarter Ended March 31,	
	2016	2015
	Interest Expense Detail	
Amortization of Deferred Financing Cost	\$ 6	\$ 6
Capitalization of Interest Cost	(2)	(3)
Transition and System Restoration Bond Interest Expense	24	28
Other Interest Expense	83	86
Total Interest Expense	<u>\$111</u>	<u>\$117</u>

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
contained in the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 218	\$ 264
Other current assets	2,117	2,425
Total current assets	<u>2,335</u>	<u>2,689</u>
Property, Plant and Equipment, net	<u>11,718</u>	<u>11,537</u>
Other Assets:		
Goodwill	840	840
Regulatory assets	3,031	3,129
Investment in unconsolidated affiliate	2,580	2,594
Preferred units – unconsolidated affiliate	363	—
Other non-current assets	137	501
Total other assets	<u>6,951</u>	<u>7,064</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$21,004</u>	<u>\$ 21,290</u>
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current Liabilities:		
Short-term borrowings	\$ —	\$ 40
Current portion of securitization bonds long-term debt	400	391
Indexed debt	148	145
Current portion of other long-term debt	576	328
Other current liabilities	1,410	1,554
Total current liabilities	<u>2,534</u>	<u>2,458</u>
Other Liabilities:		
Accumulated deferred income taxes, net	5,116	5,047
Regulatory liabilities	1,306	1,276
Other non-current liabilities	1,188	1,182
Total other liabilities	<u>7,610</u>	<u>7,505</u>
Long-term Debt:		
Securitization bonds	2,122	2,276
Other	5,232	5,590
Total long-term debt	<u>7,354</u>	<u>7,866</u>
Shareholders' Equity	<u>3,506</u>	<u>3,461</u>
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	<u>\$21,004</u>	<u>\$ 21,290</u>

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
contained in the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and Subsidiaries
Condensed Statements of Consolidated Cash Flows
(Millions of Dollars)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2016	2015
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 154	\$ 131
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	266	224
Deferred income taxes	65	7
Write-down of natural gas inventory	1	2
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliate, net of distributions	(60)	20
Changes in net regulatory assets	2	58
Changes in other assets and liabilities	203	225
Other, net	3	(1)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	<u>634</u>	<u>666</u>
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(269)	(337)
Net Cash Used in Financing Activities	<u>(411)</u>	<u>(393)</u>
Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(46)	(64)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	264	298
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period	<u>\$ 218</u>	<u>\$ 234</u>

Reference is made to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

1st Quarter 2016 Earnings Call

- *Strong utility performance despite milder weather*
- *Midstream Investments delivers earnings contributions in-line with expectations*
- *Company reaffirms full year guidance of \$1.12 to \$1.20*

May 10, 2016

DELIVERING
ENERGY, SERVICE
AND VALUE



Cautionary Statement



This presentation and the oral statements made in connection herewith contain statements concerning our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future operations, events, financial position, earnings, growth, costs, prospects capital investments or performance or underlying assumptions (including future regulatory filings and recovery, liquidity, capital resources, balance sheet, cash flow, capital investments and management, financing costs, and rate base or customer growth) 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. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. 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. The absence of these words, however, does not mean that the statements are not forward-looking.

Examples of forward-looking statements in this presentation include statements about our Continuum acquisition, including statements about future financial performance, margin and operating income and growth, guidance, including earnings and dividend growth, future financing plans and expectation for liquidity and capital resources, tax rates and interest rates, among other statements. We have based our forward-looking statements on our management's beliefs and assumptions based on information currently 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.

Some of the factors that could cause actual results to differ from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements include but are not limited to the timing and impact of future regulatory, legislative and IRS decisions, financial market conditions, future market conditions, economic and employment conditions, customer growth, Enable Midstream's performance and ability to pay distributions, and other factors described in CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2016 under "Risk Factors" and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Certain Factors Affecting Future Earnings" and in other filings with the SEC by CenterPoint Energy, which can be found at www.centerpointenergy.com on the Investor Relations page or on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

This presentation contains time sensitive information that is accurate as of the date hereof. Some of the information in this presentation is unaudited and may be subject to change. We undertake no obligation to update the information presented herein except as required by law.

Investors and others should note that we may announce material information using SEC filings, press releases, public conference calls, webcasts and the Investors page of our website. In the future, we will continue to use these channels to distribute material information about the Company and to communicate important information about the Company, key personnel, corporate initiatives, regulatory updates and other matters. Information that we post on our website could be deemed material; therefore, we encourage investors, the media, our customers, business partners and others interested in our Company to review the information we post on our website.

Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In addition to presenting its financial results in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), CenterPoint Energy also provides guidance based on adjusted diluted earnings per share, which is a non-GAAP financial measure. Generally, a non-GAAP financial measure is a numerical measure of a company's historical or future financial performance that excludes or includes amounts that are not normally excluded or included in the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. A full reconciliation of net income and diluted earnings per share to the basis used in providing guidance is provided in this presentation on slide 21. These non-GAAP financial measures should be considered as a supplement and complement to, and not as a substitute for, or superior to, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure and may be different than non-GAAP financial measures used by other companies.

Management evaluates financial performance in part based on adjusted diluted earnings per share and believes that presenting this non-GAAP financial measure enhances an investor's understanding of CenterPoint Energy's overall financial performance by providing them with an additional meaningful and relevant comparison of current and anticipated future results across periods by excluding items that Management does not believe most accurately reflect its fundamental business performance, which include items reflected in the reconciliation table on slide 21 of this presentation. This non-GAAP financial measure should be considered as a supplement and complement to, and not as a substitute for, or superior to, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure and may be different than non-GAAP financial measures used by other companies.

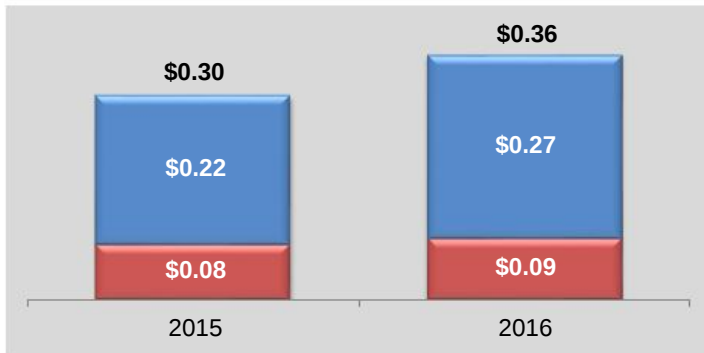


Earnings Call Highlights

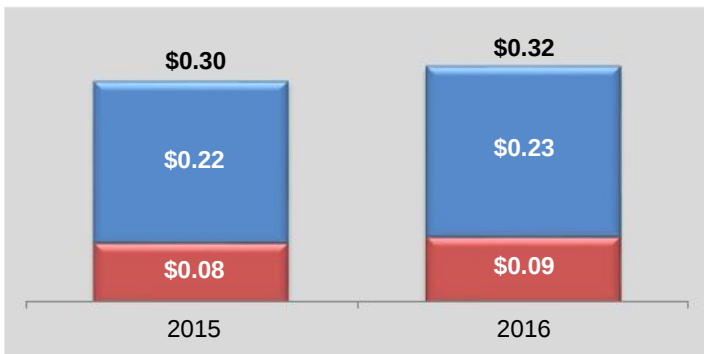
- First Quarter Performance Highlights
- Full-Year Outlook
- Enable Midstream Highlights



Q1 GAAP EPS



Q1 EPS on a Guidance Basis



■ Utility Operations ■ Midstream Investments

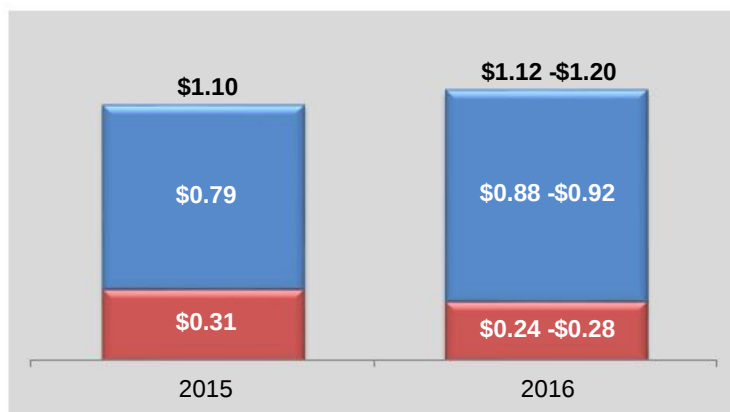
Q1 2016 vs Q1 2015 Drivers (EPS on a Guidance Basis)

- ↑ Rate Relief
 - ↑ Customer Growth
 - ↑ Midstream Investments
- ↓ Depreciation
 - ↓ O&M Expenses
 - ↓ Weather Related Usage

↑ Favorable Variance Unfavorable Variance

Note: Refer to slide 1 for reconciliation to GAAP measures and slide 2 for information on non-GAAP measures

2016 Guidance Range vs. 2015 EPS on a Guidance Basis



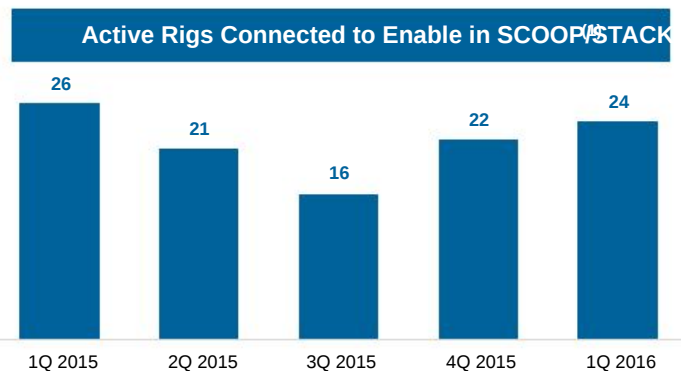
■ Utility Operations ■ Midstream Investments

- Our focus remains to invest in our current utility service territories to address ongoing growth, maintenance, reliability, safety and customer service
- Earnings from Utility Operations are expected to represent 75%- 80% of overall earnings in 2016
- We anticipate 2016 Utility Operations earnings growth will be driven by:
 - Customer and sales growth
 - Effective capital management
 - Efficient rate recovery
 - Optimization of financing costs

Note: Refer to slide 2 for information on non-GAAP measures

Enable Q1 2016 Performance

- Announced a first quarter 2016 cash distribution of \$0.318 per common and subordinated unit
- Increased first quarter 2016 per-day natural gas processed volumes by 6% compared to first quarter 2015



- Increased first quarter 2016 crude oil gathered volumes by 22.1 MBbl/d compared to first quarter 2015 and by 5.8 MBbl/d compared to fourth quarter 2015
- Enable has \$1.03 billion of available liquidity⁽²⁾ and achieved a first quarter 2016 distribution coverage ratio greater than 1.0x
- Enable continues to monitor customer activity levels and is focused on deploying capital efficiently

Source: Enable Midstream Partners, May 4, 2016, Press Release and Q1 Earnings Call. Please refer to these materials for an overview of Enable's Q1 Performance.

(1) As of the end of each quarter; as of April 12, 2016 there were 22 active rigs contractually dedicated to Enable's gathering and processing system in the SCOOP and STACK plays

(2) Available liquidity calculated as Revolving Credit Facility of \$1.75B less principal advances of \$715MM, less \$3MM in letters



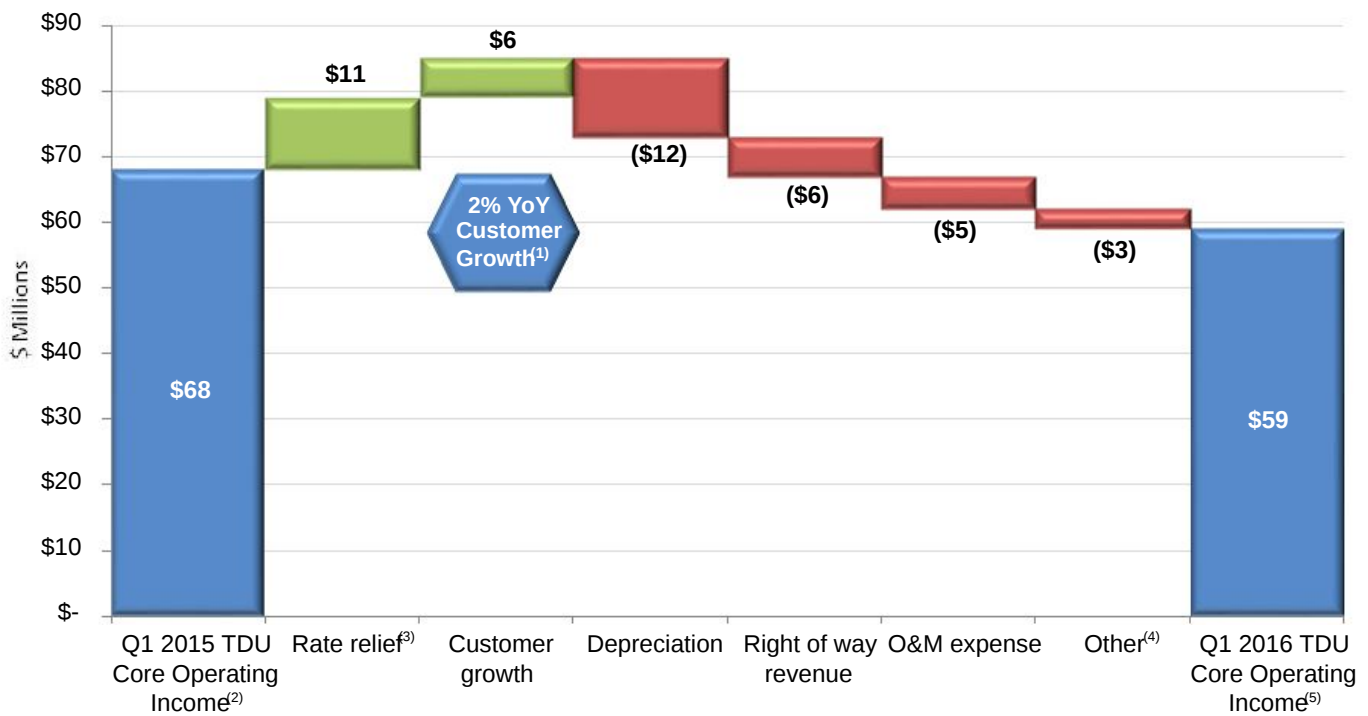
Earnings Call Highlights

- Houston Electric Results
- Houston Electric Growth



A Houston Electric lineman working on lines damaged by storm the week of April 17th

Electric Transmission and Distribution Operating Income Drivers: Q1 2015 vs Q1 2016



⁽¹⁾ Houston Electric's customer count increased from 2,310,706 as of March 31, 2015, to 2,364,784 as of March 31, 2016

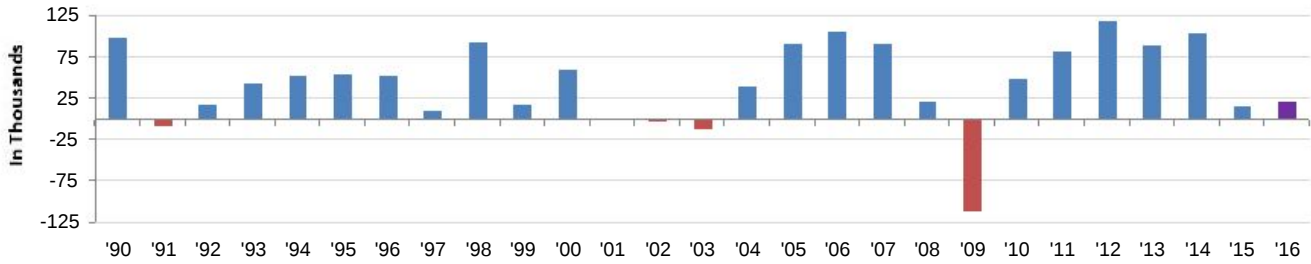
⁽²⁾ 2015 TDU core operating income represents total segment operating income of \$96 million, excluding operating income from transition and system restoration bonds of \$28 million

⁽³⁾ Net transmission related revenue

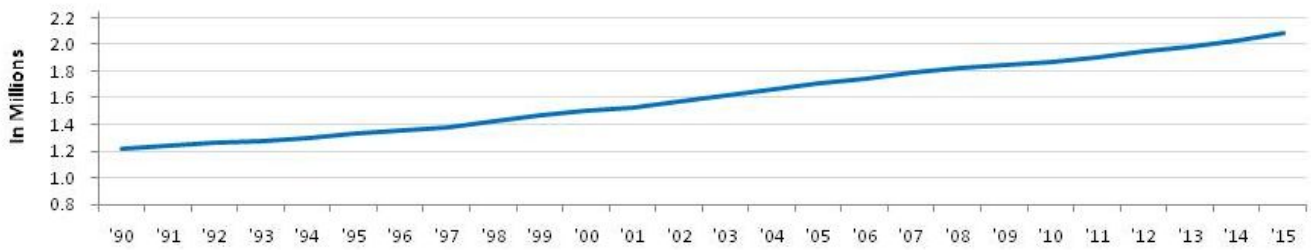
⁽⁴⁾ Primarily due to weather-related usage

⁽⁵⁾ 2016 TDU core operating income represents total segment operating income of \$83 million, excluding operating income from transition and system restoration bonds of \$24 million

December to December Houston Job Growth



Houston Electric Residential Meter Count



- In 2015, metro Houston led the nation in population growth, adding 159,000 residents (more than Dallas or Atlanta⁽¹⁾)
- CenterPoint had in excess of 2% meter growth year-over-year as of the 1st quarter of 2016

(1) Job growth data from the Texas Workforce Commission
 (2) 2016 job growth forecast from the Greater Houston Partnership
 (3) Meter count data from CenterPoint Energy
 (4) Houston population growth from the U.S. Census Bureau



Earnings Call Highlights

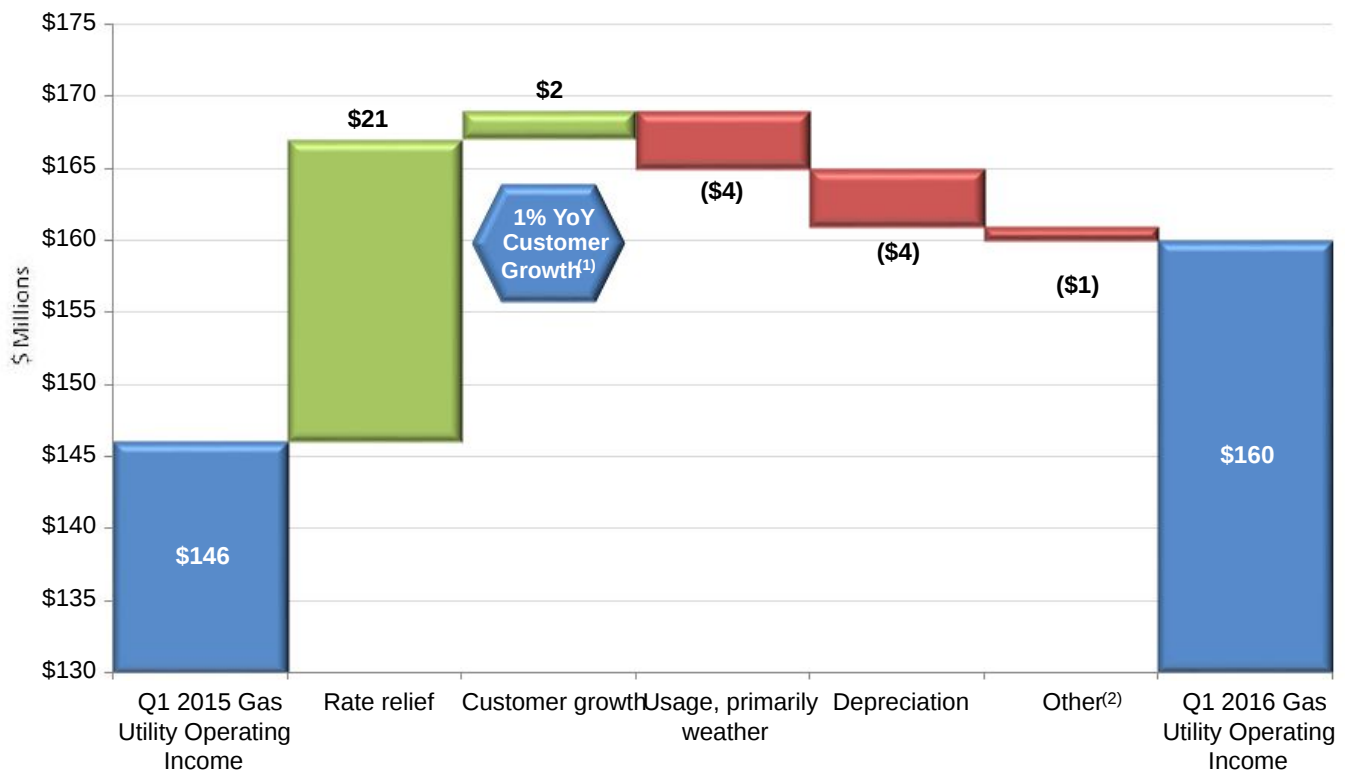
- Gas Utilities Results
- Energy Services Results
 - Acquisition of Continuum Retail Energy Services



2015 Minnesota Beltline Replacement Project in downtown Minneapolis

Natural Gas Utilities

Operating Income Drivers: Q1 2015 vs Q1 2016

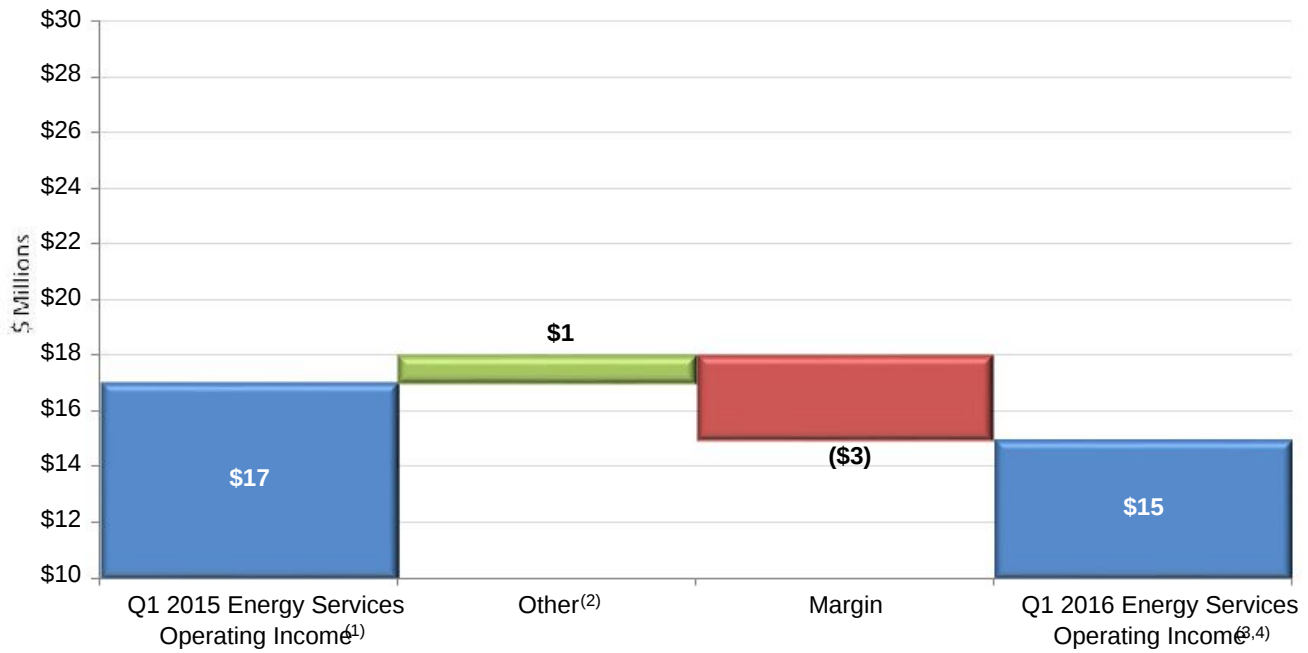


⁽¹⁾ Natural Gas Utilities' customer count increased from 3,389,148 on March 31, 2015, to 3,417,875 on March 31, 2016

⁽²⁾ Primarily due to higher labor and benefits expenses

Energy Services

Operating Income Drivers: Q1 2015 vs Q1 2016



⁽¹⁾ Operating income as reported in Q1 2015 was \$13 million. Chart excludes mark-to-market loss of \$4 million.

⁽²⁾ Primarily due to lower O&M expenses

⁽³⁾ Excludes energy services business acquired from Continuum; acquisition closed on April 1, 2016

⁽⁴⁾ Operating income as reported in Q1 2016 was \$6 million. Chart excludes mark-to-market loss of \$9 million.

CenterPoint Energy Services Acquires Continuum's Retail Energy Services Business



- Acquisition closed on April 1, 2016
- Acquisition includes Continuum's retail business, Choice customers, and origination & logistics assets
- Aggregate purchase price of \$77.5 million plus working capital and customary post-closing purchase price adjustments
- Acquisition complements overall natural gas strategy and increases Energy Services' commercial and industrial customer base by over 30%
- Expanded operational footprint positions Energy Services to access more markets, grow efficiently, and achieve economies of scale
- Combined energy services business will continue to operate with a low Value-at-Risk business model
- Expected to increase annual gross margin of Energy Services by approximately 40%



■ Natural Gas Distribution
▨ Electric Transmission & Distribution
■ CenterPoint Energy Services or Continuum Retail Energy Services⁽¹⁾

Combined energy services business projected to contribute \$40 - \$50 million in annual operating income in 2016

⁽¹⁾ Includes Continuum's energy services customers and operational footprint



Earnings Call Highlights

- First Quarter Earnings
- Guidance Parameters
- Financing Interest Expense & Tax



EPS: Q1 2016 vs Q1 2015

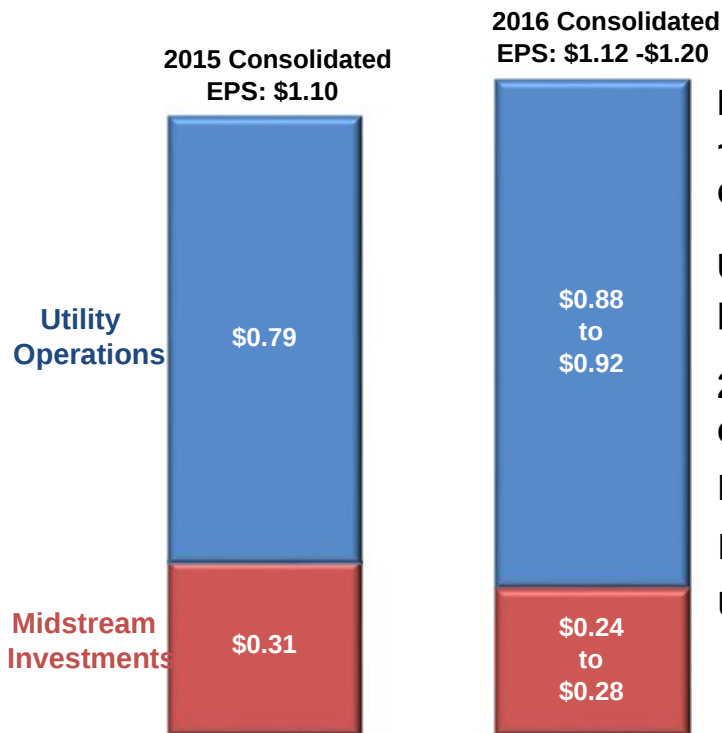


	Quarter Ended	
	March 31, 2016	March 31, 2015
	EPS	EPS
Consolidated as reported	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.30
Midstream Investments	(0.09)	(0.08)
Utility Operations ⁽¹⁾	0.27	0.22
Timing effects impacting CES		
Mark-to-market (gains) losses	0.01	0.01
ZENS-related mark-to-market (gains) losses:		
Marketable securities ⁽³⁾	(0.13)	0.03
Indexed debt securities	0.08	(0.04)
Utility operations earnings on an adjusted guidance basis	<u>\$ 0.23</u>	<u>\$ 0.22</u>
Per the basis used in providing earnings guidance:		
Utility Operations on a guidance basis	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.22
Midstream Investments	0.09	0.08
Consolidated on a guidance basis	<u>\$ 0.32</u>	<u>\$ 0.30</u>

⁽¹⁾ CenterPoint earnings excluding Midstream Investments

⁽²⁾ Energy Services segment

⁽³⁾ 2016 and 2015 results include Time Warner Inc., Time Warner Cable Inc., and Time Inc.. 2015 results also include AOL Inc. prior to the merger with Verizon.



Earnings from Utility Operations were ~70% of overall earnings in 2015 and are expected to represent 75-80% in 2016

Utility Operations are expected to produce 75-80% of cash flow in 2016

2016 Utility Operations EPS growth expected to include:

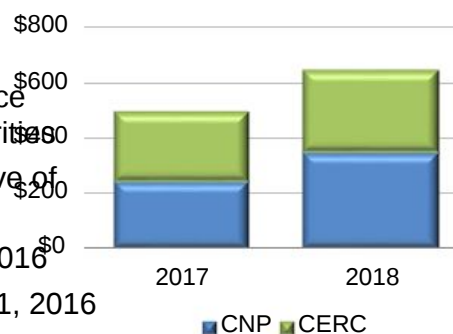
- Enable preferred investment
- Interest expense benefit
- Utility operating income growth

Note: Refer to slide 2 for information on non-GAAP measures

➤ Liquidity and Capital Resources

- Anticipate strong balance sheet and cash flow
- Project total capital investment of ~\$1.4 billion for 2016
- No external sources or cash from operations needed to finance \$363 million investment in Enable's perpetual preferred securities
- Net incremental borrowings of ~\$150 million for 2016, inclusive of funding of the acquisition of Continuum's marketing business
- Expect to refinance \$600 million debt at Houston Electric in 2016
- \$325 million with a 6.15% coupon matured at CERC on May 1, 2016
- Equity issuance not anticipated in 2016 or 2017
- No anticipated incremental financing needs for 2017; dependent on factors including bonus depreciation, capital investment plans, and working capital

Long Term Debt Maturities (\$MM)



➤ Tax Rates

- Continue to anticipate 36% effective tax rate for 2016

➤ Interest Rates

- Full-year 2016 interest expense projected to be lower than 2015
- Near term maturities and refinancing suggest interest expense savings

Equity/Total Capital
(as of March 31, 2016)

CenterPoint Energy Inc. Consolidated	37.1%
CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC	42.5%
CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp	58.6%

(1) Excludes transition and system restoration bonds

(2) Total debt includes revolver and commercial paper borrowings; excludes money pool borrowing

Appendix

Electric Transmission and Distribution: 2016 Regulatory Update

Requested annualized rate relief from pending 2016 filings: \$36.4 million

Mechanism	Expected Effective Date	Annual Increase (\$MM)	Comments	Docket #
DCRF	3Q 2016	\$36.4	Filed on April 4, 2016; request of \$49.4 million, representing a \$36.4 million increase from 2015 DCRF filing; approval expected during 3Q 2016	45747

Natural Gas Utilities: 2016 Regulatory Update

Requested annualized rate relief from pending 2016 filings: \$18.7 million

Jurisdiction	Expected Effective Date	Annual Increase (\$MM)	Comments	Docket #
Houston	3Q 2016	\$7.7	GRIP filed in March 2016; pending approval	10508
South Texas	3Q 2016	\$2.1	GRIP filed in March 2016; pending approval	10509
Beaumont/ East Texas	3Q 2016	\$4.2	GRIP filed in March 2016; pending approval	10510
Texas Coast	3Q 2016	\$4.2	GRIP filed in March 2016; pending approval	10511
Oklahoma	-	\$0.5	PBR filed in March 2016; hearing scheduled for June 7, 2016; pending approval	PUD201600094

DCRF Distribution Cost Recovery Factor; GRIP Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program; PBR Performance Based Rate Change
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Natural Gas Utilities: 2016 Regulatory Update (Continued)

Requested annualized rate relief from pending 2015 filings: \$35.6 million

Jurisdiction	Expected Effective Date	Annual Increase (\$MM)	Comments	Docket #
Arkansas	3Q 2016	\$35.6	Rate case filed on November 10, 2015; pending approval	15-098-U

Additional pending 2015 filings

Jurisdiction	Effective Date	Rate Relief (\$MM)	Comments	Docket #
Minnesota	October 2015	Interim rates effective in October 2015	Rate case requesting an annual increase of \$54.1MM filed in August 2015; interim increase of \$47.8MM effective in October 2015; final decision from the MPUC expected in mid-2016	15-424

Rate relief from 2016 filings recognized in 2015 (includes interim rates⁽¹⁾): \$5.5 million

Jurisdiction	Date Recognized	Rate Relief (\$MM)	Comments	Docket #
Arkansas	December 2015	\$5.5	BDA filed in March 2016; revenue recognized in fourth quarter 2015; interim rates effective in June 2016; pending approval	06-161-U

MPUC - Minnesota Public Utilities Commission; BDA - Billing Determinant Rate Adjustment

⁽¹⁾Interim rates begin the recognition of revenue, subject to refund (pending issuance of final order)

Reconciliation: Net Income and diluted EPS to the Basis Used in Providing Annual Earnings Guidance



Quarter Ended

	March 31, 2016		March 31, 2015	
	Net Income (in millions)	EPS	Net Income (in millions)	EPS
Consolidated as reported				
Midstream Investments	\$ 154	\$ 0.36	\$ 131	\$ 0.30
Utility Operations ⁽¹⁾	(37)	(0.09)	(33)	(0.08)
	<u>117</u>	<u>0.27</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>0.22</u>
Timing effects impacting CES				
Mark-to-market (gains) losses	6	0.01	3	0.01
ZENS-related mark-to-market (gains) losses:				
Marketable securities ⁽²⁾	(58)	(0.13)	11	0.03
Indexed debt securities	36	0.08	(16)	(0.04)
	<u>101</u>	<u>0.23</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>0.22</u>
Utility operations earnings on an adjusted guidance basis				
Utility Operations on a guidance basis	\$ 101	\$ 0.23	\$ 96	\$ 0.22
Midstream Investments	37	0.09	33	0.08
Consolidated on a guidance basis	<u>\$ 138</u>	<u>\$ 0.32</u>	<u>\$ 129</u>	<u>\$ 0.30</u>

⁽¹⁾ CenterPoint earnings excluding Midstream Investments

⁽²⁾ Energy Services segment

⁽³⁾ 2016 and 2015 results include Time Warner Inc., Time Warner Cable Inc., and Time Inc.. 2015 results also include AOL Inc. prior to the merger with Verizon.

Note: Refer to slide 2 for information on non-GAAP measures

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