

CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC
 Form 4
 September 22, 2006

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 OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 CARROLL MILTON

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC
 [CNP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 1111 LOUISIANA
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 09/20/2006

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

HOUSTON, TX 77002
 (City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 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	09/20/2006		S		11,000	D	\$ 13.86
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S		1,600	D	\$ 13.9
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S		1,400	D	\$ 13.89
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S		6,000	D	\$ 13.88

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

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(9-02)

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

Table with columns: 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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4), 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5), 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)

Reporting Owners

Table with columns: Reporting Owner Name / Address, Relationships (Director, 10% Owner, Officer, Other). Entry: CARROLL MILTON, 1111 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002, Director: X.

Signatures

Richard B. Dauphin, Attorney in Fact, 09/22/2006

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

* 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).

(1) Includes 20,000 shares of common stock that may be issued on October 1, 2006 at the election of Mr. Carroll in lieu of a cash award equal to the product of (i) 20,000 and (ii) the closing price per share of CenterPoint Energy, Inc.'s common stock on the consolidated reporting system for the New York Stock Exchange on the award date in connection with his compensation arrangement as non-executive chairman of the board of the company. Also includes 1,000 shares of time based restricted stock awarded in 2004 that will vest on July 1, 2007; 2,000 shares of time based restricted stock awarded in 2005 that will vest in one-half increments on July 1, 2007 and July 1, 2008; and 3,000 shares of time based restricted stock awarded in 2006 that will vest in one-third increments on June 1, 2007, June 1, 2008 and June 1, 2009 if Mr. Carroll is a director of Issuer through such dates; provided however, the shares become fully vested in the event of a change of control of issuer.

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

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