Harper C Gregory Form 4 December 12, 2008

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

OMB APPROVAL

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

3235-0287

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Check this box

Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Harper C Gregory			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
			CENTERPOINT ENERGY INC [CNP]	(Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify			
1111 LOUISIANA			12/10/2008	below) below) Sr. VP & Group Pres.			
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line)			
HOUSTON, TX 77002				_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Ac	quired. Disposed of, or Beneficially Owner			

		Tubic 1 1 ton 2 city and to securities frequency 2 is possed of, of 2 city and 1							
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securities Acquire	1 5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of		
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	on(A) or Disposed of	Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect		
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(D)	Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial		
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership		
					Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)		
					Reported				
				(A)	Transaction(s)				
				or	(Instr. 3 and 4)				
			Code V	Amount (D) Price	e ` iii ii				
Common Stock	12/10/2008		A	$\begin{array}{ccc} 50,000 \\ \underline{(1)} & A & \underline{(2)} \end{array}$	50,000	D			

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Title	e and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	·				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						`
					4, and 5)						
					, ,						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Exercisable	Date	Title 1	Number		
						Lacicisable	Date		of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Harper C Gregory 1111 LOUISIANA HOUSTON, TX 77002

Sr. VP & Group Pres.

Signatures

C. Gregory 12/12/2008 Harper

**Signature of Date Reporting Person

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).
- This common stock is a time-based stock award purusant to Issuer's Long Term Incentive Plan. Shares will vest in one-third increments on December 10 of each of 2009, 2010 and 2011 if the reporting person is an employee of Issuer through such dates and on a pro rata basis in the event of his earlier disability or death.
- (2) Price is not applicable.

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.

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