CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC

Form 4

February 22, 2017

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

OMB APPROVAL

January 31, 2005

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

Check this box

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

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading ORTENSTONE SUSAN B Issuer Symbol CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC (Check all applicable) [CNP] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Last) (First) (Middle) Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) 1111 LOUISIANA 02/18/2017 SVP and Chief HR Officer (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting HOUSTON, TX 77002 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially (D) or Beneficial

Code V Amount (D) Price 1,179 Common \$ 02/18/2017 F D $13,953 \stackrel{(2)}{=}$ D (1)26.51 Stock

(Instr. 8)

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

(Month/Day/Year)

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Owned

Following

Reported

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

(A)

Indirect (I)

(Instr. 4)

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

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

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc		7. Title a		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	or Title N of	umber		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

ORTENSTONE SUSAN B 1111 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002

SVP and Chief HR Officer

Signatures

Vincent A. Mercaldi, Attorney-in-Fact

**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) Shares withheld for taxes upon vesting of time-based restricted stock units.

Total includes (i) 4,830 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2018, and (ii) 6,562 time-based restricted stock units previously awarded under the Issuer's Long-term Incentive Plan and vesting in February 2019. Each award 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 her earlier retirement, disability or death.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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