

Wareing Peter S  
Form 4  
April 25, 2011

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

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 \*  
Wareing Peter S

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)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
04/21/2011

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

1111 LOUISIANA

(Street)

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

HOUSTON, TX 77002

(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)     |   |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount or Price (A) or (D)  |  |                                       |   |
| Common Stock                    | 04/21/2011                           |  | A                              |   | 4,000 <sup>(1)</sup>  | A  | 36,000 <sup>(3)</sup>                 | D |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 60,000  | I  | By Trust <sup>(4)</sup>               |   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 10,000  | I  | Wareing & Company Ltd. <sup>(5)</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**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**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. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                         | Relationships |           |         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Wareing Peter S<br>1111 LOUISIANA<br>HOUSTON, TX 77002 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

Richard B. Dauphin, Attorney  
in Fact  
Date: 04/25/2011

## 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).
- Time-based restricted stock awarded under the Stock Plan for Outside Directors, as amended, to outside directors then in office as of May 2, 2011. Shares will vest on the first anniversary of the grant date if the reporting person is a director of the Company through such date; provided however, the shares become fully vested in the event of a change of control of issuer.
- (1) 2, 2011. Shares will vest on the first anniversary of the grant date if the reporting person is a director of the Company through such date; provided however, the shares become fully vested in the event of a change of control of issuer.
  - (2) Price is not applicable.
  - (3) Includes 1,333 shares of time-based restricted stock awarded in 2008 that will vest on May 1, 2011; 2,666 shares of time-based restricted stock awarded in 2009 that will vest in 1,333 increments on May 1, 2011 and May 1, 2012; and 4,000 shares of time-based restricted stock awarded in 2010 that will vest on May 3, 2011 if the reporting person 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.
  - (4) Shares of CNP common stock held in trust, of which reporting person's spouse is a trustee and the beneficiary. 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.
  - (5)

## Edgar Filing: Wareing Peter S - Form 4

The reporting person is a general partner of the partnership that owns the reported securities. The reporting person disclaims beneficial ownership of the reported securities except to the extent of his pecuniary interest.

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.