

CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC
Form 11-K
June 12, 2012

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 [NO FEE REQUIRED]

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 1-31447

A. Full title of the plan and address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

CenterPoint Energy Savings Plan

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

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1111 Louisiana Street

Houston, Texas 77002

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Participants and Plan Administrator of the CenterPoint Energy Savings Plan:

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the CenterPoint Energy Savings Plan (Plan) as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2011. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2011 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ McConnell & Jones LLP

Houston, Texas

June 11, 2012

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

| | December 31, | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | 2011 | 2010 |
| ASSETS | | |
| Investments, at fair value (see Note 3) | \$ 1,581,059,274 | \$ 1,479,195,163 |
| Receivables: | | |
| Notes receivable from participants | 41,234,734 | 39,484,978 |
| Pending investment transactions | 3,646,702 | |
| Participant contributions | 1,060,896 | 6,484 |
| Dividends and interest | 803,549 | 446,885 |
| Employer contributions | 712,856 | 8,882 |
| Total receivables | 47,458,737 | 39,947,229 |
| Total Assets | 1,628,518,011 | 1,519,142,392 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Pending investment transactions | 427,347 | 83,709 |
| Other | 355,595 | 440,669 |
| Total Liabilities | 782,942 | 524,378 |
| NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS AT FAIR VALUE | 1,627,735,069 | 1,518,618,014 |
| Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts | (4,118,283) | (1,408,655) |
| NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS | \$ 1,623,616,786 | \$ 1,517,209,359 |

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Investment Income: | |
| Net appreciation in fair value of investments (see Note 5) | \$ 78,708,276 |
| Dividends and interest | 31,293,625 |
| Total Investment Income | 110,001,901 |
| Interest on notes receivable from participants | 1,794,761 |
| Contributions: | |
| Participant | 50,534,025 |
| Employer | 34,870,798 |
| Rollover | 1,707,654 |
| Total Contributions | 87,112,477 |
| Expenses: | |
| Benefit payments | 88,999,778 |
| Administrative expenses | 3,501,934 |
| Total Expenses | 92,501,712 |
| INCREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS | 106,407,427 |
| NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS: | |
| BEGINNING OF YEAR | 1,517,209,359 |
| END OF YEAR | \$ 1,623,616,786 |

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

1. Description of the Plan

The following description of the CenterPoint Energy Savings Plan (Plan) provides only general information. Participants (as defined below) should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions. In the case of any discrepancy between this summary and the Plan document, the Plan document will govern.

(a) General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan established in accordance with Sections 401(a) and 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (IRC) and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). Effective January 1, 2009, the Plan is a "safe harbor" 401(k) plan under the IRC, which means it is deemed to satisfy certain deferral and contribution testing requirements.

Participants include all employees of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (Company or CenterPoint Energy) and those subsidiaries and affiliates of the Company that have adopted the Plan except (a) employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement unless such agreement provides for participation in the Plan, (b) leased employees, (c) independent contractors or (d) non-resident aliens who receive no United States sourced income (Participants).

(b) Contributions

Participants may contribute, on a pre-tax and after-tax basis, up to 50% and 16% of eligible compensation, respectively, not to exceed the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) compensation limit as defined in the Plan. Active Participants age 50 or over may contribute an additional pre-tax contribution not to exceed the IRS limit (\$5,500 for 2011); however, the Company generally does not provide the match on such "catch-up" contributions, unless a matching contribution is required to meet the safe harbor plan provisions under the IRC. Participants may also contribute amounts representing rollover eligible distributions from other defined benefit or defined contribution plans, IRC Section 403(b) annuity plans, IRC Section 457 governmental plans or conduit Individual Retirement Accounts that have been holding a distribution from a qualified plan. Participants direct their contributions into the various eligible investment options offered by the Plan.

All new employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan to make pre-tax contributions. An employee who has been automatically enrolled is deemed to have elected to defer pre-tax contributions (Automatic Contribution). The initial pre-tax contribution is three percent of the employee's eligible compensation on a payroll-period basis. The contribution percentage is increased by an increment of one percent on April 1 in each of the following years until it reaches six percent of compensation on a payroll-period basis.

A notice is provided to all employees who have been automatically enrolled in the Plan (Automatic Enrollment Notice). In general, an employee has 30 days after receiving the Automatic Enrollment Notice to elect not to make any pre-tax contributions or choose a different contribution percentage.

Contributions, including all related employer matching contributions, made under the Automatic Contribution provision of the Plan are invested in the default investment fund as defined in the Plan. Employees may elect to change the Automatic Contribution percentage and/or direct the contributions to any of the investment options offered under the Plan at any time after the commencement of the Automatic Contribution. The Company matches 100% of the first six percent of eligible compensation.

Participants may elect to invest all or a portion of their contributions to the Plan in the Company Common Stock Fund. In addition, Participants may elect to have dividends paid on their investment in the Company Common Stock Fund either reinvested in the Company Common Stock Fund or paid to them in cash, and they can transfer all or part of their investment in the Company Common Stock Fund to the other investment options offered by the Plan. Employer contributions are made in the form of cash and are invested in accordance with Participant elections.

Contributions are subject to certain limitations as set forth under the IRC or the limits set forth in the Plan document.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

(c) Investment Options

The Plan offered the following investment funds (Funds) as of December 31, 2011:

Company Common Stock Fund

Large Company Growth Fund

Large Company Value Fund

International Equity Fund

Balanced Fund

Fixed Income Fund

Stable Value Fund

S&P 500 Index Fund

Small Company Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Fund

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Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2020 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2015 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2010 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement 2005 Fund

Vanguard Target Retirement Income Fund

Upon enrollment in the Plan, Participants may direct contributions, in one percent increments, in any of the investment options. Participants should refer to the Plan prospectus for a detailed description of each Fund.

(d) Participant Accounts

Individual accounts are maintained for each Participant. Each Participant's account is credited with the Participant's contributions and with allocations of the Company contributions and Plan earnings. Each Participant's account is also charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on Participant account balances. A Participant is entitled to their vested account balance.

(e) Vesting and Forfeitures

Participants are immediately fully vested in all contributions and actual earnings thereon. As a result, there are no forfeitures.

(f) Notes Receivable From Participants

A Participant may borrow against their vested account balance. The maximum amount that a Participant may borrow is the lesser of (a) \$50,000, reduced by the excess, if any, of the highest outstanding balance of loans to the Participant from all plans maintained by the Company or an affiliated entity during the one-year period ending on the day before the date on which such loan is made, over the outstanding balance of loans from the Plan on the date on which such loan is made or (b) 50% of the value of the Participant's vested account balance under the Plan.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

The loans are secured by the pledge of a portion of the Participant's right, title and value of the Participant's vested account balance under the Plan as determined immediately after the loans are made. The minimum loan amount is \$500. Loans may be repaid over a period of up to five years and are subject to a \$50 origination fee. Interest rates are fixed at the prime rate listed in The Wall Street Journal for the first of each month in which the loan is requested plus one percent. Loan transactions are treated as a transfer to (from) the investment fund from (to) notes receivable from participants.

(g) Payment of Benefits

Upon termination of employment, a Participant whose account exceeds \$1,000 may elect, upon written request at any time, to receive a distribution in a single lump-sum payment or fixed monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual installments over a period of ten years or less. Such distributions are generally paid in the form of cash; however, if the Participant has investments in the Company Common Stock Fund, the Participant may elect an in-kind distribution of the Participant's account balance in the Company Common Stock Fund.

Generally, to the extent a Participant has not requested a distribution by the time he or she reaches age 70 1/2, required minimum distributions will be made consistent with the terms and conditions of the Plan and the requirements of the IRC. Immediate lump-sum distributions are made for accounts which do not exceed \$1,000.

A Participant who is under age 59 1/2 may make a withdrawal from amounts attributable to after-tax contributions and, if applicable, rollover contributions in the Plan and associated earnings. If a Participant who is under age 59 1/2 and has less than five years of service withdraws matched after-tax contributions, the Participant will be suspended from Plan participation for six months. A Participant who is age 59 1/2 or older may make unlimited withdrawals from pre-tax contributions, after-tax contributions, vested portion of prior Plan accounts, rollover account and any associated earnings.

Effective April 29, 2011, the Plan was amended to allow active participants under age 59 1/2 to apply for a hardship withdrawal from amounts attributable to the pre-tax contributions (not including any earnings and gains thereon) in accordance with Plan provisions. Participants are not permitted to make any pre-tax or after-tax contributions for a period of six months immediately following a hardship withdrawal.

(h) Administration

The assets of the Plan are held in trust by The Northern Trust Company (Trustee). Aon Hewitt is the recordkeeper for the Plan. The Benefits Committee of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (Committee), appointed by the Board of Directors of the Company, is the Plan Administrator (Plan Administrator). The Committee retains an independent investment consultant to provide investment advice with respect to the Funds other than the Company Common Stock Fund.

(i) Termination of the Plan

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company may terminate the Plan at any time subject to the provisions of ERISA and must give written notice to the Trustee.

2. Summary of Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting and Use of Estimates

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The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, referred to as GAAP. The preparation of the Plan financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for benefits at the date of the financial statements and the changes in net assets available for benefits during the reporting period and, when applicable, disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

(b) New Accounting Standards

In January 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2010-06, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures (Topic 820) Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements* (ASU 2010-6), which requires entities to make disclosures about recurring and nonrecurring fair value measurements. In accordance with ASU 2010-6, the reporting entity should disclose separately the amounts of significant transfers in and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements and describe the reasons for the transfers. ASU 2010-6 also requires an entity to present separately information about purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements in the reconciliation of fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3). The disclosures in ASU 2010-6 are effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009, and were adopted in 2010, except for purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements in the roll forward activity in Level 3 fair value measurements. Those disclosures are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010 and for interim periods within those fiscal years and were adopted in 2011.

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-04, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRS*. This ASU requires entities, for Level 3 fair value measurements, to disclose quantitative information about unobservable inputs, a description of the valuation processes, and a qualitative discussion about the sensitivities of the measurements. The guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The adoption of the new accounting guidance is not expected to have any effect on the changes in net assets or the financial position of the Plan.

(c) Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The investments in all Funds of the Plan are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received upon the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Investments are reflected at fair value in the financial statements, except for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts which are stated at contract value. Security transactions are recorded as of the trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at fair value; however, contract value is the relevant measurement attributed for that portion of the net assets available for benefits, because it represents the amount Participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. The Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits presents the fair value of the investment contracts, as well as the adjustment of the fully benefit-responsive contracts from fair value to contract value. The Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits is prepared on a contract-value basis.

(d) Notes Receivable From Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent participant notes are reclassified as distributions based upon the terms of the Plan. Interest income on notes receivable from participants is recorded when it is earned.

(e) Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

(f) Plan Expenses

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Direct Plan expenses such as trustee, recordkeeping, auditing and investment management fees and certain general administrative expenses are paid from the Plan assets. These expenses are shown as a separate component in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits. Plan expenses other than the aforementioned items are included as a component of investment gains and losses and reported on Schedule C of Form 5500 as indirect compensation.

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Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

3. Fair Value Measurements

FASB *Accounting Standards Codification* (ASC) 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* establishes a framework for measuring fair value as it relates to financial assets and liabilities and to non-financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis. That framework provides a three-level valuation hierarchy based upon observable and unobservable inputs, with preference given to observable inputs. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described below:

- Level 1 Observable inputs such as quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 Observable inputs such as (i) quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; (ii) quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active and do not require significant adjustment based on unobservable inputs; or (iii) valuations based on pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies or similar techniques where significant inputs (e.g. interest rates, yield curves, etc.) are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities; and
- Level 3 Unobservable inputs, including valuations based on pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies or similar techniques where at least one significant model assumption or input is unobservable. Unobservable inputs are used to the extent that observable inputs are not available and reflect the Plan's own assumptions about the assumptions the market participants would use in pricing the assets or liabilities. Unobservable inputs are based on the best information available in the circumstances, which might include the Plan's own data.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Common stocks | Valued at the closing price reported on the active market in which the individual securities are traded. |
| Mutual funds | Valued at the net asset value of shares held by the Plan. The share value is based on the market quoted price at the end of the day. |
| Common or collective trust funds | Valued at the net asset value of units held by the Plan, and generally, include the use of significant observable inputs in determining the unit value. |
| Guaranteed investment contracts | Valued at fair value by discounting the related future payments based on current yields of similar instruments with comparable duration considering the credit worthiness of the issuer. |

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2011 and 2010:

| | Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2011 | | | Total |
|--|--|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | |
| <u>Mutual funds</u> | | | | |
| Fixed Income Fund | \$ 156,972,730 | \$ | \$ | \$ 156,972,730 |
| Large Company Growth Fund | 45,839,379 | | | 45,839,379 |
| Large Company Value Fund | 40,380,644 | | | 40,380,644 |
| International Equity Fund | 23,342,164 | | | 23,342,164 |
| Balanced Fund | 24,966,484 | | | 24,966,484 |
| Total mutual funds | 291,501,401 | | | 291,501,401 |
| <u>Common or collective trust funds</u> | | | | |
| Stable Value Fund | | 269,009,232 | | 269,009,232 |
| Target Date Retirement Funds | | 191,755,204 | | 191,755,204 |
| S&P 500 Index Fund | | 139,834,280 | | 139,834,280 |
| Fixed Income Fund | | 63,405,820 | | 63,405,820 |
| Balanced Fund | | 51,664,320 | | 51,664,320 |
| Large Company Growth Fund | | 46,648,445 | | 46,648,445 |
| International Equity Fund | | 39,215,111 | | 39,215,111 |
| Large Company Value Fund | | 41,038,695 | | 41,038,695 |
| Small Company Fund | | 15,237,847 | | 15,237,847 |
| Company Common Stock Fund | | 3,616,772 | | 3,616,772 |
| Short Term Investment Fund | | 908,669 | | 908,669 |
| Total common or collective trust funds | | 862,334,395 | | 862,334,395 |
| <u>Common stocks</u> | | | | |
| Company Common Stock Fund | 396,418,512 | | | 396,418,512 |
| Small Company Fund | 17,821,073 | | | 17,821,073 |
| Total common stocks | 414,239,585 | | | 414,239,585 |
| <u>Other</u> | | | | |
| Stable Value Fund ⁽¹⁾ | | | 12,983,893 | 12,983,893 |
| Total other | | | 12,983,893 | 12,983,893 |
| Total assets at fair value | \$ 705,740,986 | \$ 862,334,395 | \$ 12,983,893 | \$ 1,581,059,274 |

(1) Represents the guaranteed investment contracts held by the Stable Value Fund.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

| | Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2010 | | | Total |
|---|--|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | |
| Mutual funds | | | | |
| Target Date Retirement Funds | \$ 182,868,835 | \$ | \$ | \$ 182,868,835 |
| Fixed Income Fund | 150,799,251 | | | 150,799,251 |
| Large Company Growth Fund | 51,685,677 | | | 51,685,677 |
| Large Company Value Fund | 46,451,896 | | | 46,451,896 |
| International Equity Fund | 35,710,679 | | | 35,710,679 |
| Balanced Fund | 23,961,569 | | | 23,961,569 |
| Total mutual funds | 491,477,907 | | | 491,477,907 |
| Common or collective trust funds | | | | |
| Stable Value Fund | | 222,001,957 | | 222,001,957 |
| S&P 500 Index Fund | | 137,651,137 | | 137,651,137 |
| Fixed Income Fund | | 48,791,630 | | 48,791,630 |
| Balanced Fund | | 58,310,766 | | 58,310,766 |
| Large Company Growth Fund | | 45,282,289 | | 45,282,289 |
| International Equity Fund | | 42,722,112 | | 42,722,112 |
| Large Company Value Fund | | 41,048,650 | | 41,048,650 |
| Small Company Fund | | 21,990,073 | | 21,990,073 |
| Company Common Stock Fund | | 7,625,936 | | 7,625,936 |
| Short Term Investment Fund | | 1,200,837 | | 1,200,837 |
| Total common or collective trust funds | | 626,625,387 | | 626,625,387 |
| Common stocks | | | | |
| Company Common Stock Fund | 330,318,213 | | | 330,318,213 |
| Small Company Fund | 18,019,258 | | | 18,019,258 |
| Total common stocks | 348,337,471 | | | 348,337,471 |
| Other | | | | |
| Stable Value Fund ⁽¹⁾ | | | 12,754,398 | 12,754,398 |
| Total other | | | 12,754,398 | 12,754,398 |
| Total assets at fair value | \$ 839,815,378 | \$ 626,625,387 | \$ 12,754,398 | \$ 1,479,195,163 |

(1) Represents the guaranteed investment contracts held by the Stable Value Fund.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Plan's level 3 assets for the year ended December 31, 2011:

| | Year Ended December 31, 2011 Guaranteed Investment Contract |
|---|--|
| Balance, beginning of year | \$ 12,754,398 |
| Unrealized gains relating to instruments still held at the reporting date | 229,495 |
| Balance, end of year | \$ 12,983,893 |

4. Net Asset Value Per Share

Under the amended guidance of ASU No. 2009-12, *Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value per Share or Its Equivalent*, entities are permitted, as a practical expedient, to estimate the fair value of investments within its scope using the net asset value (NAV) per share of the investment as of the reporting entities' measurement dates. The amended guidance also requires additional disclosures to better enable users of the financial statements to understand the nature and risks of the reporting entity's investments that fall under these rules.

In accordance with ASU No. 2009-12, the Plan expands its disclosures to include the category, fair value, redemption frequency, and redemption notice period for those investments whose fair value is estimated using NAV per share as of December 31, 2011 and 2010.

The following tables set forth a summary of the Plan's investments with a reported NAV as of December 31, 2011 and 2010:

| | Fair Value Estimated Using Net Asset Value per Share December 31, 2011 | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | Fair Value | Unfunded Commitment | Redemption Frequency | Redemption Notice Period |
| Northern Trust Collective Short Term Investment Fund ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 36,426,329 | \$ | Daily | No |
| BlackRock Equity Index Fund ⁽²⁾ | 169,101,992 | | Daily | No |
| BlackRock Russell 1000 Growth Index Fund ⁽³⁾ | 46,648,446 | | Daily | No |
| BlackRock Russell 1000 Value Index Fund ⁽⁴⁾ | 41,038,695 | | Daily | No |
| BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund ⁽⁵⁾ | 14,653,809 | | Daily | No |
| BlackRock MSCI ACWI Ex-US Fund ⁽⁶⁾ | 15,824,616 | | Daily | No |
| Dwight Various Term Funds ⁽⁷⁾ | 214,360,711 | | Daily | No |
| Mellon EB Daily Liquidity Aggregate Bond Index Fund ⁽⁸⁾ | 63,405,820 | | Daily | No |
| Prudential Core Conservative Intermediate Bond Fund ⁽⁷⁾ | 20,138,347 | | Daily | No |
| SEI Stable Asset Fund ⁽⁷⁾ | 3,193,323 | | Daily | No |
| Thornburg International Equity Fund ⁽⁹⁾ | 33,531,377 | | Daily | No |
| Vanguard Target Date Retirement Funds ⁽¹⁰⁾ | 191,755,203 | | Daily | No |
| Wellington Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio ⁽¹¹⁾ | 12,255,727 | | Daily | No |

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

Fair Value Estimated Using Net Asset Value per Share
December 31, 2010

| | Fair Value | Unfunded Commitment | Redemption Frequency | Redemption Notice Period |
|---|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Northern Trust Collective Short Term Investment Fund ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 21,172,271 | \$ | Daily | No |
| BlackRock Equity Index Fund ⁽²⁾ | 171,607,159 | | Daily | No |
| BlackRock Russell 1000 Growth Index Fund ⁽³⁾ | 45,282,289 | | Daily | No |
| BlackRock Russell 1000 Value Index Fund ⁽⁴⁾ | 41,048,650 | | Daily | No |
| BlackRock Russell 2000 Index Fund ⁽⁵⁾ | 21,563,078 | | Daily | No |
| BlackRock MSCI ACWI Ex-US Fund ⁽⁶⁾ | 7,215,850 | | Daily | No |
| Dwight Various Target Funds ⁽⁷⁾ | 206,894,299 | | Daily | No |
| Mellon EB Daily Liquidity Aggregate Bond Index Fund ⁽⁸⁾ | 48,791,630 | | Daily | No |
| SEI Stable Asset Fund ⁽⁷⁾ | 3,189,156 | | Daily | No |
| Thornburg International Equity Fund ⁽⁹⁾ | 47,116,200 | | Daily | No |
| Wellington Small Cap Opportunities Portfolio ⁽¹¹⁾ | 12,744,805 | | Daily | No |

- ⁽¹⁾ The fund is composed of high-grade money market instruments with short maturities. The objective is to provide an investment vehicle for cash reserves while offering a competitive rate of return. The fund uses high quality securities with the emphasis on providing liquidity for redemption of units on any business day while preserving the principal. Within quality, maturity and sector diversification guidelines, investments are made in those securities with the most attractive yields.
- ⁽²⁾ This fund seeks to match the performance of the S&P 500 Index by investing in stocks that make up the index. The S&P 500 Index is an unmanaged, market-weighted index that consists of the 500 largest publicly traded companies and is considered representative of the broad U.S. stock market.
- ⁽³⁾ The investment objective is to track the performance of the Russell 1000 Growth Index by investing in a diversified sample of stocks that make up the index which is comprised of the large-cap growth segment of the U.S. equities with higher price-to-book value ratios and higher forecasted growth values.
- ⁽⁴⁾ The investment objective is to track the performance of the Russell 1000 Value Index by investing in a diversified sample of stocks that make up the index which is comprised of the large-cap value segment of the U.S. equities with lower price-to-book value ratios and lower forecasted growth values.
- ⁽⁵⁾ The investment objective is to track the performance of the Russell 2000 Index by investing in a diversified sample of stocks that make up the index which is comprised of the 2000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000 Index.
- ⁽⁶⁾ The investment objective is to track the total return of the Morgan Stanley Capital International All Country World Index Ex-U.S. (MSCI ACWI Ex-US). The fund is managed to deliver a high quality and cost-effective index-based portfolio to the institutional investors.
- ⁽⁷⁾ These funds are investments of the Stable Value Fund. See Note 5 for information on the wrap contracts relating to these investments.
- ⁽⁸⁾ The investment objective is to track the performance of the Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Bond Index. The Fund may invest in securities (including those issued through private placements) and a combination of other collective funds that are designed to achieve the fund's objective.
- ⁽⁹⁾ The investment objective is to seek long-term capital appreciation by investing in a diversified portfolio of international equities that is benchmarked against the Morgan Stanley Capital International Europe, Australasia, and Far East Index.
- ⁽¹⁰⁾ These funds invest in funds with a mix of common stocks and fixed income securities using an asset allocation strategy that will become more conservative over time.
- ⁽¹¹⁾ The investment objective is to seek long-term (more than five years) total return in excess of the Russell 2000 Index by focusing on stock selection through bottom-up analysis.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements**December 31, 2011 and 2010****5. Investments**

The following investments represent five percent or more of the Plan's net assets available for benefits.

| | December 31, | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | 2011 | 2010 |
| Company Common Stock, 19,732,131 and 21,012,609 shares, respectively | \$ 396,418,512 | \$ 330,318,213 |
| BlackRock Equity Index Fund, 8,192,926 and 8,499,612 shares, respectively | 169,101,992 | 171,607,159 |
| PIMCO Total Return Fund, 11,913,675 and 11,455,220 shares, respectively | 129,501,651 | 124,289,139 |

The Plan has significant holdings of Company common stock. As a result, the values of the Plan's investments may be materially impacted by the changes in the fair value of this security.

During 2011 the Plan's investments (including gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held during the year) appreciated in value as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Common or collective trust funds | \$ 88,927,255 |
| Mutual funds | (10,184,248) |
| Common stocks | (34,731) |
| Total investment appreciation | \$ 78,708,276 |

Stable Value Fund

The Stable Value Fund utilizes synthetic guaranteed investment contracts (Synthetic GICs). A Synthetic GIC includes a wrap contract issued by an insurance company or other financial institution and a portfolio of fixed income assets that are owned by the Stable Value Fund. The wrap contract provides that realized and unrealized gains and losses on the assets covered by the wrap contract are not reflected immediately in the net assets of the Stable Value Fund, but rather are amortized over the duration of the assets or other agreed upon period, through adjustments to the future interest crediting rates. The wrap contract provides a guarantee that all qualified participant withdrawals will occur at contract value which represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less withdrawals made under the contract and administrative expenses.

The crediting rates for Synthetic GICs are reset periodically and are based on the market value of the portfolio of assets covered by the contracts.

During 2011 and 2010, the average yields for the Stable Value Fund were as follows:

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-------|-------|
| Based on actual earnings | 1.26% | 2.14% |
| Based on the interest rate credited to Participants | 1.55% | 2.15% |

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Wrap contracts provide that withdrawals associated with certain events not in the ordinary course of fund operations may be paid at market rather than contract value. Examples of such circumstances may include significant plan design changes, complete or partial plan terminations, severance programs, early retirement programs, the closing or sale of a subsidiary, bankruptcy of the plan sponsor or the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA. The Plan Administrator does not believe the occurrence of the above events that would limit the Plan's ability to conduct transactions with Participants at contract value is probable.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

6. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan provides for investments in Company common stock, commingled and mutual funds and other investments. Investments, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit and overall market volatility risk. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investments, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investments will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits and Participant account balances. Rates of return will vary, and returns will depend on the market value of the Plan's investments.

7. Tax Status

The IRS has determined and informed the Company by letter dated April 2, 2001 that the Plan is qualified and the trust fund established is tax-exempt under the appropriate sections of the IRC. Although the Plan has been amended and restated since receiving the determination letter, the Plan Administrator and the Plan sponsor's counsel believe these amendments have not adversely affected the Plan's qualified status and the related trust's tax-exempt status as of the financial statement date.

Generally accepted accounting principles require the Plan administrator to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by the IRS; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Plan administrator believes it is generally no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2008.

8. Related Party Transactions

During 2011, the Plan purchased and sold shares of the Company's common stock and units of short-term investment funds managed by the Trustee as temporary investments (party-in-interest transactions) as shown below:

| | | |
|-----------|--|----------------|
| Purchases | Company Common Stock | \$ 111,396,721 |
| | Northern Trust Collective Short Term Investment Fund | 541,642,349 |
| Sales | Company Common Stock | \$ 133,154,789 |
| | Northern Trust Collective Short Term Investment Fund | 526,142,651 |

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

9. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of Net Assets Available for Benefits per the financial statements to Form 5500:

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Net Assets Available for Benefits per the financial statements | \$ 1,623,616,786 | \$ 1,517,209,359 |
| Adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive contracts | 4,118,283 | 1,408,655 |
| Net Assets Available for Benefits per Form 5500 | \$ 1,627,735,069 | \$ 1,518,618,014 |

The following is a reconciliation of the Increase in Net Assets Available for Benefits per the financial statements to Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2011:

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Increase in Net Assets Available for Benefits per the financial statements | \$ 106,407,427 |
| Adjustment to reverse fair value adjustment for fully benefit-responsive contracts related to prior year | (1,408,655) |
| Adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive contracts | 4,118,283 |
| Increase in Net Assets Available for Benefits per Form 5500 | \$ 109,117,055 |

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

EIN 74-0694415 PLAN 015

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

DECEMBER 31, 2011

| (a) | (b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party | (c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value | (e) Current value |
|-----|--|--|-----------------------|
| | <u>COMMON OR COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</u> | | |
| | BLACKROCK | EQUITY INDEX FUND | \$ 169,101,992 |
| | BLACKROCK | MSCI ACWI EX US INDEX FUND | 15,824,616 |
| | BLACKROCK | RUSSELL 1000 GROWTH INDEX FUND | 46,648,446 |
| | BLACKROCK | RUSSELL 1000 VALUE INDEX FUND | 41,038,695 |
| | BLACKROCK | RUSSELL 2000 INDEX FUND | 14,653,809 |
| | DWIGHT ASSET MANAGEMENT | 2011 TERM FUND | 12,683,303 |
| | DWIGHT ASSET MANAGEMENT | 2012 TERM FUND | 33,462,119 |
| | DWIGHT ASSET MANAGEMENT | 2013 TERM FUND | 33,699,072 |
| | DWIGHT ASSET MANAGEMENT | 2014 TERM FUND | 34,136,914 |
| | DWIGHT ASSET MANAGEMENT | 2015 TERM FUND | 55,330,441 |
| | DWIGHT ASSET MANAGEMENT | 2015 CORE INTERM FUND | 45,048,862 |
| | MELLON BANK | EB DAILY LIQUIDITY AGGREGATE BOND INDEX FUND | 63,405,820 |
| * | NORTHERN TRUST | COLL SHORT TERM INVESTMENT FUND | 36,426,329 |
| | PRUDENTIAL | CORE CONSERVATIVE INTER BOND FUND | 20,138,347 |
| | SEI | STABLE ASSET FUND | 3,193,323 |
| | THORNBURG INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT | INTERNATIONAL EQUITY FUND | 33,531,377 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2005 TRUST II | 2,947,620 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2010 TRUST II | 3,041,649 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2015 TRUST II | 23,670,356 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2020 TRUST II | 9,011,625 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2025 TRUST II | 33,703,936 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2030 TRUST II | 7,026,983 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2035 TRUST II | 41,128,744 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2040 TRUST II | 11,395,690 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2045 TRUST II | 37,406,244 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2050 TRUST II | 13,937,136 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT 2055 TRUST II | 6,499,705 |
| | VANGUARD | TARGET RETIREMENT INCOME TRUST II | 1,985,515 |
| | WELLINGTON CAPITAL | SMALL CAP OPPORTUNITIES PORTFOLIO | 12,255,727 |
| | SUBTOTAL | | \$ 862,334,395 |
| | <u>COMMON STOCK</u> | | |
| | ABOVENET INC | COMMON STOCK | \$ 81,913 |
| | ACME PACKET INC | COMMON STOCK | 36,474 |
| | ADTRAN INC | COMMON STOCK | 43,129 |
| | AFFILIATED MANAGERS GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 71,963 |
| | AIRGAS INC | COMMON STOCK | 49,190 |
| | ALBANY INTL CORP | COMMON STOCK | 331,888 |
| | ALBEMARLE CORP | COMMON STOCK | 72,114 |
| | ALLEGHENY TECHNOLOGIES INC | COMMON STOCK | 83,650 |

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

EIN 74-0694415 PLAN 015

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

DECEMBER 31, 2011

| (a) | (b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party | (c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value | (e) Current value |
|-----|--|--|-------------------|
| | ALLIED NEV GOLD CORP | COMMON STOCK | 72,975 |
| | ALPHA NAT RES INC | COMMON STOCK | 45,968 |
| | AMERICAN STS WTR CO | COMMON STOCK | 209,749 |
| | AMETEK INC | COMMON STOCK | 95,357 |
| | ARCOS DORADOS HOLDINGS INC | COMMON STOCK | 51,120 |
| | ARIAD PHARMACEUTICALS INC | COMMON STOCK | 53,533 |
| | ARIBA INC | COMMON STOCK | 67,954 |
| | ASBURY AUTOMOTIVE GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 91,630 |
| | ASHLAND INC | COMMON STOCK | 85,168 |
| | ASPEN INSURANCE HLDGS | COMMON STOCK | 158,603 |
| | AVIS BUDGET GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 281,346 |
| | AVIS BUDGET GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 65,285 |
| | BANCO LATINOAMERICANO DE COMERCIO | COMMON STOCK | 81,213 |
| | BANK OF THE OZARKS INC | COMMON STOCK | 94,520 |
| | BANKRATE INC | COMMON STOCK | 61,275 |
| | BARNES GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 316,323 |
| | BIG LOTS INC | COMMON STOCK | 47,200 |
| | BIOMARIN PHARMACEUTICAL INC | COMMON STOCK | 37,818 |
| | BROADSOFT INC | COMMON STOCK | 30,200 |
| | BROOKDALE SR LIVING INC | COMMON STOCK | 301,803 |
| | BROWN & BROWN INC | COMMON STOCK | 73,548 |
| | BRUNSWICK CORP | COMMON STOCK | 50,207 |
| | CABOT OIL & GAS CORP | COMMON STOCK | 37,191 |
| | CAMDEN PPTY TR SH | COMMON STOCK | 95,850 |
| | CAPSTEAD MTG CORP | COMMON STOCK | 206,006 |
| | CASEYS GEN STORES INC | COMMON STOCK | 106,626 |
| | CATALYST HEALTH SOLUTIONS INC | COMMON STOCK | 71,240 |
| | CAVIUM INC | COMMON STOCK | 68,516 |
| * | CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC | COMMON STOCK | 396,418,512 |
| | CEPHEID INC | COMMON STOCK | 72,261 |
| | CHART INDS INC | COMMON STOCK | 54,070 |
| | CHEMTURA CORP | COMMON STOCK | 151,843 |
| | CHICAGO BRDG & IRON CO | COMMON STOCK | 189,189 |
| | CLEAN HBRS INC | COMMON STOCK | 81,574 |
| | CNO FINL GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 339,951 |
| | COMSTOCK RES INC | COMMON STOCK | 236,921 |
| | CONCUR TECHNOLOGIES INC | COMMON STOCK | 66,027 |
| | COPA HOLDINGS SA | COMMON STOCK | 70,991 |
| | CORE LAB | COMMON STOCK | 100,276 |
| | CORN PRODS INTL INC | COMMON STOCK | 204,312 |
| | COVANTA HLDG CORP | COMMON STOCK | 54,623 |
| | CROCS INC | COMMON STOCK | 46,673 |

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

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SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

DECEMBER 31, 2011

| (a) | (b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party | (c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value | (e) Current value |
|-----|--|--|-------------------|
| | CROWN HLDGS INC | COMMON STOCK | 94,360 |
| | CUBESMART | COMMON STOCK | 46,816 |
| | CUBIST PHARMACEUTICALS INC | COMMON STOCK | 72,108 |
| | CVR ENERGY INC | COMMON STOCK | 41,019 |
| | CYPRESS SEMICONDUCTOR CORP | COMMON STOCK | 82,592 |
| | DARLING INTL INC | COMMON STOCK | 309,856 |
| | DRIL-QUIP INC | COMMON STOCK | 74,377 |
| | DUKE RLTY CORP REIT | COMMON STOCK | 70,011 |
| | EAST WEST BANCORP INC | COMMON STOCK | 94,998 |
| | ENERGEN CORP | COMMON STOCK | 66,000 |
| | ENERGY XXI | COMMON STOCK | 101,697 |
| | EQUIFAX INC | COMMON STOCK | 89,489 |
| | ESTERLINE TECHNOLOGIES CORP | COMMON STOCK | 373,320 |
| | EXTRA SPACE STORAGE INC | COMMON STOCK | 46,037 |
| | FAIRCHILD SEMICONDUCTOR INTL INC | COMMON STOCK | 41,658 |
| | FINISAR CORPORATION | COMMON STOCK | 69,827 |
| | FINISH LINE INC | COMMON STOCK | 77,911 |
| | FOREST OIL CORP | COMMON STOCK | 262,192 |
| | FORTINET INC | COMMON STOCK | 42,311 |
| | FOSSIL INC | COMMON STOCK | 55,552 |
| | FRESH MKT INC | COMMON STOCK | 44,688 |
| | GAMESTOP CORP | COMMON STOCK | 32,093 |
| | GAYLORD ENTMT CO | COMMON STOCK | 52,384 |
| | GENERAL CABLE CORP | COMMON STOCK | 144,183 |
| | GENESEE & WYO INC | COMMON STOCK | 107,227 |
| | HEALTHCARE SVCS GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 30,427 |
| | HEALTHSPRING INC | COMMON STOCK | 62,176 |
| | HEARTLAND PMT SYS INC | COMMON STOCK | 44,822 |
| | HENRY JACK & ASSOC INC | COMMON STOCK | 66,548 |
| | HEXCEL CORP | COMMON STOCK | 82,314 |
| | HUB GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 78,156 |
| | IBERIABANK CORP | COMMON STOCK | 257,099 |
| | INCYTE CORP | COMMON STOCK | 42,328 |
| | INFORMATICA CORP | COMMON STOCK | 67,582 |
| | INTERDIGITAL INC | COMMON STOCK | 36,163 |
| | ION GEOPHYSICAL CORP | COMMON STOCK | 293,259 |
| | ITC HLDGS CORP | COMMON STOCK | 100,162 |
| | KBR INC | COMMON STOCK | 48,494 |
| | KEY ENERGY SVCS INC | COMMON STOCK | 86,787 |
| | KILROY RLTY CORP | COMMON STOCK | 94,794 |
| | KINDRED HEALTHCARE INC | COMMON STOCK | 225,160 |
| | KNIGHT CAP GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 43,143 |

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

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SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

DECEMBER 31, 2011

| (a) | (b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party | (c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value | (e) Current value |
|-----|--|--|-------------------|
| | LASALLE HOTEL PPTYS | COMMON STOCK | 56,651 |
| | LTC PPTYS INC | COMMON STOCK | 239,319 |
| | MADDEN STEVEN LTD | COMMON STOCK | 65,722 |
| | MANNING & NAPIER INC | COMMON STOCK | 31,974 |
| | MANPOWER INC | COMMON STOCK | 44,330 |
| | MARKETAXESS HLDGS INC | COMMON STOCK | 55,101 |
| | MEDNAX INC | COMMON STOCK | 49,687 |
| | MERITAGE HOMES CORP | COMMON STOCK | 57,511 |
| | MILLER HERMAN INC | COMMON STOCK | 59,224 |
| | MSCI INC | COMMON STOCK | 75,410 |
| | NASDAQ OMX GROUP | COMMON STOCK | 77,452 |
| | NATL FUEL GAS CO | COMMON STOCK | 59,471 |
| | NETGEAR INC | COMMON STOCK | 68,147 |
| | NORTHERN OIL & GAS INC | COMMON STOCK | 47,480 |
| | OCWEN FINL CORP | COMMON STOCK | 86,156 |
| | OCWEN FINL CORP | COMMON STOCK | 272,586 |
| | OLD DOMINION FGHT LINE INC | COMMON STOCK | 79,844 |
| | OMEGA HEALTHCARE INVS INC | COMMON STOCK | 316,759 |
| | ON SEMICONDUCTOR CORP | COMMON STOCK | 71,950 |
| | ONEOK INC | COMMON STOCK | 460,324 |
| | ONYX PHARMACEUTICALS INC | COMMON STOCK | 77,352 |
| | OWENS CORNING | COMMON STOCK | 93,053 |
| | OWENS ILL INC | COMMON STOCK | 313,956 |
| | PENN NATL GAMING INC | COMMON STOCK | 95,556 |
| | PENTAIR INC | COMMON STOCK | 73,238 |
| | POLARIS INDS INC | COMMON STOCK | 57,100 |
| | POLYPORE INTL INC | COMMON STOCK | 57,627 |
| | PORTLAND GEN ELEC CO | COMMON STOCK | 283,880 |
| | PROASSURANCE CORP | COMMON STOCK | 74,233 |
| | QUALITY SYS INC | COMMON STOCK | 63,623 |
| | QUESTAR CORP | COMMON STOCK | 68,517 |
| | QUESTCOR PHARMACEUTICALS INC | COMMON STOCK | 34,511 |
| | REDWOOD TR INC | COMMON STOCK | 270,737 |
| | RENAISSANCE RE HLDGS LTD | COMMON STOCK | 64,702 |
| | ROCK-TENN CO | COMMON STOCK | 90,012 |
| | SAKS INC | COMMON STOCK | 61,132 |
| | SAPIENT CORP | COMMON STOCK | 69,300 |
| | SCIENTIFIC GAMES CORP | COMMON STOCK | 59,170 |
| | SEMTECH CORP | COMMON STOCK | 44,676 |
| | SENSIENT TECHNOLOGIES CORP | COMMON STOCK | 329,730 |
| | SIGNATURE BK NY N Y | COMMON STOCK | 88,785 |
| | SIMPSON MFG INC | COMMON STOCK | 344,005 |

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

EIN 74-0694415 PLAN 015

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

DECEMBER 31, 2011

| (a) | (b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party | (c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value | (e) Current value |
|-----|--|--|-----------------------|
| | SIRONA DENTAL SYS INC | COMMON STOCK | 50,206 |
| | SMITH A O CORP | COMMON STOCK | 392,173 |
| | SOTHEBYS HLDGS INC | COMMON STOCK | 63,622 |
| | SPX CORP | COMMON STOCK | 68,105 |
| | STEWART ENTERPRISES INC | COMMON STOCK | 62,122 |
| | SUCCESSFACTORS INC | COMMON STOCK | 70,171 |
| | SUPER VALU INC | COMMON STOCK | 314,244 |
| | SVB FINL GROUP | COMMON STOCK | 47,690 |
| | SWIFT ENERGY CO | COMMON STOCK | 65,087 |
| | SXC HEALTH SOLUTIONS CORP | COMMON STOCK | 44,054 |
| | TALEO CORP | COMMON STOCK | 110,266 |
| | TANGER FACTORY OUTLET CTRS INC | COMMON STOCK | 94,117 |
| | TEMPUR-PEDIC INTL INC | COMMON STOCK | 100,858 |
| | TENNECO INC | COMMON STOCK | 66,409 |
| | TERADYNE INC | COMMON STOCK | 79,463 |
| | THOMPSON CREEK METALS CO INC | COMMON STOCK | 48,233 |
| | TIBCO SOFTWARE INC | COMMON STOCK | 89,423 |
| | TIDEWATER INC | COMMON STOCK | 282,242 |
| | TREEHOUSE FOODS INC | COMMON STOCK | 52,304 |
| | TRIUMPH GROUP INC | COMMON STOCK | 75,400 |
| | TRUE RELIGION APPAREL INC | COMMON STOCK | 70,889 |
| | TW TELECOM INC | COMMON STOCK | 77,326 |
| | TWO HBRS INVT CORP | COMMON STOCK | 200,554 |
| | UNDER ARMOR INC | COMMON STOCK | 66,765 |
| | UNITED NAT FOODS INC | COMMON STOCK | 75,619 |
| | UTD THERAPEUTICS CORP DEL | COMMON STOCK | 65,677 |
| | VERIFONE HLDGS INC | COMMON STOCK | 98,035 |
| | VITAMIN SHOPPE INC | COMMON STOCK | 88,534 |
| | WELLCARE HLTH PLANS INC | COMMON STOCK | 80,850 |
| | WESCO INTL INC | COMMON STOCK | 89,587 |
| | WISDOMTREE INVTs INC | COMMON STOCK | 43,257 |
| | WOODWARD GOVERNOR CO | COMMON STOCK | 96,595 |
| | WYNDHAM WORLDWIDE CORP | COMMON STOCK | 51,827 |
| | SUBTOTAL | | \$ 414,239,585 |
| | <u>GUARANTEED INVESTMENT CONTRACTS</u> | | |
| | METROPOLITAN | CONTRACT #31832 INTEREST RATE 5.700% | \$ 12,983,893 |
| | SUBTOTAL | | \$ 12,983,893 |
| | <u>MUTUAL FUND</u> | | |
| | LSV ASSET MANAGEMENT | VALUE EQUITY FUND | \$ 40,380,644 |
| | LOOMIS SAYLES | FIXED INCOME FUND | 52,437,563 |

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

EIN 74-0694415 PLAN 015

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

DECEMBER 31, 2011

| (a) | (b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party | (c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value | (e) Current value |
|----------|--|--|-------------------------|
| | PIMCO | TOTAL RETURN FUND | 129,501,651 |
| | T ROWE PRICE | INSTITUTIONAL LARGE CAP GROWTH FUND | 45,839,379 |
| | TEMPLETON | FOREIGN EQUITY SERIES | 23,342,164 |
| | SUBTOTAL | | \$ 291,501,401 |
| | TOTAL PLAN INVESTMENTS AT FAIR VALUE | | \$ 1,581,059,274 |
| * | PARTICIPANT LOANS | | |
| | CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN | LOANS ISSUED AT INTEREST RATES BETWEEN 4.25% - 9.25% WITH VARIOUS MATURITIES | \$ 41,234,734 |

*** PARTY-IN-INTEREST**

HISTORICAL COST INFORMATION IN COLUMN (D) IS NOT PRESENTED SINCE THE INVESTMENTS DISPLAYED ARE PARTICIPANT-DIRECTED.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the Plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

CENTERPOINT ENERGY SAVINGS PLAN

By /s/ Marc Kilbride
(Marc Kilbride, Chairman of the Benefits Committee

of CenterPoint Energy, Inc., Plan Administrator)

June 11, 2012