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Top Hat Plan Exemption
Employee Benefits Security Administration, Room N-1513
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20210

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This document constitutes the statement required under DOL Regulation Section 2520.104-23(b)(1) with respect to the nonqualified deferred compensation plans maintained by CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (the "Company").

The Company, whose EIN is 74-0694415 and whose address is CenterPoint Energy, Inc., 1111 Louisiana, Houston, TX 77002, maintains the following 11 plans primarily for the purpose of providing deferred compensation for members of a select group of management or highly compensated employees. The number of employees in each plan listed below is noted in parenthesis.

- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. 1985 Deferred Compensation Plan (110)
- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. 1989 Deferred Compensation Plan (128)
- CenterPoint Energy 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan (59)
- CenterPoint Energy Benefit Restoration Plan (79)
- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. 1991 Benefit Restoration Plan (361)
- CenterPoint Energy Savings Restoration Plan (108)
- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. 1991 Savings Restoration Plan (82)
- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Outside Director Benefits Plan (6)
- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Executive Benefits Plan (8)
- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. 1982 Executive Incentive Compensation Plan (11)
- CenterPoint Energy, Inc. Executive Life Insurance Plan (28)

The plan administrator of the plans will forward documents evidencing the existence of the plans to the Secretary of Labor upon request as required by Section 104(a)(6) of ERISA and DOL Regulation Section 2520.104-23(b)(2).

Sincerely,


Lynne Harkel-Rumford

cc: Mr. Mark A. Bodron

CNP 338 (9-2003)



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