

CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC

Form 4

September 22, 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  
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2005  
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response... 0.5

(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 Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	
Common Stock	09/20/2006		S		11,000	D	\$ 13.86	86,000 <sup>(1)</sup> D
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S		1,600	D	\$ 13.9	84,400 <sup>(1)</sup> D
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S		1,400	D	\$ 13.89	83,000 <sup>(1)</sup> D
Common Stock	09/21/2006		S		6,000	D	\$ 13.88	77,000 <sup>(1)</sup> D

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

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CARROLL MILTON 1111 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002	X			

## Signatures

Richard B. Dauphin, 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) 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. 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.