

STANDISH THOMAS R

Form 4

January 27, 2006

**FORM 4****UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31,  
2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
STANDISH THOMAS R

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)  
01/25/2006

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Sr. VP and Group Pres

HOUSTON, TX 77002

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	01/25/2006		A	17,850 A	80,181 <sup>(2)</sup>	D	
Common Stock					18,048	I	By Savings Plan <sup>(3)</sup>
Common Stock					1,450	I	By Spouse <sup>(4)</sup>
Common Stock					11,670	I	By Estate <sup>(4)</sup>

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repor Trans (Instr
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
STANDISH THOMAS R 1111 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002	Sr. VP and Group Pres

## Signatures

Thomas R.  
Standish 01/27/2006

\_\_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) Price is not applicable.

Includes 17,100 shares of time-based restricted stock payable March 4, 2006 and 7,600 shares of time-based restricted stock payable

(2) March 3, 2007 if the reporting person is an employee of Issuer through such date and on a prorata basis in the event of his earlier retirement, disability or death.

(3) Equivalent Shares held in CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Savings Plan as of 1/1/2006.

(4) The filing of this Form 4 shall not be deemed an admission that the reporting person is, for purposes of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the beneficial owner of such equity securities.

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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