

# FORM 8-K

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<b>Registrants</b>	<b>Title of each class</b>	<b>Trading Symbol(s)</b>	<b>Name of exchange on which listed</b>
CenterPoint Energy, Inc.	Common Stock, \$0.01 par value	CNP	The New York Stock Exchange
CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC	6.95% General Mortgage Bonds due 2033	n/a	The New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1933 (§230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2).

Emerging Growth Company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 101(b) of the Securities Exchange Act. ☐

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**Item 1.01 Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

On June 24, 2024, CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC (the “Company”), a wholly owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (“CenterPoint Energy”), entered into a delayed draw term loan agreement (the “Agreement”) among Mizuho Bank, Ltd., as administrative agent, and the banks party thereto, pursuant to which the banks have committed to provide term loans in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$300 million. The Agreement also permits the Company to request additional commitments and/or additional loans, such as additional commitments and/or loans not to exceed \$200 million and subject to the satisfaction of certain customary conditions precedent. The Company intends to use the proceeds for working capital to support liquidity needs from the Company’s Storm Events (as defined below) and general limited liability company purposes. The maturity date for the term loans under the Term Loan Agreement is December 24, 2025.

Borrowings under the Term Loan Agreement bear interest, at the Company’s option, at a rate equal to (i) Term SOFR (as defined in the Term Loan Agreement), which includes an adjustment of 0.10% per annum plus a margin of 1.0% or (ii) the Alternate Base Rate (as defined in the Term Loan Agreement). The Term Loan Agreement contains certain covenants, including a covenant that requires the Company not to exceed a ratio of consolidated debt (excluding, among other things, transition and system restoration bonds) to consolidated capitalization (excluding, among other things, non-cash reductions to net income) of 67.5%. The Term Loan Agreement provides for an increase of the permitted ratio under this covenant to 70% if the Company or its subsidiaries experiences certain damages from a natural disaster in its service territory and, among other conditions, the Company certifies to its administrative agent that the system restoration costs incurred by the Company and its subsidiaries in connection with that natural disaster are reasonably likely to exceed \$100 million in a consecutive twelve-month period, after which the Company or one of its subsidiaries intend to seek to recover through securitization financing. Such temporary increase in the financial ratio covenant would be in effect from the date the Company delivers such certification until the earliest to occur of (i) the completion of the securitization financing, (ii) the first anniversary of the date of such certification or (iii) the revocation by the Company of such certification.

Borrowings under the Term Loan Agreement may be voluntarily prepaid without penalty or premium, except for customary breakage costs related to prepayments of loans that bear interest based on Term SOFR. The Term Loan Agreement also provides a mechanism to replace Term SOFR or other then-applicable interest rate benchmark if such benchmarks are no longer available.

Borrowings under the Term Loan Agreement are subject to acceleration upon the occurrence of events of default that the Company considers customary. The Term Loan Agreement also provides for the payment of customary fees, including administrative agent fees, ticking fees and other fees.

The Term Loan Agreement described above is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated by reference herein. The foregoing summary does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Term Loan Agreement.

Mizuho Bank, Ltd., TD Bank, N.A. and U.S. Bank National Association have each committed to provide banking services under the Term Loan Agreement and each of them and/or their respective affiliates have performed deposit, lending, and other banking, investment banking, trust, investment management and advisory services for the Company and its affiliates from time to time for which they have received customary fees and expenses and may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for the Company and its affiliates in the ordinary course of their business. Mizuho Bank, Ltd., TD Bank, N.A. and U.S. Bank National Association also serves as lenders and guarantors under other credit agreements of the Company and its affiliates.

**Item 2.03 Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registrant.**

The information included in Item 1.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated by reference to Item 2.03.

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**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

The Company's service territory experienced sudden and destructive severe weather events in May 2024, which included Category 2 Hurricane-like winds and tornadoes (collectively, the "May 2024 Storm Events"). The May 2024 Storm Events caused significant damage to the Company's electric delivery system. For example, damage from the May 16, 2024 storm resulted in electric service interruptions peaking at nearly 922,000 customers. In response to certain of these weather events, the Company implemented its emergency operations plan's processes and procedures developed to respond to such events, including establishing an incident command center, activating resources to support its restoration efforts and calling for assistance from other utilities where needed, among other things. The Company has remained in contact with its regulators and stakeholders, including federal, state and local regulators, as well as the Public Utility Commission of Texas (the "PUCT") and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (the "ERCOT") regarding the May 2024 Storm Events.

The Company estimates that total costs to restore the electric delivery facilities damaged as a result of the May 2024 Storm Events will be in the range of \$425 to \$475 million based on currently available information. These estimates are subject to revisions as certain restoration costs may continue through the end of 2024, with ongoing repairs to our transmission facilities to continue into 2025.

The ultimate recovery of costs is expected to be sought through traditional regulatory mechanisms or securitization bonds, as applicable. The Company expects to obtain recovery of a portion of the May 2024 storm restoration costs that are functionalized to distribution through the issuance of non-recourse securitization bonds. Assuming those bonds are issued, the Company expects to recover the amount of storm restoration costs approved by the PUCT out of the net proceeds from the bond offering, with the debt service and other financial obligations of the bonds being paid over the term of the bonds through a storm restoration charge imposed on the Company's customers.

CenterPoint Energy reaffirms its previously announced non-GAAP earnings guidance.

#### Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

As included in this Current Report, 2024 non-GAAP earnings per diluted share, is a non-GAAP measure that excludes earnings and losses from the change in value of CenterPoint Energy's 2.0% Zero-Premium Exchangeable Subordinated Notes due 2029 ("ZENS") and related securities, and the gain and impact, including related costs, associated with mergers and divestitures, such as the divestiture of Energy Systems Group, LLC and CenterPoint Energy's Louisiana and Mississippi natural gas local distribution company businesses. In providing 2024 earnings guidance, CenterPoint Energy does not consider the items noted above and other potential impacts such as changes in accounting standards, impairments, or other unusual items, which could have a material impact on GAAP earnings results for the applicable guidance period. The 2024 non-GAAP guidance range also considers assumptions about significant variables that may impact earnings, such as customer growth and usage including normal weather conditions, throughput, recovery of capital invested, effective tax rates, financing activities and related interest rates, and regulatory and judicial proceedings. To the extent actual results deviate from these assumptions, the 2024 EPS guidance range may not be met, or the projected annual non-GAAP EPS growth rate may change. CenterPoint Energy is unable to present a quantitative reconciliation of forward-looking non-GAAP diluted earnings per share without unreasonable effort because changes in the value of ZENS and related securities, future impairments, and other unusual items are not estimable and are difficult to predict due to various factors outside of management's control.

Management evaluates CenterPoint Energy's financial performance in part based on non-GAAP earnings per share. Management believes that presenting this non-GAAP financial measure enhances an investor's understanding of CenterPoint Energy's overall financial performance by providing them with an additional meaningful and consistent comparison of anticipated future results across periods. The adjustments made in this non-GAAP financial measure exclude items that management believes do not most accurately reflect CenterPoint Energy's fundamental financial performance. CenterPoint Energy's non-GAAP diluted earnings per share measures should be considered a supplement to, and not as a substitute for, or superior to, diluted earnings per share, which is the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. This non-GAAP financial measure also may be different than non-GAAP financial measures used by other companies.

#### Forward-Looking Statements

This Current Report may contain “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this Current Report are forward-looking statements made in good faith by us and are intended to qualify for the safe harbor from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. When used in this Current Report, words “anticipate,” “believe,” “continue,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “forecast,” “goal,” “intend,” “may,” “might,” “plan,” “potential,” “predict,” “projection,” “should,” “target,” “will” or other similar words are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based upon assumptions of management that are believed to be reasonable at the time made and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements.

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may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. The Company has no obligation and does not intend to update or revise these forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by securities and other applicable laws. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the Company's anticipated borrowings pursuant to the Term Loan Agreement, the Company's estimates regarding system restoration costs for the damage resulting from the Storm Events, CenterPoint Energy's earnings guidance and the timing and approval of securitization legal proceedings. This forward-looking statement contained in this Current Report speaks only as of the date of this report. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated by the provided forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, risks and uncertainties relating to: (1) CenterPoint Energy's business strategy, including strategic initiatives, restructurings, joint ventures and acquisitions or dispositions of assets or businesses, including the announced sale of CenterPoint Energy's Louisiana and Mississippi natural gas LDC businesses, and the completion of the sale of Energy Systems Group, LLC, which CenterPoint Energy cannot assure will have the anticipated benefits; (2) industrial, commercial and residential growth in CenterPoint Energy's service territories and changes in energy demand; (3) CenterPoint Energy's ability to fund and invest planned capital, and the timely recovery of investments; (4) financial market and general economic conditions, including access to debt and equity capital and inflation; (5) interest rates and instability of banking institutions, and their effect on sales, prices and costs; (6) disruptions to the energy supply chain and volatility in commodity prices; (7) actions by credit rating agencies, including any potential downgrades to credit ratings; (8) the timing and impact of regulatory proceedings and actions and legal proceedings, including those related to the Company's mobile generation; (9) legislative decisions, including tax and other laws related to the environment such as global climate change, air emissions, carbon, waste water discharges and the handling of coal combustion residuals, among others, and CenterPoint Energy's net zero and carbon emissions reduction goals; (10) the impact of pandemics; (11) weather variations and CenterPoint Energy's ability to manage weather impacts, including the approval and timing of securitization issuances; (12) the impact of potential climate change; (13) changes in business plans; (14) CenterPoint Energy's ability to execute on its initiatives, targets and goals, including its net zero and carbon emissions reduction goals and operations and maintenance goals; and (15) other factors discussed in CenterPoint Energy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, and Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2024, including in the "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information" sections of such reports, and other reports filed by CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries may file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The information included in this Item 7.01 is furnished, not filed, pursuant to Item 7.01. Accordingly, the information will be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the information will not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement filed by CenterPoint Energy or the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, unless specifically identified as being incorporated by reference.

## Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

The exhibit listed below is filed herewith. The Term Loan Agreement included as an exhibit is included to provide information to investors regarding its terms. The Term Loan Agreement listed below may contain representations, warranties and other provisions that were made, among other things, to provide the parties with specified rights and obligations and to allocate risk among them, and such agreement should not be construed as constituting or providing any factual disclosures about us, any other persons, any state of affairs or other matters.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>EXHIBIT NUMBER</u>	<u>EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION</u>
10.1	<a href="#">Term Loan Agreement dated as of June 24, 2024 among CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC as borrower, Mizuho Bank, Ltd., as administrative agent, and the banks party thereto.</a>
104	Cover Page Integrative Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly authorized the undersigned to execute and deliver this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INC.**

Date: June 24, 2024

By: /s/ Kristie L. Colvin  
Kristie L. Colvin  
Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly authorized the undersigned to execute and deliver this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ENERGY SERVICES, INC.**

Date: June 24, 2024

By: /s/ Kristie L. Colvin  
Kristie L. Colvin  
Senior Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer