

CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC  
Form 10-Q  
May 11, 2015

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

FORM 10-Q  
(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

OR  
 TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 1-31447

CenterPoint Energy, Inc.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

74-0694415  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1111 Louisiana  
Houston, Texas 77002  
(Address and zip code of principal executive offices)

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company   
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).  
Yes  No

As of April 20, 2015, CenterPoint Energy, Inc. had 430,207,011 shares of common stock outstanding, excluding 166 shares held as treasury stock.

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CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.  
QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q  
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

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## CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

From time to time we make statements concerning our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, goals, strategies, future events or performance and underlying assumptions 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. 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,” “may,” “objective,” “plan,” “potential,” “predict,” “projection,” “should,” “will” or other similar words.

We have based our forward-looking statements on our management’s beliefs and assumptions based on information reasonably 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.

The following are some of the factors that could cause actual results to differ from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements:

the performance of Enable Midstream Partners, LP (Enable), the amount of cash distributions we receive from Enable, and the value of our interest in Enable, and factors that may have a material impact on such performance, cash distributions and value, including certain of the factors specified below and:

competitive conditions in the midstream industry, and actions taken by Enable's customers and competitors, including the extent and timing of the entry of additional competition in the markets served by Enable;

the timing and extent of changes in the supply of natural gas and associated commodity prices, particularly prices of natural gas and natural gas liquids (NGLs), the competitive effects of the available pipeline capacity in the regions served by Enable, and the effects of geographic and seasonal commodity price differentials, including the effects of these circumstances on re-contracting available capacity on Enable's interstate pipelines;

the demand for natural gas, NGLs and transportation and storage services;

environmental and other governmental regulations, including the availability of drilling permits and the regulation of hydraulic fracturing;

potential recording of non-cash other-than-temporary impairment charges related to Enable;

changes in tax status;

access to growth capital; and

the availability and prices of raw materials for current and future construction projects;

state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments affecting various aspects of our businesses (including the businesses of Enable), 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 our regulated businesses;

timely and appropriate rate actions that allow recovery of costs and a reasonable return on investment;

problems with regulatory approval, 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;

industrial, commercial and residential growth in our service territories and changes in market demand, including the effects of energy efficiency measures and demographic patterns;

future economic conditions in regional and national markets and their effect on sales, prices and costs;

weather variations and other natural phenomena, including the impact of severe weather events on operations and capital;

the timing and extent of changes in commodity prices, particularly natural gas, and the effects of geographic and seasonal commodity price differentials;

local, state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments relating to the environment, including those related to global climate change;

timely and appropriate regulatory actions allowing securitization or other recovery of costs associated with any future hurricanes or natural disasters;

the impact of unplanned facility outages;

any direct or indirect effects on our facilities, operations and financial condition resulting from terrorism, cyber-attacks, data security breaches or other attempts to disrupt our businesses or the businesses of third parties, or other catastrophic events;

our ability to invest planned capital;

our ability to control operation and maintenance costs;

the sufficiency of our insurance coverage, including availability, cost, coverage and terms;

the investment performance of our pension and postretirement benefit plans;

commercial bank and financial market conditions, our access to capital, the cost of such capital, and the results of our financing and refinancing efforts, including availability of funds in the debt capital markets;

changes in interest rates or rates of inflation;

actions by credit rating agencies;

inability of various counterparties to meet their obligations to us;

non-payment for our services due to financial distress of our customers;

- the ability of retail electric providers (REPs), including REP affiliates of NRG Energy, Inc. (NRG) and Energy Future Holdings Corp., to satisfy their obligations to us and our subsidiaries;

our potential business strategies, including restructurings, joint ventures and acquisitions or dispositions of assets or businesses, which we cannot assure you will be completed or will have the anticipated benefits to us;

acquisition and merger activities involving us or our competitors;

our ability to recruit, effectively transition and retain management and key employees and maintain good labor relations;

the ability of GenOn Energy, Inc. (formerly known as RRI Energy, Inc., Reliant Energy, Inc. and Reliant Resources, Inc.), a wholly owned subsidiary of NRG, and its subsidiaries to satisfy their obligations to us, including indemnity obligations, or obligations in connection with the contractual arrangements pursuant to which we are their guarantor;

the outcome of litigation;

changes in technology, particularly with respect to efficient battery storage or emergence or growth of new, developing or alternative sources of generation;

the timing and outcome of any audits, disputes and other proceedings related to taxes;

effectiveness of our risk management activities;

the effect of changes in and application of accounting standards and pronouncements; and

other factors we discuss in “Risk Factors” in Item 1A of Part I of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, which is incorporated herein by reference, and other reports we file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of the particular statement.

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## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## Item 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
 CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED INCOME  
 (In Millions, Except Per Share Amounts)  
 (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2015	2014	
Revenues	\$2,433	\$3,163	
Expenses:			
Natural gas	1,354	2,043	
Operation and maintenance	498	479	
Depreciation and amortization	217	235	
Taxes other than income taxes	108	111	
Total	2,177	2,868	
Operating Income	256	295	
Other Income (Expense):			
Loss on marketable securities	(17	) (30	)
Gain on indexed debt securities	24	43	
Interest and other finance charges	(89	) (84	)
Interest on transition and system restoration bonds	(28	) (30	)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated affiliates, net	52	91	
Other, net	11	9	
Total	(47	) (1	)
Income Before Income Taxes	209	294	
Income tax expense	78	109	
Net Income	\$131	\$185	
Basic Earnings Per Share	\$0.30	\$0.43	
Diluted Earnings Per Share	\$0.30	\$0.43	