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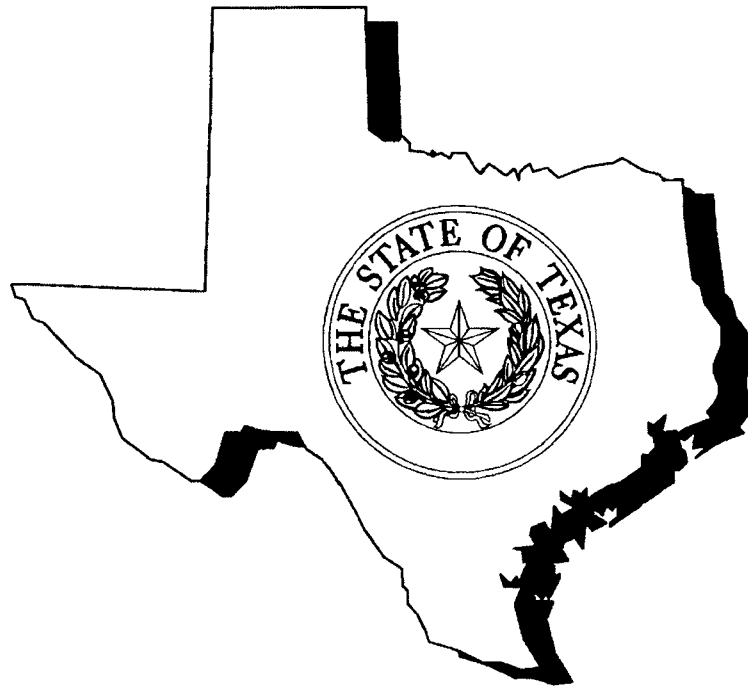
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PUC DOCKET NO. 49421
SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864

APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT §
ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC §
FOR AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES §

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS



2019 JUN 12 PM 2:13
Public Utility Commission

REDACTED DIRECT TESTIMONY
AND WORKPAPERS OF

DARRYL TIETJEN

RATE REGULATION DIVISION
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

JUNE 12, 2019

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
DARRYL TIETJEN

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Attachment DT-1

List of Testimonies by Darryl Tietjen

Workpapers

- Moody’s’ January 28, 2019 Report (redacted)
- Fitch Ratings’ November 2, 2018 Report (redacted)
- S&P Global Ratings’ February 1, 2019 Report (redacted)
- Excerpt (one page) from Rebuttal Testimony of John J. Reed, Docket No. 38339
- CEHE Response (three pages) to GCCC RFI 1-07, Docket No. 38339
- CEHE Response (one page) to TIEC RFI 2-06
- CEHE Response (one page) to TIEC RFI 2-07
- CEHE Response (one page) to TIEC RFI 2-08
- CEHE Response (one page) to TIEC RFI 2-09
- CEHE Response (one page) to TIEC RFI 2-10
- CEHE Response (one page) to Staff RFI 13-03
- CEHE Response (one page) to Staff RFI 13-04
- CEHE Response (one page) to Staff RFI 13-05
- CEHE Response (one page) to GCCC RFI 1-05
- CEHE Response (four pages) to GCCC RFI 3-03
- Direct Testimony of Darryl Tietjen (70 pages), Docket No. 30485

I. INTRODUCTION

Q. Please state your name and business address.

A. Darryl Tietjen, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas.

Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

A. I am employed by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC or Commission) as the Director of the Rate Regulation Division.

Q. What are your principal areas of responsibility?

A. In addition to the management of the Rate Regulation Division, I am responsible for recommending fair rates of return on invested capital, evaluating financial integrity requirements, conducting various financial analyses, leading or participating in various rulemaking projects, and preparing testimony concerning various financial matters relevant to public utilities regulated by the Commission.

Q. Please describe your educational background and professional qualifications.

A. I hold a Master of Business Administration degree with concentrations in finance and accounting from The University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin), and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a concentration in finance, also from UT Austin. While earning my master's degree, I was employed by UT Austin as an instructor, teaching two sections of undergraduate corporate finance. Prior to attending graduate school, I was employed by a commercial bank, where I was principally involved in investment activities and internal and external financial reporting.

I am a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) licensed in the state of Texas and a member of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA). I have twice served as chairman of the annual TSCPA-sponsored Energy Conference, for which I have been a committee member for approximately 19 years.

I also hold the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), which is awarded by the CFA Institute after successful completion of its three-part examination

1 process over a minimum three-year period. The curriculum for the CFA charter covers
2 a defined body of knowledge fundamental to the practice of investment management,
3 and includes the areas of finance, accounting, economics, statistics, and ethical and
4 professional conduct.
5

6 **Q. Have you previously testified before this Commission?**

7 A. Yes. Attachment DT-1 provides a summary of the dockets in which I have filed direct
8 or other testimony.
9

10 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this case, Docket No. 49421, *Application***
11 ***of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for Authority to Change Rates?***

12 A. The purpose of my testimony is to address the following question from the
13 Commission's *Preliminary Order* filed May 9, 2019 (as numbered therein):
14

- 15 9. Are any protections, such as financial protections, appropriate to protect
16 CenterPoint's financial integrity and ability to provide reliable service
17 at just and reasonable rates?
18

19 Additionally, I address the issue of excess portions of accumulated deferred federal
20 income tax expense related to the securitized amounts of stranded costs and system
21 restoration costs that CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC (CEHE) reflects in its
22 rates.
23

24 **Q. Under what provisions of the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) are you**
25 **making your recommendations?**

26 A. PURA §§ 11.002 (Purpose and Findings) and 14.001 (Power to Regulate and
27 Supervise) provide the bases for my recommendations in this proceeding. PURA §
28 11.002 provides in subsections (a) and (b) that:
29

- 30 (a) This title is enacted to protect the public interest inherent in the rates
31 and services of public utilities. The purpose of this title is to
32 establish a comprehensive and adequate regulatory system for

1 public utilities to assure rates, operations, and services that are just
2 and reasonable to the consumers and to the utilities.

3
4 (b) Public utilities traditionally are by definition monopolies in the
5 areas they serve. As a result, the normal forces of competition that
6 regulate prices in a free enterprise society do not operate. Public
7 agencies regulate utility rates, operations, and services as a
8 substitute for competition.
9

10 PURA § 14.001 states that:

11
12 The commission has the general power to *regulate and supervise*
13 [emphasis added] the business of each public utility within its
14 jurisdiction and to do anything specifically designated or implied by this
15 title that is necessary and convenient to the exercise of that power and
16 jurisdiction.
17

18 From a financial perspective, the plain meaning of the above statutory provisions sets
19 out and attests to the Commission's broad authority over the rates, operations, and
20 services of public utilities it regulates. Accordingly, I believe that, consistent with the
21 implicit underpinnings of *Preliminary Order* question #9, the Commission's ability to
22 establish protective measures that help ensure a utility's financial integrity and that
23 facilitate the utility's ability to provide reliable service at just and reasonable rates is,
24 under any reasonable interpretation of the statutory language, a legitimate application
25 of the Commission's general regulatory oversight function and its authority to "regulate
26 and supervise."
27

28 **II. RECOMMENDATIONS**

29 **Q. What are your recommendations in this proceeding?**

30 A. With regard to *Preliminary Order* question #9, I recommend that the Commission order
31 CEHE to implement certain financial policies and requirements that are designed to
32 create an effective degree of insulation between CEHE and its parent company
33 CenterPoint Energy, Inc. (CenterPoint) and CenterPoint's other affiliates. These
34 measures will provide CEHE with meaningful protection against possible situations of

1 financial distress by non-CEHE entities that are part of the CenterPoint organization.
2 In Sections III – V of my testimony, I discuss these issues in more detail, and in Section
3 VI, I provide a listing of my recommended protection measures.

4 With regard to the issue of excess accumulated deferred federal income tax
5 amounts related to CEHE's securitized cost recovery, I recommend that the
6 Commission require CEHE to file an application for a separate proceeding in which the
7 Commission and all parties have the opportunity to develop a more complete
8 evidentiary record and the ability to conduct an appropriately thorough examination of
9 all the relevant aspects of this issue. In Section VII of my testimony, I discuss this
10 issue in considerable detail.

11 **III. PROTECTIVE MEASURES—GENERAL DISCUSSION**

12 **Q. In the context of the Commission's regulation of the rates and operations of**
13 **CEHE, are there reasons that the Commission may wish to expressly and pre-**
14 **emptively address possible concerns about the impact on CEHE of the business**
15 **activities of CenterPoint and its non-CEHE subsidiaries?**

16 **A.** In my view, the answer is yes. CenterPoint, with \$29 billion of assets, is a large
17 corporation that includes not only CEHE as a subsidiary, but also a number of other
18 entities, such as:¹

- 19 • CenterPoint Energy Resources (CERC), a multi-state gas distribution
20 company;
- 21 • CenterPoint Energy Services (CES), a natural gas marketing business that
22 sells non-rate-regulated natural gas and related services in 33 states (as of
23 September 2018);
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27

¹ See:

<https://www.vectren.com/corporate/about>;

<https://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/corporate/about-us/news/1201>;

https://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/Corp/Documents/CenterPoint_Energy_Fact_Sheet.pdf.

Also see Exhibit MSK-2 (Vectren Post-Closing Ownership Structure) in the Direct Testimony of CEHE witness M. Shane Kimzey.

- 1 • Enable Midstream Partners, LP, a publicly traded master limited partnership
2 that owns, operates, and develops strategically located natural gas and crude
3 oil infrastructure asset; and
4
5 • Vectren Corporation (Vectren), which CenterPoint acquired in February
6 2019 and which includes natural gas operations and vertically integrated
7 electric utility operations in Indiana and Ohio.
8

9 Given that each of these subsidiaries is a part of the overall CenterPoint organization,
10 to the degree that there are aspects of operational and financial intermingling or
11 interdependency among the various entities, the effects of financial instability or
12 weakness in one entity could affect not only CenterPoint as the parent company, but
13 other subsidiaries as well. In an extreme case, an event that causes severe financial
14 distress for CenterPoint could lead to its bankruptcy—a situation, that, absent the
15 presence of protective measures, could impact subsidiaries like CEHE dramatically and
16 drag them along into the bankruptcy process.
17

18 **Q. Given the above discussion, for a regulated company such as CEHE, what do you**
19 **believe is the principal purpose of establishing regulatory requirements that**
20 **implement certain financial protections?**

21 **A.** From a regulatory perspective, the most fundamental reason for the implementation of
22 certain types of financial protections is to provide for a regulated utility a set of
23 safeguards against a parent company's financial distress and potential contagiousness
24 and, in an extreme situation, the parent's bankruptcy. Ultimately, I would characterize
25 the goal of a regulatory authority's implementation of protective policies and standards
26 as helping to ensure that a regulated utility maintains its ability to fulfill its core
27 customer-oriented purpose: to provide reliable service at reasonable rates.
28
29
30

1 **Q. Is there a generic phrase that is commonly used to describe different types of**
2 **mechanisms that provide for some degree of separation between regulated utilities**
3 **and their parents and affiliates?**

4 A. Yes. That phrase is “ring-fencing,” and in a regulatory context it refers to the general
5 concept of establishing various requirements or policies that effectively isolate and
6 thereby insulate a regulated entity from the effects of a parent organization’s financial
7 distress and, in a worst case, bankruptcy. As noted above, a basic regulatory function
8 is the maintenance of a utility’s financial ability to deliver reliable service at reasonable
9 rates, and ring-fencing provisions are a tool that the Commission can use to carry out
10 this most fundamental public interest goal.
11

12 **Q. In what proceedings has the Commission implemented ring-fencing provisions,**
13 **including the use of measures specifically related to financial protection?**

14 A. The Commission has ordered ring-fencing provisions in a number of dockets, including
15 two that have occurred within the last 16 months. Since 2008, these dockets have
16 included:

- 17
- 18 • Docket No. 34077, *Joint Report and Application of Oncor Electric Delivery*
19 *Company and Texas Energy Future Holdings Limited Partnership Pursuant*
20 *to PURA § 14.101* (Order on Rehearing, April 24, 2008);
- 21
- 22 • Docket No. 45188, *Joint Report and Application of Oncor Electric Delivery*
23 *Company LLC, Ovation Acquisition I, LLC, Ovation Acquisition II, LLC,*
24 *and Shary Holdings, LLC for Regulatory Approvals Pursuant to PURA §§*
25 *14.101, 37.154, 39.262(l)-(m), and 39.915* (Order, March 24, 2016);
- 26
- 27 • Docket No. 47675, *Joint Report and Application of Oncor Electric Delivery*
28 *Company LLC and Sempra Energy for Regulatory Approvals Pursuant to*
29 *PURA §§ 14.101, 39.262, and 39.915* (Order, March 8, 2018); and
- 30
- 31 • Docket No. 48929, *Joint Report and Application of Oncor Electric Delivery*
32 *Company LLC, Sharyland Distribution & Transmission Services, L.L.C.,*
33 *Sharyland Utilities, L.P., and Sempra Energy for Regulatory Approvals*
34 *Under PURA §§ 14.101, 37.154, 39.262, and 39.915* (Order, May 9, 2019).
35

1 Commission orders for all these dockets include various types of ring-fencing
2 provisions, many of which are of a financial-protection nature.
3

4 **Q. Each of the dockets listed above was a sale-transfer-merger (STM) proceeding,**
5 **not a rate case such as this docket. Does this distinction matter with regard to the**
6 **Commission's consideration of whether the use of ring-fencing provisions may be**
7 **appropriate in a given proceeding?**

8 A. I do not believe that it does. With regard to STM proceedings, PURA's relevant
9 provisions² do not include language expressly requiring the implementation of ring-
10 fencing provisions. Nonetheless, for the Commission decisions in the four dockets
11 listed above, I believe that the Commission included ring-fencing provisions as part of
12 its orders because doing so was appropriate given the particulars of those cases and, as
13 well, because it was consistent with the broad statutory authority and the regulatory
14 objectives that I discussed earlier in my testimony on pages 3 - 4. In other words, the
15 Commission's decisions regarding the appropriateness of ring-fencing provisions in
16 those proceedings were entirely consistent with its fundamental responsibility of
17 implementing regulatory policies and requirements that serve the public interest. As a
18 general matter, with regard to Commission determinations on issues pertaining to the
19 implementation of mechanisms that serve to maintain a utility's financial stability and
20 ability to provide reliable service at reasonable rates, I believe that the same logic and
21 rationale apply irrespective of whether the proceeding is an STM docket or a rate-
22 related docket.
23
24
25

² PURA §§ 14.101, 39.262, and 39.915.

1 **Q. In the context of a rate-related docket, has CEHE ever acknowledged that it is**
2 **subject to ring-fencing provisions established by the Commission?**

3 A. Yes. In fact, CEHE discussed ring-fencing in its most recent comprehensive rate case
4 (Docket No. 38339³). In that proceeding, CEHE witness John J. Reed addressed the
5 issue of ring-fencing in his rebuttal testimony, stating in a discussion of tax-related
6 issues that:

7
8 ...if there are sufficient measures in place to prevent cross-subsidization
9 between jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional affiliates, as is the case with
10 CenterPoint Houston, then the utility is sufficiently ring-fenced so that it
11 should not be entitled to any of the tax benefits that arose from losses
12 generated from those same activities from which it was protected.⁴
13

14 Also in Docket No. 38339, CEHE stated in a response to Gulf Coast Coalition of Cities'
15 (GCCC) Request for Information (RFI) 1-07 that:

16
17 Ring-fencing occurs when a regulated public utility business financially
18 separates itself from its parent or an affiliate that engages in non-regulated
19 business. This is done mainly to protect consumers of essential services
20 such as power, water, and basic telecommunications from financial
21 instability or bankruptcy of the affiliate. Ring-fencing policies may be of a
22 regulatory or financial nature....

23
24 CEHE employs practices to provide a regulatory ring-fence to isolate and
25 protect the jurisdictional regulated utility and its customers from any
26 adverse financial impact resulting from activities of the parent company and
27 unregulated affiliates. ***In fact, PURA and the Commission's Substantive***
28 ***Rules require CEHE to employ such practices*** [emphasis added].
29

30 CEHE's response went on to describe a number of policies that CEHE follows in
31 complying with the provisions of PURA and the requirements of the Commission. My
32 workpapers include a copy of CEHE's response in its entirety.

³ *Application of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for Authority to Change Rates*, Docket No. 38339 (Order on Rehearing, June 23, 2011).

⁴ *Id.*, Rebuttal Testimony of John J. Reed at 10, lines 8 – 12.

1 **IV. RATING AGENCY ASSESSMENTS OF CENTERPOINT AND THE**
2 **IMPACT OF ITS RECENT ACQUISITIONS**

3 **Q. What opinions have credit rating agencies such as Standard & Poor's (S&P),**
4 **Moody's Investor Service (Moody's), and Fitch Ratings (Fitch) expressed with**
5 **regard to CenterPoint's acquisition of Vectren?**

6 A. Recent assessments of CenterPoint by the rating agencies reflect a combination of pros
7 and cons related to the Vectren acquisition, with the agencies' comments noting that
8 the acquisition has certain beneficial aspects—for example, it provides a degree of
9 greater diversification—but with other comments expressing concerns, such as the use
10 of excessive leverage (i.e., debt financing) resulting from the transaction.

11 For example, in a report⁵ dated November 2, 2018, Fitch stated that its ratings
12 of CenterPoint:

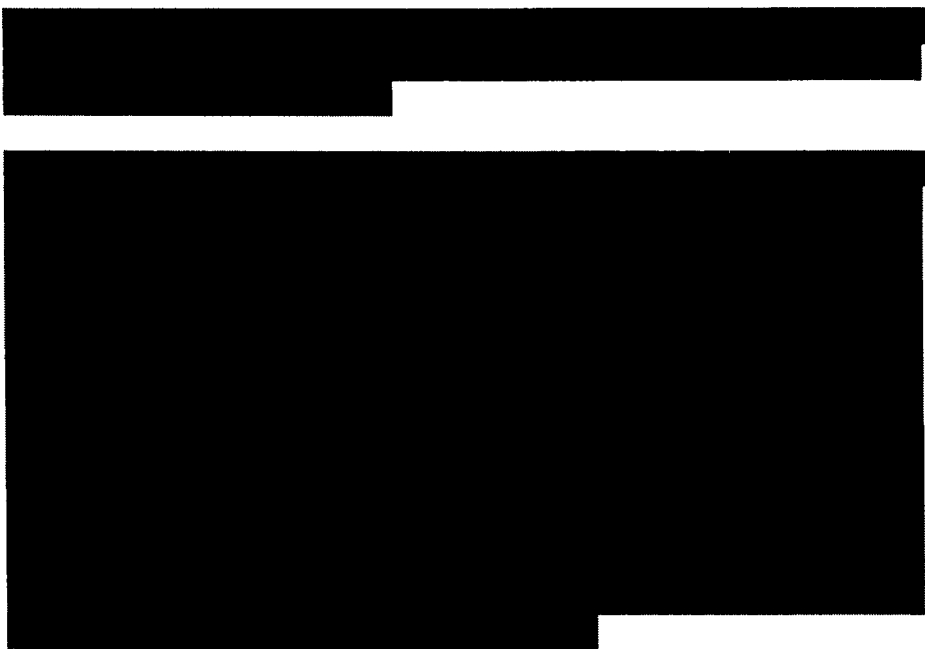


21 Similarly, in a January 28, 2019 report, Moody's discussed how CenterPoint's
22 acquisition of Vectren factored into its downgrade of CenterPoint's Issuer Rating and
23 Senior Unsecured Rating from Baa1 to Baa2 and its downgrade of CenterPoint's
24 subordinated debt rating from Baa2 to Baa3.⁶ Moody's stated that:

⁵ My workpapers include the Fitch, Moody's, and S&P reports (redacted) that I reference in this section of my testimony.

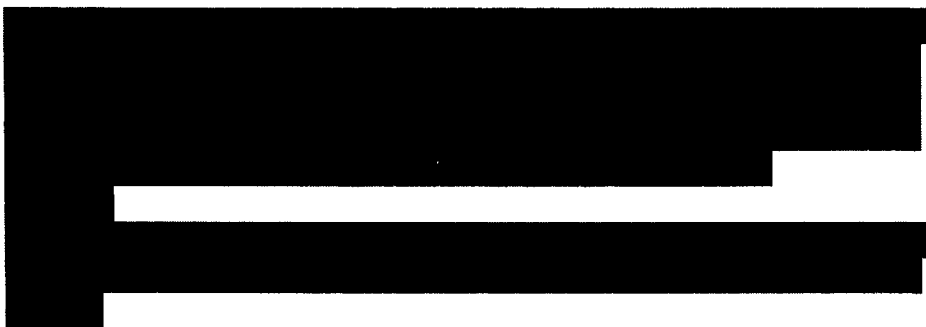
⁶ S&P and Fitch provide increasing risk and declining credit ratings for "investment grade" bonds ranging from AAA to AA to A to BBB (with "+" and "-" as sub-ratings or notches within these rating classes for relatively lower or higher risk, respectively). Moody's provides comparable investment-grade credit quality ratings of Aaa to Aa to A to Baa (with 1, 2, and 3 as sub-ratings or notches within these rating classes for relatively lower to higher risk, respectively). **Thus, the lowest investment-grade ratings are BBB- (using S&P and Fitch conventions) and Baa3 (using Moody's conventions).** Bonds rated BB/Ba (S&P/Moody's) or lower are often called junk bonds. Bonds rated B/B, CCC/Caa, CC/Ca, and C/C are considered speculative; bonds rated below these speculative grades reflect insolvency.

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20 S&P likewise downgraded CenterPoint’s credit rating because of the impact of the
21 Vectren acquisition, lowering CenterPoint’s issuer credit rating from A- to BBB+ and
22 lowering the rating on senior unsecured and subordinated notes from BBB+ to BBB.
23 In a report dated February 1, 2019, S&P stated that:

24
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34



35 I would additionally note that, in that same report, S&P lowered CEHE’s issuer credit
36 rating from A- to BBB+.

37
38 **Q. What do you believe is the key takeaway from the above info?**

39 A. The ratings actions and commentary from each of the three major credit rating agencies
40 illustrate the basic point that the transactions, business, operations, and leveraging
41 activities of a parent company and its subsidiaries can have wide-ranging effects, not

1 only on the credit profile and financial exposure of the parent, but on regulated utility
2 affiliates as well. This, in turn, can affect certain of the regulated utility's rate-related
3 elements such as capital structure and cost of capital (both equity costs and debt costs).
4 If these circumstances lead to a higher cost of providing service for the regulated utility,
5 it is possible—or likely—that the utility in its next rate proceeding will request that
6 ratepayers bear the higher costs. Accordingly, in the course of a rate case, when the
7 Commission reviews a utility's financial risk as part of its fundamental task of
8 establishing just and reasonable rates, pre-emptive Commission actions (such as
9 requiring the utility to implement protective ring-fencing mechanisms) that help
10 insulate a regulated utility company from possible financial-stress contagion are
11 entirely—and appropriately—within the Commission's responsibility and authority.

12
13 **V. CEHE'S EXISTING POLICIES THAT PROVIDE A DEGREE OF**
14 **SEPARATION FROM CENTERPOINT**

15 **Q. Has CEHE provided information indicating that it already follows a number of**
16 **policies with regard to maintaining a separation from CenterPoint and other**
17 **affiliates of CenterPoint?**

18 **A.** Yes. In response to a number of discovery requests in this proceeding, CEHE provided
19 information demonstrating that, in some respects, it already maintains a degree of
20 isolation from CenterPoint and other affiliates. For example, CEHE has indicated that:

- 21
- 22 • CEHE's credit agreements and indentures do not contain cross default
- 23 provisions by which a default by CenterPoint or its other affiliates would
- 24 cause a default at CEHE;⁷
- 25
- 26 • The financial covenant in CEHE's credit agreement is not related to any
- 27 entity other than CEHE;⁸
- 28
- 29 • CEHE has not pledged its assets in respect of or guaranteed any debt or
- 30 obligation of any of its affiliates or CenterPoint; per the terms of CEHE's
- 31 credit agreement, it is prohibited from pledging, mortgaging, hypothecating,

⁷ Response to Texas Industrial Energy Consumers (TIEC) RFI 2-06 (included in attached workpapers).

⁸ Response to TIEC RFI 2-07 (included in attached workpapers).

1 or granting a lien upon the property of CenterPoint with only a few
2 exceptions such as the first mortgage and general mortgage;⁹

- 3
- 4 • CEHE maintains its own stand-alone credit facility, and CEHE does not
5 share its credit facility with any regulated or unregulated affiliate;¹⁰
 - 6
 - 7 • CEHE's first mortgage bonds and general mortgage bonds are secured only
8 with CEHE's assets;¹¹
 - 9
 - 10 • No CEHE assets secure the debt of CenterPoint or its non-CEHE
11 affiliates;¹²
 - 12
 - 13 • There are no limitations on CEHE's ability to pay dividends to CenterPoint,
14 except if the dividend would result in a specific indebtedness ratio (as
15 defined in CEHE's credit agreement) exceeding 65%.¹³
 - 16

17 **Q. Do you believe the above policies are relevant to and generally consistent with the**
18 **objectives of question #9 in the Commission's *Preliminary Order*?**

19 **A.** Yes. CEHE's existing policies as detailed in the previous question-and-answer provide
20 a basic foundation for creating a meaningful measure of separation from CenterPoint
21 and its other affiliates, and they serve as a platform for any additional requirements the
22 Commission may choose to implement. In the next section of my testimony, I present
23 recommendations for such additional measures.
24

⁹ Response to TIEC RFI 2-08 (included in attached workpapers).

¹⁰ Response to TIEC RFI 2-09 and Staff RFI 13-03 (included in attached workpapers).

¹¹ Response to Staff RFI 13-04 (included in attached workpapers).

¹² Response to Staff RFI 13-05 (included in attached workpapers).

¹³ Response to TIEC RFI 2-10 (included in attached workpapers).

1 **VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PROTECTIVE**
2 **MECHANISMS**

3 **Q. In addition to CEHE's existing policies, what other mechanisms do you**
4 **recommend for purposes of establishing and maintaining for CEHE a more**
5 **robust separation from potential situations of financial distress of CenterPoint**
6 **and its affiliates?**

7 **A.** Below is a listing of several financial protection measures the Commission used in the
8 various dockets I cited earlier. I believe implementation of these types of provisions
9 would provide a meaningful degree of separation for CEHE and serve as insurance
10 against the possibility of CEHE being swept up in a situation of severe financial distress
11 on the part of CenterPoint or its other affiliates. I would additionally recommend that,
12 to the extent that CEHE's existing policies (as discussed in the previous section of my
13 testimony) provide compliance with the recommendations below, CEHE should be
14 required to commit to maintaining those policies.

15 1. Dividend Restriction Commitment. CEHE will limit the payment of dividends
16 by CEHE to an amount not to exceed CEHE's net income (as determined in
17 accordance with generally accepted accounting principles).

18 2. CEHE Credit Ratings and Dividends. CEHE will work to ensure that its credit
19 ratings at all three major ratings agencies (S&P, Moody's, and Fitch) remain at
20 or above CEHE's current credit ratings, and if CEHE's credit rating at any one
21 of the three major ratings agencies falls below BBB+¹⁴ (or its equivalent) for
22 CEHE's senior secured debt, then CEHE will suspend payment of dividends or
23 other distributions, except for contractual tax payments, until otherwise allowed
24 by the Commission. CEHE shall notify the Commission if its credit issuer
25 rating or corporate rating as rated by any of the three major rating agencies falls
26 below investment-grade level.

27 3. Debt-to-Equity Ratio Commitment. CEHE's debt will be limited so that its
28 debt-to-equity ratio is at or below the debt-to-equity ratio established from time
29 to time by the Commission for ratemaking purposes in CEHE rate proceedings.
30 The Commission has authority to determine what types of debt and equity are
31 included in a utility's debt-to-equity ratio. CEHE will make no payment of
32 dividends or other distributions, except for contractual tax payments, where
33 such dividends or other distributions would cause CEHE to be out of
34 compliance with the Commission-approved debt-to-equity ratio. Additionally,

¹⁴ This rating is two notches above the minimum investment-grade rating. The Commission may conclude a higher rating is appropriate for this threshold.

- 1 neither CenterPoint nor any of its affiliates will issue stock or ownership interest
2 that supersede the foregoing obligations of CEHE.
- 3 4. Regulatory Return on Equity (ROE) Commitment. If CEHE's issuer credit
4 rating is not maintained as investment grade by S&P, Moody's, and Fitch,
5 CEHE will not use its below-investment-grade ratings to justify an argument in
6 favor of a higher regulatory ROE.
- 7 5. Stand-Alone Credit Rating. Except as may be otherwise ordered by the
8 Commission, CenterPoint shall take the actions necessary to ensure the
9 existence of a CEHE stand-alone credit rating.
- 10 6. CEHE will not hold out its credit as being available to pay the debt of any
11 CenterPoint affiliates.
- 12 7. CEHE will not commingle its assets with those of other CenterPoint affiliates.
- 13 8. No Pledging of Assets Commitment. CEHE will not pledge its assets with
14 respect to, or guarantee, any debt or obligation of CEHE affiliates.
- 15 9. Affiliate Asset Transfer Commitment. CEHE will not transfer any material
16 assets or facilities to any affiliates, other than a transfer that is on an arm's-
17 length basis consistent with the Commission's affiliate standards applicable to
18 CEHE, regardless of whether such affiliate standards would apply to the
19 particular transaction.
- 20 10. No Inter-Company Lending and Borrowing Commitment. CEHE will not lend
21 money to or borrow money from CenterPoint affiliates.
- 22 11. No Debt Disproportionally Dependent on CEHE. Without prior approval of the
23 Commission, neither CenterPoint nor any affiliate of CenterPoint (excluding
24 CEHE) will incur, guaranty, or pledge assets in respect of any incremental new
25 debt that is dependent on: (1) the revenues of CEHE in more than a
26 proportionate degree than the other revenues of CenterPoint; or (2) the stock of
27 CEHE.
- 28 12. Non-Consolidation Legal Opinion. CenterPoint will obtain a non-consolidation
29 legal opinion that provides that, in the event of a bankruptcy of CenterPoint or
30 any of its affiliates, a bankruptcy court will not consolidate the assets and
31 liabilities of CEHE with CenterPoint or any of its affiliates.
- 32 13. No Bankruptcy Cost Commitment. CEHE will not seek to recover any costs
33 associated with a bankruptcy of CenterPoint or any of its affiliates.
34
35

1 **Q. Why do you believe that implementation of the above provisions would be**
2 **effective in providing a meaningful degree of separation between CEHE and**
3 **CenterPoint?**

4 A. The reason, quite simply, is that they are known to have worked. In the 2014
5 bankruptcy of Energy Futures Holdings Corporation (EFH), the various ring-fencing
6 provisions that the Commission included in its order for Docket No. 34077 (referenced
7 on page 7) served their purpose: they effectively insulated Oncor Electric Delivery
8 from its parent's bankruptcy filing and preserved Oncor's stand-alone credit status and
9 financial stability. Throughout the entirety of EFH's approximately three-year
10 bankruptcy process, Oncor maintained its bankruptcy-remote separateness and its
11 ability to provide reliable delivery service at just and reasonable rates.

12 It is important to keep in mind the reasonable assumption that, at the time of the
13 Commission's order in Docket No. 34077, interested parties did not place a material
14 probability on a future EFH bankruptcy. Indeed, had the assessment been otherwise, I
15 believe it is reasonable to conclude that the 2007 leveraged buyout (LBO) of TXU
16 Energy—which was (and still is) the largest LBO transaction in history¹⁵—would never
17 have taken place.

18 Such generally optimistic expectations notwithstanding, economic events can
19 sometimes take unpredictable twists and turns—and ultimately for EFH, twist and turn
20 they did. Seven years after the Commission's order in Docket No. 34077, EFH
21 declared bankruptcy. Oncor, however, effectively stayed isolated from the bankruptcy
22 fray—and the basic reason was that the Commission's ring-fencing provisions
23 achieved the exact objectives for which they were intended. Though the Commission
24 may have implemented ring-fencing provisions in Docket No. 34077 largely out of an
25 abundance of caution, in the end the Commission's prudence and foresight paid off:
26 Oncor remained bankruptcy-remote and effectively financially separated from the

¹⁵ <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/08/07/here-are-the-top-10-largest-leveraged-buyouts-in-history.html>;
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Energy_Future_Holdings.

1 morass of legal wrangling as the largest LBO in history deteriorated into a multi-
2 billion-dollar bankruptcy.

3 Accordingly, given the unpredictable nature of economic realities, I believe it is
4 reasonable to consider how (relatively recent) past events may help inform and guide
5 Commission decisions relevant to the particular circumstances of this proceeding.
6 Consequently, for purposes of providing a reasonable set of protective measures
7 designed to insulate CEHE's financial integrity from possible situations of
8 CenterPoint's or its affiliates' financial distress, and to protect CEHE's ability to
9 provide reliable service at just and reasonable rates, I recommend that the Commission
10 require CEHE to implement the measures I have presented here.

11
12 **VII. EXCESS ADFIT RELATED TO CEHE'S SECURITIZED COSTS**

13 **Q. Please briefly describe the issue you are addressing in this section of your**
14 **testimony.**

15 A. In its RFI 1-05, GCCC inquired about an income tax reduction—i.e., an increase to
16 income—of \$158 million that CEHE reported in its 2018 Form 10-K Report. CEHE
17 stated in its response that:¹⁶

18 The \$158 million referenced in this question was for the revaluation of
19 deferred taxes associated with transition and system restoration bonds that are
20 recorded on the books of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC.
21
22

23 CEHE further explained in its response that the \$158 million adjustment was related to
24 the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which Congress enacted on December 22, 2017.

25 CEHE's response included the following:

26
27 ...the effect of a change in tax laws or rates on a deferred tax liability or
28 deferred tax assets is recognized as a discrete item in the interim period that
29 includes the enactment date. The TCJA was enacted on December 22, 2017
30 so CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC was required to record the
31 deferred tax effects in December 2017.

¹⁶ My workpapers include CEHE's response in its entirety.

1 Given the magnitude of this \$158 million figure that CEHE moved to its income
 2 account, I have attempted in my discussion below to provide an appropriately thorough
 3 explanation of the background and critical substance of this item. This historical
 4 context furnishes the basis of my reasoning for the recommendation that I provide at
 5 the end of this section.
 6

7 **Q. CEHE’s response to GCCC’s RFI 1-05 refers to “transition and system**
 8 **restoration bonds,” which are securitized bonds. Please provide a brief**
 9 **description of CEHE’s securitized bond issuances that remain outstanding.**

10 A. At present, CEHE has four issuances of securitized bonds outstanding. The table below
 11 provides basic information from and about the proceedings in which the Commission
 12 issued financing orders for those four securitization transactions:
 13

Docket	Order Date	Securitized Amount (rounded)	Type of Costs Securitized	Scheduled Final Payment Dates
30485 ¹⁷	Mar 2005	\$1,851,000,000	Stranded/True-up	Aug 2019
34448 ¹⁸	Sept 2007	\$488,000,000	Stranded/True-up	Feb 2020
37200 ¹⁹	Aug 2009	\$665,000,000	System Restoration	Aug 2022
39809 ²⁰	Oct 2011	\$1,695,000,000	Stranded/True-up	Oct 2024

14
 15 **Q. CEHE’s response to GCCC’s RFI 1-05 also refers to “deferred taxes associated**
 16 **with transition and system restoration bonds.” Does the phrase “deferred taxes”**
 17 **in this context refer to accumulated deferred federal income taxes (ADFIT)?**

18 A. Yes.

¹⁷ *Application of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for a Financing Order*, Docket No. 30485 (Order, March 16, 2005).

¹⁸ *Application of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for a Financing Order*, Docket No. 34448 (Order, September 18, 2007).

¹⁹ *Application of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for a Financing Order*, Docket No. 37200 (Order, August 27, 2009).

²⁰ *Application of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for a Financing Order*, Docket No. 39809 (Order, October 27, 2011).

1 **Q. Please provide a general discussion of ADFIT.**

2 A. In my testimony in Docket No. 30485, I addressed the issue of ADFIT extensively. For
3 purposes of providing in this proceeding a more complete reference and overall picture
4 of the nature of ADFIT, and to illustrate the detailed and financially material role it has
5 played in the context of past securitized bond transactions, I have included in my
6 workpapers a complete copy of my testimony in Docket No. 30485. Below are excerpts
7 of particular relevance from that testimony.
8

9 From page 11:

10
11 **Q. Please briefly explain how ADFIT balances are created.**

12 A. Accumulated deferred income tax liabilities represent amounts that
13 are payable to the government. These amounts arise because there
14 is a difference between the Company's income for accounting
15 purposes and the income it uses to determine its taxes for federal
16 taxation purposes. The major element of ADFIT liabilities typically
17 results from the use of accelerated depreciation of a company's
18 assets for tax purposes. Because the depreciation on an accelerated
19 basis is tax deductible, it creates a difference between the taxes
20 reported on the company's books and the taxes currently payable to
21 the government.

22
23 From pages 12 – 13 (footnotes from original omitted):

24
25 **Q. Can you clarify the distinction between ADFIT *balances* and
26 ADFIT *benefits*?**

27 A. Yes. As described above, ADFIT *balances* consist of the funds
28 reflected on a company's books that are payable to the government
29 for tax liabilities. Until these liabilities are paid, however, the
30 company has the use of these funds.

31 When I refer to ADFIT *benefits*, I am referring to the value
32 that can be created by putting the ADFIT balances to use—in other
33 words, I am essentially referring to the time value of money on the
34 ADFIT balances. For example, if I have \$100 in my possession that
35 I owe to the government, but because of tax laws I am not obligated
36 to make the payment until one year from now, I can invest that \$100
37 balance for one year in a savings account and earn, say, 8%, or \$8.
38 In this situation, the deferred tax-liability *balance* is \$100, while the
39 related *benefit* that results from my being able to use the funds is \$8.
40
41

1 From pages 13 – 14 (footnotes from original omitted):
2

3 **Q. Please describe more specifically how ADFIT balances provide**
4 **benefits to a regulated utility company.**

5 A. ADFIT balances provide benefits to a regulated company because
6 these amounts are traditionally considered to be *cost-free* capital to
7 the company. This is because, as noted above, ADFIT balances
8 consist of a regulated company's tax-expense amounts that are
9 currently received, but which are not currently payable. Thus, the
10 company can use these funds on a cost-free basis until they are
11 ultimately paid as income taxes to the federal government. As with
12 any form of capital, the ADFIT can be employed to fund the
13 company's operations; thus, the use of the ADFIT provides
14 economic value. But—and this is the key point—because the
15 ADFIT amount has not been contributed by investors who require a
16 rate of return, a value or benefit is created as a result of the company
17 being able to use the cost-free ADFIT as a *substitute* for other capital
18 that would otherwise need to be provided by investors who *do*
19 require a rate of return.
20

21 **Q. In the traditional determination of a regulated revenue**
22 **requirement, how do regulatory bodies typically reflect the**
23 **benefits of cost-free ADFIT capital?**

24 A. In a traditional cost-of-service rate proceeding, the benefits of cost-
25 free ADFIT are realized by subtracting the ADFIT balance from the
26 company's return-earning rate base. In this way, ratepayers
27 effectively receive the benefit of the cost-free capital by paying a
28 reduced amount of return dollars, with the reduction being
29 equivalent to the company's rate of return—*i.e.*, its weighted
30 average cost of capital, or WACC—multiplied by its ADFIT
31 balance.
32

33 **Q. You have described how ratepayers traditionally realize the**
34 **benefits of cost-free ADFIT balances. Does the utility company**
35 **still receive its regulated rate of return* if the benefits of cost-**
36 **free capital are flowed through to ratepayers?**

37 A. Yes. There are two basic ways in which a company can realize the
38 benefits of cost-free ADFIT. The first way is to use the cost-free
39 ADFIT to pay off existing providers of capital (such as debt and
40 equity holders), and the second way is to use the ADFIT amounts as
41 a source of funds for new investments and projects, thereby
42 eliminating or reducing the need to issue additional debt and/or
43 equity. In either instance, the company realizes the benefits of cost-
44 free ADFIT by effectively “avoiding” the costs of capital that would
45 otherwise be imposed by traditional providers of debt and equity
46 capital for the use of their funds. Therefore, even though the cost-
47 free effects of ADFIT capital are flowed through to ratepayers, the
48 company has avoided having to pay an equivalent amount of capital

1 costs. For the company's existing traditional capital providers, the
2 net effect is that they still receive their authorized regulated rate of
3 return.

4
5
6
7

* Strictly speaking, the regulated company has the *opportunity* to receive its regulated rate of return.

8 **Q. In the four proceedings related to CEHE's securitized bond transactions, how has**
9 **the Commission reflected the amounts of ADFIT benefits associated with the**
10 **relevant ADFIT balances?**

11 A. In the four CEHE securitization dockets listed above, the Commission has used
12 different ways of reflecting ADFIT benefits. In Docket No. 30485, for example, the
13 Commission determined a \$314 million *present-value* amount of ADFIT benefits
14 related to CEHE's stranded costs, and then used that amount as a lump-sum offset to
15 other recoverable "true-up"²¹ balances that were initially recovered through a
16 "competition transition charge" (CTC).²² CEHE recovered this CTC in a *non-*
17 *securitized* form of recovery until the Texas legislature, in 2007, authorized *securitized*
18 recovery of CTC amounts. Subsequently, in Docket No. 34448, the Commission issued
19 a financing order authorizing securitized recovery of CEHE's remaining \$488 million
20 CTC balance.²³ Because the Commission had already offset the original CTC recovery
21 amount by the \$314 million present-value of ADFIT benefits (as determined in Docket
22 No. 30485), no further action specifically related to the remaining portion of the ADFIT
23 balance was required in the Commission's order in Docket No. 34448.

24 In Docket No. 37200, the Commission used a different approach to recognize the
25 benefits of ADFIT. Instead of using the present value of the ADFIT benefits as a lump-
26 sum offset to the amount of system restoration costs authorized for securitized

²¹ See PURA § 39.262 (True-Up Proceeding)

²² See PURA Subchapter F, Recovery of Stranded Costs Through Competition Transition Charge.

²³ The initial net recoverable balance of the CTC was approximately \$570 million, reflecting recoverable amounts of \$1,136 million offset by \$566 million of "negative" amounts, of which the \$314 million amount of ADFIT benefits was a part. See *Application of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for a Competition Transition Charge (CTC)*, Docket No. 30706, Order at 33 and Findings of Fact 78 and 79 (July 14, 2005).

1 recovery, the Commission approved a separate ADFIT credit tariff that provided (and
2 continues to provide) a degree of reduction to the monthly *ongoing* charges for recovery
3 of the securitized costs. The separate tariff thus reflects ADFIT benefits as a monthly
4 billing credit to the securitized bond charges, in contrast to the approach used in Docket
5 No. 30485 in which the present-value of all ADFIT benefits was used as a lump-sum
6 offset to a total amount to be recovered.

7 Finally, in Docket No. 39809, the Commission issued a financing order for
8 securitized recovery of \$1.695 billion, an amount that resulted from a remand by the
9 Supreme Court of Texas of true-up-related costs that were originally part of CEHE's
10 2004 true-up proceeding. The \$1.695 billion figure was the result of a settlement
11 agreement, and the Commission's order did not address the issue of ADFIT benefits
12 because such amounts were subsumed within the agreed-upon settlement amount. This
13 point notwithstanding, CEHE recorded and continues to record on its books the amount
14 of ADFIT related to this transaction, as evidenced by information included in its
15 response to GCCC RFI 3-03.²⁴
16

17 **Q. Given your above discussion, what are the implications of the TCJA on the ADFIT**
18 ***balances related to CEHE's securitized bonds?***

19 A. The TCJA had the same effect on CEHE's securitization-related ADFIT balances as it
20 had on CEHE's other ADFIT balances. That is, the reduction in the corporate tax rate
21 from 35% to 21% resulted in a portion of CEHE's remaining securitization-related
22 ADFIT balances becoming *excess* accumulated deferred federal income tax (EDIT)
23 balances. In other words, because of the tax-rate reduction, the EDIT portion of the
24 ADFIT balance reflects amounts that are no longer a liability payable to the Internal
25 Revenue Service (IRS).
26

²⁴ My workpapers include CEHE's response to GCCC RFI 3-03.

1 **Q. Does the fact that CEHE's securitization-related EDIT amounts are no longer**
2 **payable to the IRS explain CEHE's accounting adjustment to reduce its 2017**
3 **income tax expense, thereby increasing its income by that amount?**

4 A. Yes, I believe that is the fundamental explanation.
5

6 **Q. Is CEHE's adjustment to reduce income tax expense—and thus increase income—**
7 **by approximately \$158 million consistent with the Commission's treatment of**
8 **utility companies' non-securitization-related EDIT amounts?**

9 A. No. In Project No. 47545,²⁵ the Commission on February 15, 2018 issued an order
10 addressing the TCJA's change to federal income tax rates and its impact on investor-
11 owned Texas utility companies. The order included the following specific directive:
12

13 Each investor-owned electric, telecommunications, and class A water and
14 sewer utility in the State of Texas, for which the Commission has jurisdiction,
15 shall, starting the date this Order is signed, record as a regulatory liability the
16 following: (1) the difference between the revenues collected under existing
17 rates and the revenues that would have been collected had the existing rates
18 been set using the recently approved federal income tax rates; and, (2) the
19 balance of excess accumulated deferred federal income taxes (ADFIT) that
20 now exists because of the decrease in the federal income tax rate from 35%
21 to 21%.
22

23 In the months following this Commission order, all the affected utilities filed separate
24 compliance proceedings that addressed the changes in the tax law. These proceedings
25 resulted in: (1) tax-reduction revisions to customer rates, and (2) measures that took
26 into account the Commission's order to reflect a regulatory liability for the newly
27 created balances of EDIT—with the latter serving to effectively eliminate the
28 possibility that the affected utilities would experience an income windfall from the
29 EDIT amounts.

30 Thus, CEHE's securitization-related EDIT accounting adjustment to increase
31 income by \$158 million is not consistent with the treatment of other EDIT amounts.

²⁵ *Proceeding to Investigate and Address the Effects of Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 on the Rates of Texas Investor-Owned Utility Companies*, Project No. 47945.

1 **Q. Based on your discussion concerning this issue, should the Commission require**
2 **CEHE to credit to ratepayers the \$158 million amount²⁶ of securitization-related**
3 **EDIT?**

4 A. For a number of detailed reasons, I do not believe that things are quite that simple.
5 These reasons include the following points:

- 6
7 1. The original calculations in Docket No. 30485 of present-value, lump-sum
8 amounts of ADFIT *benefits* incorporated ADFIT *balances* that, because of
9 the TCJA, have now been reduced as some portions of those balances have
10 become *excess* ADFIT (or EDIT). To the extent that the Commission
11 determines that any remaining amounts of such excess portions of ADFIT
12 balances should be refunded to ratepayers, the amount of the benefits
13 corresponding to that refunded EDIT would also need to be taken into
14 account, thus reducing to some degree the amount of the EDIT refund.
15 Stated a bit differently, the net effect would be a refund to ratepayers of the
16 EDIT amount, but at a reduced level to reflect the corresponding reduction
17 in the associated ADFIT benefit.
18
- 19 2. The original present-value calculations of the lump-sum amount of ADFIT
20 benefits in Docket No. 30485 were based on the amortization periods and
21 payment structures of the securitized bonds authorized in that proceeding.
22 To accurately determine the net effects described in point #1 above, I
23 believe that additional, updated information is needed with regard to items
24 such as the remaining bond balances, the remaining bond maturities, the
25 remaining bond payment amounts and timing thereof, and any other
26 relevant inputs necessary for the calculation of the remaining ADFIT
27 benefits that may be associated with the remaining ADFIT balances of
28 CEHE's relevant securitized bond issuances.
29
- 30 3. Given that in Docket No. 37200 the Commission used a different approach
31 in reflecting ADFIT benefits by including in ongoing monthly billings a
32 separate ADFIT credit tariff, the amounts underlying implementation of
33 that approach would need revision, on a going-forward basis, if the
34 Commission ordered a refund of the EDIT balance associated with that
35 securitization transaction.
36
- 37 4. I believe that some amounts of the ADFIT balances (and thus some
38 amounts of the EDIT balances) may not be attributable to *ratepayer-*
39 *supplied* capital. That is, even though CEHE may have ADFIT balances
40 associated with each of the securitized bond issuances, not all of those

²⁶ I would note here that the amount of any Commission-ordered credit of EDIT balances would need to be grossed-up for tax effects. Assuming a credit amount of \$158 million and using the 21% corporate tax rate, the grossed-up amount would be calculated as \$158 million divided by [1 minus 21%], or approximately \$200 million.

1 amounts may reflect monies that ratepayers have provided. This type of
2 situation contrasts with the more common one in which cost-free capital
3 arises from ADFIT balances created as a result of ratepayers paying charges
4 that include “normalized” cost-of-service tax amounts that, because of
5 temporary timing differences in expense recognition for tax and book
6 purposes, differ from tax liabilities that are currently payable.
7 Consequently, I am not certain what portion (if any) of the EDIT balance
8 related to the system restoration costs authorized for securitized recovery
9 should be subject to refund to customers.

- 10
- 11 5. The Commission may determine that, in the context of financing orders for
12 securitization transactions, the consequences of settlement agreements are
13 different from those resulting from settlement agreements in rate
14 proceedings of a traditional nature. Related to this point, I would note that
15 securitization financing is a special type of financing that PURA expressly
16 authorizes for specific purposes—with one particularly important and
17 overarching purpose being, I believe, the achievement and assurance of
18 capital costs at the most advantageous financing terms available. That is,
19 the process underlying the issuance and terms of securitized bonds—as
20 provided for in very specific statutory provisions—is designed to
21 essentially guarantee repayment of the bonds, thus achieving the highest
22 possible credit ratings and the lowest possible ratepayer costs. The impact
23 of the TCJA notwithstanding, the Commission may determine that if it
24 takes any actions on securitization-related EDIT, there is a risk that capital
25 markets and credit rating agencies would view such actions as a crack in
26 the well-established processes and standards applicable to Texas’
27 statutorily authorized securitized bonds, leading possibly to a market
28 reappraisal of the risk of these types of securities and an increase in the
29 financing costs for future securitization transactions. After consideration
30 of this possible risk, the Commission may reach a policy conclusion that,
31 once financing orders have been issued and the related securitized bond
32 transactions have been completed, further actions related to the original
33 terms of such transactions are not in the overall public interest.

34

35 **Q. What is your recommendation with regard to the treatment of CEHE’s**
36 **securitization-related EDIT?**

37 **A.** As I have discussed in substantial detail in this section of my testimony, I believe there
38 are a number of important factors worthy of the Commission’s attention as it considers
39 this issue. Perhaps the two most emphasis-worthy points in this regard are that (1) the
40 \$158 million EDIT amount that CEHE transferred to income is clearly of considerable

1 magnitude,²⁷ and (2) there may be a risk that capital markets and credit rating agencies
2 would view in a negative light any Commission actions that alter certain aspects of
3 prior securitization-related decisions. With regard to the latter point, such a result could
4 affect the perceptions of, and financing costs for, future securitization transactions.

5 Given all the above discussion, I do not believe that in this proceeding a sufficient
6 and thorough amount of information and evidence exists for the Commission to make
7 an appropriately informed decision. Accordingly, if the Commission believes that this
8 issue warrants additional review and possible action, I recommend that the Commission
9 require CEHE to file, by a Commission-determined date, a separate proceeding to
10 specifically address the appropriate treatment of EDIT amounts related to CEHE's four
11 securitized bond issuances still outstanding. CEHE's filing should include information
12 responsive to the points I have discussed in this section of my testimony, and any other
13 information that CEHE—and the Commission—believe may be relevant and necessary
14 for the Commission to consider.

15
16 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

17 **A. Yes.**

²⁷ And as I noted previously, a refund amount of a \$158 million, when grossed-up for taxes, becomes a refund amount of approximately \$200 million.

**LIST OF TESTIMONIES
BY DARRYL TIETJEN**

<u>P.U.C. Docket</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Subject</u>
10060	Brazos River Authority	Rate of Return
10462	Tex-La Electric Cooperative	Interim Rates/ROR
10325	Central Texas Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
10744	Rayburn Country Electric Cooperative	Sale, Transfer, Merger
10820	Magic Valley Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11347	Johnson County Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11571	Fayette Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11520	Southwestern Public Service Company	Rate of Return
12065	Houston Lighting & Power Company	Decomm. Exp.
12700	El Paso Electric Company	Rate Moderation/ Mirror CWIP
12815	Pedernales Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
12820	Central Power and Light Company	Decomm. Exp.
12852	Gulf States Utilities Company	Decomm. Expense/ Contra-AFUDC
13827	Southwestern Public Service	Notice of Intent
14965	Central Power and Light Company	ROR/ Decomm. Exp.
15638	Texas Utilities Electric Company	Transmission COS
16585	T&H Communications	SPCOA
16705	Entergy Gulf States	Rate of Return
16705	Entergy Gulf States	ROR on ECOM
18290	Entergy Gulf States	Int. on Tax Remand
18845	Central and South West Companies	Financial Condition of Resource Providers
21527	TXU Electric Company	Securitization
21528	Central Power and Light Company	Securitization
22344	Generic Unbundled Docket	Return on Equity
22355	Reliant Energy	ECOM Estimate
22352	Central Power and Light Company	Cost of Debt
22354	West Texas Utilities Company	Refinancing Costs
22350	TXU Electric Company	ECOM Estimate
26942	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Reg Asset Treatment
29206	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Stranded Costs & True-up Issues
29206	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Int on Stranded Costs
29526	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	Stranded Costs & True-up Issues
29526	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	Int. on Stranded Costs
30485	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	Financing Order

**LIST OF TESTIMONIES
BY DARRYL TIETJEN (cont.)**

30706	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	Comp. Transition Charge
31056	AEP Texas Central Company	Stranded Costs & True-up Issues
31994	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Comp. Transition Charge
32475	AEP Texas Central	Financing Order
32907	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Interest on Storm Costs
33106	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Interest Rate on CTC
33586	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Financing Order
32795	\$5 Billion Stranded-Cost Threshold	Interest Amount
34448	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	Financing Order
34077	Oncor Electric Delivery and Texas Energy Future Holdings Limited Partnership	Support of Stipulation
35038	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Tariff Filing
33891	Southwestern Electric Power Co.	CCN Application
36918	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	Restoration Costs
36931	Entergy Texas	Restoration Costs
39504	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric	Remanded True-up Costs
39722	AEP Texas Central Company	Remanded True-up Costs
40627	Austin Energy	Rate Issues
45188	Oncor Electric Delivery Company, et al.	Federal Inc. Taxes; Cost of Capital
46238	NextEra, Oncor	Federal Income Taxes
45414	Sharyland Utilities, et al.	Federal Income Taxes
46936	Southwestern Public Service Co.	Wind Facilities—Rate Treatment
46936	Southwestern Public Service Co.	Testimony in Support of Stipulation
46957	Oncor Electric Delivery Company	Testimony in Support of Stipulation (included in AIS item #420)
47527	Southwestern Public Service Company	Testimony in Support of Stipulation
48401	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Testimony in Support of Stipulation

**LIST OF TESTIMONIES
BY DARRYL TIETJEN (cont.)**

48929	Oncor Electric Delivery Company, Sharyland Utilities, LP, et al.	Rate-Related Issues
49308	AEP Texas, Inc.	Testimony in Support of Stipulation (Financing Order)

Workpapers

1 this tax must be computed on a consolidated basis, even though it harms
2 CEHE.”

3 This issue is addressed in the rebuttal testimony of Mr. Felsenthal. As he explains,
4 “CenterPoint Houston’s Texas margin tax is computed based on the only method
5 available to the members of the affiliated group (under the statutory requirements for
6 computing the Texas margin tax) applied to CenterPoint Houston’s stand alone
7 financial information.”⁷

8 Ultimately, Mr. Kollen misses the point. The point is, if there are sufficient
9 measures in place to prevent cross-subsidization between jurisdictional and non-
10 jurisdictional affiliates, as is the case with CenterPoint Houston, then the utility is
11 sufficiently ring-fenced so that it should not be entitled to any of the tax benefits that
12 arose from losses generated from those same activities from which it was protected.
13 Ring fencing is a general term and there is a continuum of measures that may be
14 taken depending on the ultimate objective the company is seeking to achieve. Below
15 is an excerpt of a copy of a 2005 credit opinion on CenterPoint Energy Resources
16 Company (“CERC”) from Moody’s. In the Ratings Outlook below, Moody’s uses the
17 term “ring-fenced” as I have in my testimony to describe the segregation of the
18 regulated utility from its parent and unregulated affiliates. Moody’s wasn’t referring
19 to CERC’s ability to withstand a corporate bankruptcy or to diversify its own
20 ownership, but was instead talking about the steps Moody’s expected CenterPoint to

⁷ Felsenthal Rebuttal at 39.

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
PUC DOCKET NO. 38339
SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-10-5001**

**GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES
REQUEST NO.: GCCC01-07**

QUESTION:

SH1-7 Please provide a narrative description of the ring-fencing measures that have been put in place to provide separation between the bond ratings of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. and CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC. Please provide supporting documentation for each ring-fencing measure listed (e.g., if a legal opinion regarding CEHE's bankruptcy-remote status has been rendered, please provide a copy of same; if dividend restrictions are in place, please provide the governing documents)

ANSWER:

Ring-fencing occurs when a regulated public utility business financially separates itself from its parent or an affiliate that engages in non-regulated business. This is done mainly to protect consumers of essential services such as power, water and basic telecommunications from financial instability or bankruptcy of the affiliate. Ring-fencing policies may be of a regulatory or financial nature. The referenced question proffers a narrow financial interpretation of ring-fencing specific to the separation of bond ratings between CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC ("CEHE") and its parent, CenterPoint Energy, Inc.

CEHE employs practices to provide a regulatory ring-fence to isolate and protect the jurisdictional regulated utility and its customers from any adverse financial impact resulting from activities of the parent company and unregulated affiliates. In fact, PURA and the Commission's Substantive Rules require CEHE to employ such practices. Below are notable requirements of PURA and the Substantive Rules that serve to separate the utility from its parent company:

- A utility's cost of service, allowed in rates, is limited to those costs associated with property used by and useful to the utility in providing services.
- The inclusion in rates of a payment to an affiliate for the cost of a service, property, right, or interest expense requires that the Commission find that the payment is necessary and meets the tests of an arm's length transaction.
- Costs are to be separated and allocated in accordance with regulatory rules.
- The utility must receive Commission approval before it may transfer a controlling interest of the utility or consolidate with another electric utility.
- The utility must keep books and records separate from its affiliates.
- The utility is prohibited from allowing any financing arrangement that would include a specific pledge to an affiliate of utility assets or cash needed for utility operations.
- The utility and its affiliates must fully allocate costs for any shared services in a manner that does not undermine competition or provide cross-subsidies between the utility and its affiliates.
- The utility must maintain a contemporaneous list of all transactions with affiliates and will be subject to an annual compliance audit with respect to its observance of Commission rules as they

- pertain to affiliates and competition.
- Strict separation of the utility from its competitive affiliates, including prohibitions against the sharing of employees, officers, directors, property, equipment, computer systems, information systems and corporate support services, is required, unless there are safeguards that the Commission determines adequate to prevent a negative impact on competition or to prevent cross-subsidization of affiliates.
- Shared investment and financing arrangements with competitive affiliates are permitted provided there are safeguards that the Commission determines are adequate to prevent a negative impact on competition or to prevent cross-subsidization of affiliates.
- A utility is prohibited from subsidizing the business activities of any affiliate with revenues from regulated service.

The following table further describes some of the ring-fencing practices and measures which CEHE employs:

Ring-Fencing Measure	Supporting Documentation
<p><u>Structural</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CEHE is a separate legal entity and not a division of another company. – CEHE is in a holding company structure and is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. – CEHE has four subsidiaries which are special purpose entities established for the purpose of issuing securitization bonds authorized by the Public Utility Commission of Texas. CEHE has no other subsidiaries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CEHE’s Certificates of Conversion and of Organization – Page 40 of CEHE’s publicly available Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 – Page 40 of CEHE’s publicly available Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009
<p><u>Financial</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CEHE maintains separate books and records. – CEHE is a separate registrant with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) and files quarterly and annual financial statements with the SEC. – CEHE has a separate financing program which includes mortgage bonds issued by CEHE and a revolving credit facility on which CEHE is the sole obligor. Other than intermittent borrowings from the CenterPoint Energy money pool, all of CEHE’s debt is external and not inter-company. – CEHE’s debt is rated by the three major rating agencies. – The debt to total capital covenant in CEHE’s revolving credit facility restricts CEHE’s payment of dividends. – Debt defaults and debt acceleration of affiliates do not create a default or acceleration of CEHE’s debt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Exhibit WLF-2, Business Records Affidavit on Bates Pages 223-224 of the Rate Filing Package – Cover page of CEHE’s publicly available Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 and cover page of CEHE’s publicly available Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010 – Pages 53 and 54 of CEHE’s publicly available Form 10-K for year ended December 31, 2009 – Schedule 11-C-2.10 of the Rate Filing Package – Page 53 of CEHE’s revolving credit facility dated as of June 29, 2007 – Page 31 of CEHE’s publicly available Form

	10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009
<p>Operational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The affairs of CEHE and its affiliates are not so intertwined as to make the entities undistinguishable. - CEHE's transactions with affiliates are fairly priced, and CEHE does not cross-subsidize affiliates. - CEHE's business is limited to the transmission, distribution and measurement of electricity. - Costs allocated to CEHE from the service company and CEHE's other affiliates follow the methodologies contained in CenterPoint Energy Inc.'s Cost Center Assignment Manuals filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Testimony of Dan Hagen and Karen Dominguez of the Rate Filing Package - Testimony of Dan Hagen and Karen Dominguez of the Rate Filing Package - Pages 1 through 20 of CEHE's publicly available form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 - Cost Center Assignment Manuals at Bates 896 -917 and Bates 1075-1169 of the Rate Filing Package

The documents as indexed below are voluminous and will be made available in the Houston and Austin offices. To make arrangements for viewing these documents, please contact Linda Johnston in Houston at (713) 207-5218 or Dolores Prince in Austin at (512) 397-3060.

Description	Page
CEHE's Certificates of Conversion and Organization	1-6
CEHE's Revolving Credit Facility, dated as of June 29, 2007	7-28
Amended CEHE's Revolving Credit Facility, dated November 18, 2008	29-134

Sponsor: Marc Kilbride/John Reed

Responsive Documents:
See Index of documents above

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864
TEXAS INDUSTRIAL ENERGY CONSUMER
REQUEST NO.: TIEC02-06**

QUESTION:

Do any of CenterPoint's debt or credit contracts, agreements, or other related documents contain cross-default provisions between CenterPoint and any of its affiliates or CNP? If so, please list the document(s) and the associated amount of debt.

ANSWER:

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric's credit agreements and indentures do not contain cross default provisions by which a default by CNP Inc. or its other affiliates would cause a default at CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric. The cross default provision that is included in CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric's debt agreement only relates to Significant Subsidiaries of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, of which there are none. Additionally, a Change in Control, as defined in CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric's credit agreement, of CNP Inc. would constitute an Event of Default.

SPONSOR:

Robert McRae (Robert McRae)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:

None

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864
TEXAS INDUSTRIAL ENERGY CONSUMER
REQUEST NO.: TIEC02-07**

QUESTION:

Do any of CenterPoint's debt or credit contracts, agreements, or other related documents contain any financial covenants or rating agency triggers related to any entity other than CenterPoint? If so, please list all such documents and describe the debt, the covenant, and/or the trigger.

ANSWER:

No. The financial covenant in CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric's credit agreement is not related to any entity other than CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric.

SPONSOR:

Robert McRae (Robert McRae)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:

None

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864
TEXAS INDUSTRIAL ENERGY CONSUMER
REQUEST NO.: TIEC02-08**

QUESTION:

Has CenterPoint pledged any assets in respect of or guaranteed any debt or obligation of any of its affiliates or CNP? If so, please list the entity and describe the pledged debt or obligation.

ANSWER:

No. CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric has not pledged its assets in respect of or guaranteed any debt or obligation of any of its affiliates or CNP Inc. Per CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric's credit agreement, it is prohibited from pledging, mortgaging, hypothecating or granting a lien upon the property of CenterPoint Houston with only a few exceptions such as the first mortgage and general mortgage.

SPONSOR:

Robert McRae (Robert McRae)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:

None

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864
TEXAS INDUSTRIAL ENERGY CONSUMER
REQUEST NO.: TIEC02-09**

QUESTION:

Does CenterPoint share credit facilities with any affiliate(s) or CNP? If so, please list the affiliate/parent and describe the shared credit facility.

ANSWER:

No. CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric maintains its own stand alone credit facility.

SPONSOR:

Robert McRae (Robert McRae)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:

None

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864
TEXAS INDUSTRIAL ENERGY CONSUMER
REQUEST NO.: TIEC02-10**

QUESTION:

Please explain in detail the governance process by which CenterPoint declares dividends for distribution to CNP. Are there any limitations on CNP's ability to determine the dividends CenterPoint must pay? If so, please list and describe all such limitations.

ANSWER:

Intercompany dividends and distributions are governed by section 10.4.2 of the CenterPoint Energy Authorization Policy (See TIEC02-10 Authorization Policy.pdf). CenterPoint Houston dividends must be made in compliance with the Annual Plan and related Financing Plan and must be approved by the Chief Financial Officer in consultation with the Corporate Secretary. In addition, the dividend must be declared by the CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC Sole Manager. There are no limitations on CenterPoint Houston's ability to pay dividends, except if the dividend would result in a ratio of Consolidated Indebtedness for Borrowed Money to Consolidated Capitalization to exceed 65%, as defined in section 7.2.a of CenterPoint Houston's \$300 million Credit Agreement dated as of March 3, 2016 (See TIEC02-10 CenterPoint Houston Credit Agreement March 3 2016.pdf).

The requested information is voluminous and will be provided to the propounding party only in electronic format on CD. Please contact Alice Hart at (713) 207-5322 to request a copy of the CD. Please see index of voluminous material below.

Date	Title	Preparer	Number of Pages	Page No(s)
Undated	TIEC02-10 CenterPoint Houston Credit Agreement March 3 2016	Robert McRae	120	1-120
Undated	TIEC02-10 Authorization Policy	Robert McRae	29	1-29

SPONSOR (PREPARER):
Robert McRae (Robert McRae)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:
TIEC02-10 Authorization Policy.pdf
TIEC02-10 CenterPoint Houston Credit Agreement March 3 2016.pdf

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864**

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
REQUEST NO.: PUC13-03**

QUESTION:

Does CEHE share any type of credit facility with any unregulated CenterPoint affiliate? If so, please explain thoroughly and provide relevant details, including the degree to which a given affiliate is financially responsible for any borrowings by other affiliates.

ANSWER:

No. CEHE maintains its own credit facility which is not shared with any regulated or unregulated affiliate.

SPONSOR (PREPARER):

Robert McRae (Robert McRae)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:

None

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
REQUEST NO.: PUC13-04**

QUESTION:

Is any of CEHE's debt secured by non-CEHE assets? If so, please explain thoroughly and provide relevant details.

ANSWER:

No. CEHE's first mortgage bond and general mortgage bonds are secured only with CEHE's assets.

SPONSOR (PREPARER):
Robert McRae (Robert McRae)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:
None

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864**

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
REQUEST NO.: PUC13-05**

QUESTION:

Is any of the debt of CenterPoint or its non-CEHE affiliates secured by CEHE's assets? If so, please explain thoroughly and provide relevant details.

ANSWER:

No Only CEHE's first mortgage bond and general mortgage bonds are secured by CEHE's assets.

SPONSOR (PREPARER):
Robert McRae (Robert McRae)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:
None

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864**

**GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES
REQUEST NO.: GCCC01-05**

QUESTION:

Refer to the CNP 2018 10-K at 151 and the components of CEHE income tax expense in 2016, 2017, and 2018. In 2017, CEHE recorded a reduction in income tax expense of \$158 million due to the TCJA on the line labeled "Federal Income Tax Rate Reduction."

- a. Provide a detailed description of the 2017 reduction in income tax expense, especially given that the federal income tax rate was not reduced until 2018. In your description, address why this was recorded in 2017 and why it was not deferred (and thus, why it did not net to \$0).
- b. Provide a copy of all journal-entries by FERC by month and provide a copy of all supporting calculations, including all electronic spreadsheets in live format with all formulas intact.

ANSWER:

- a. Under US GAAP, the effects of new legislation are recognized upon enactment (ASC 740-10-25-47). More specifically, the effect of a change in tax laws or rates on a deferred tax liability or deferred tax asset is recognized as a discrete item in the interim period that includes the enactment date. The TCJA was enacted on December 22, 2017 so CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC. was required to record the deferred tax effects in December 2017.

The \$158 million referenced in this question was for the revaluation of deferred taxes associated with transition and system restoration bonds that are recorded on the books of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC. These deferred taxes are not associated with ongoing utility operations and the revaluation of the deferred taxes was recorded as a reduction to income tax expense in the period of enactment of the TCJA in December 2017.

- b. The support for the \$158 million above was reflected in the 2017 Q4 Provision as an adjustment that came from the 2017 Q4 Deferred Tax Model. Both the provision model and the deferred tax models for CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company, LLC, CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company II, LLC, CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company III, LLC, CenterPoint Energy Transition Bond Company IV, LLC, and CenterPoint Energy Restoration Bond Company, LLC are being provided as attachments to this request.

The requested information is voluminous and will be provided to the propounding party only in electronic format on CD. Please contact Alice Hart at (713) 207-5322 to request a copy of the CD. Please see index of voluminous material below.

DATE	TITLE	PREPARER	NUMBER OF PAGES	PAGE NO(S)
Undated	GCCC01-05 Attachment 1 - 2017 Q4 Provision.xlsm	Charles Pringle	6	1-6
Undated	GCCC01-05 Attachment 2 - 2017 Q4 Deferred Tax Model.xlsx	Charles Pringle	286	1-286

SPONSOR (PREPARER):
Charles Pringle (Charles Pringle)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:
GCCC01-05 Attachment 1 - 2017 Q4 Provision.xlsm

**CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
2019 CEHE RATE CASE
DOCKET 49421-SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-3864**

**GULF COAST COALITION OF CITIES
REQUEST NO.: GCCC03-03**

QUESTION:

Refer to Schedule II-C-2.9, which provides the data used to calculate the Company's earned return on common equity shown on Schedule II-C-2.8. The Company recorded a non-recurring net of tax gain of \$158.275 million in 2017 due to the TCJA.

- a. Provide a detailed description of this gain.
- b. Provide the journal entries used to record this gain for accounting purposes, including all supporting descriptions, notes, other documents, correspondence, calculations, workpapers, and all electronic spreadsheets in live format with all formulas intact.
- c. Explain why this gain was not deferred for ratemaking, accounting, and financial reporting purposes. Provide a copy of all correspondence and other documents that address this gain, including, but not limited to, the ratemaking effects. This includes correspondence and other documents that were prepared in-house by the Service Company and/or CEHE employees or outside advisors.

ANSWER:

This response is subject to a pending objection. Pursuant to and without waiving this objection, the Company provides the response stated below.

- a. Please see the response to GCCC01-05 part a.
- b. There is not a discrete journal entry specifically showing the tax benefit of \$158.275 million as this is part of a larger tax provision total journal entry. Please see the attachments to GCCC01-05 for the income tax provision and deferred tax models for support and calculation of the \$158.275 million. Also see GCCC03-03 Attachment 1.pdf for an e-mail responsive to this request.
- c. Please see the response to GCCC01-05 part a.

SPONSOR (PREPARER):

Charles Pringle/Kristie Colvin (Charles Pringle/Kristie Colvin)

RESPONSIVE DOCUMENTS:

GCCC03-03 Attachment 1.pdf

Winn, Stephen

From: John Swilling (US - TAX) [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 23, 2017 7:23 AM
To: Florance, Joyce A
Cc: Pringle, Charles W; Winn, Stephen; Musser, Brenda L; Do, Anh P; Kyle Gifford (US - TAX)
Subject: [External Email] Regulatory Asset - Stranded Cost

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Joyce,

While I was working on the model; I wanted to provide some background that might be relative with respect to the stranded cost on Co. 3. I believe based on the last conversation that regulatory felt like the EDIT for that item would not be passed back to the ratepayers and therefore the benefit would hit the P&L.

There are two line items that I think are both related to stranded cost. One of the items is called Reg. Asset - Equity and the other is more clearly labeled as "stranded cost". DJ required that books allocated a portion of the stranded cost recovery as an equity component and recognize that revenue over time versus when the item was settled. We should check on this item with regulatory; since if we are not included stranded cost in the EDIT; it seems like the matching component for equity should also be excluded (it's an asset as well).

I'm not certain if the account is clean or commingled with other equity items for securitization, etc. It might just be stranded cost or a mixed bag; but I would guess they are segregated by account numbers. Let's discuss next week.

Thanks,

John Swilling

PwC | Partner
Office: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
1000 Louisiana, Suite 5800, Houston, TX 77002
<http://www.pwc.com/us>

The content of this email is limited to the matters specifically addressed herein and is not intended to address other potential tax consequences or the potential application of tax penalties to this or any other matter.

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	Income Tax Provision											
2	Consolidated CenterPoint Energy Inc. & Subsidiaries											
3	12/31/2017											
4												
5												
6												
7		SIT Rate w/o TMT		0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
8		TMT		0.7500%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
9		SIT Rate w/o TMT (Deferred)		0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
10		TMT (Deferred Rate)		0.7415%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
11												
12												
13		CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC & Subsidiaries		CNP Houston Electric, LLC	CNP Transition Bond Co LLC	CNP Houston Electric IE	CNP Transition Bond Co II	CNP Transition Bond Co III	CNP Transition Bond Co IV	CNP Transition Bond Co V		
14				10000	30174	10974	10401	10416	10418	10472		
15												
16		Pretax Income (Loss)	428,804,402	428,804,402	0	0	0	(0)	(0)	0	0	0
17		Permanent Differences	(23,105,497)	(23,105,497)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18		Temporary Differences	(171,467,296)	(171,467,296)	0	0	195,446,096	69,993,017	15,701,800	61,122,643	0	0
19		Current Taxable Income (Loss)	234,231,614	234,231,614	0	0	185,446,084	69,993,017	13,781,800	61,122,643	0	0
20		Current State Income Tax Deduction	(18,437,787)	(18,437,787)	0	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	0	0
21		Current Federal Taxable Income (Loss)	215,793,827	215,793,827	0	0	185,446,084	69,993,017	13,781,800	61,122,643	0	0
22												
23		Current Federal Provision										
24		Current Federal Provision at 35%	74,407,840	(64,684,334)	0	0	64,406,133	24,497,556	4,795,540	21,392,925	0	0
25		Federal NOL (Utilization) Generation										
26		Federal NOL Carryback										
27		Charitable Contribution (Utilization) Generation	(1,559,576)	(1,559,576)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28		GBC (Utilization) Generation	(580,466)	(580,466)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29		GBC Carryforward										
30		HDZ (Utilization) Generation	(2,426,853)	(2,426,853)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31		Capital Loss (Utilization) Generation										
32		2016 Federal RTA	463,662	463,662	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33		Restricted Stock Excess Tax Benefit	(28,923)	(28,923)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34		Tax on Wager Hedge Reversal										
35		Other Current FIT Adjustments										
36												
37		Total Current FIT Expense (Benefit)	70,271,442	(48,829,922)	0	0	64,406,133	24,497,556	4,795,540	21,392,925	0	0
38												
39		Current State Provision										
40		Current Other States Provision at SIT Rate	0	(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41		Current TMT Provision	18,871,604	18,871,604	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
42		Unitary Adjustment / CERC LE Adjustment										
43		State NOL Generation (Utilization)										
44		State Audit Settlement										
45		State Return-to-Accrual	(433,817)	(433,817)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
46		State FM 48 - Tax Reserve										
47		GBC (Utilization) Generation										
48		State Impact of Enacted Preferred Shares										
49		Restricted Stock Excess Tax Benefit										
50		2016 State Refund - Interest										
51		Other Current FIT Adjustments										
52												
53		Total Current FIT Expense (Benefit)	18,437,787	18,437,787	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
54												
55		Total Current Income Tax Expense (Benefit)	88,709,229	(30,392,135)	0	0	64,406,133	24,497,556	4,795,540	21,392,925	0	0
56												
57		Deferred Federal Provision										
58		Deferred Federal Provision at 35%	60,044,639	178,136,819	0	0	(64,406,133)	(24,497,556)	(4,795,540)	(21,392,925)	0	0
59		Federal NOL Utilization (Generation)										
60		Federal NOL Carryforward										
61		Federal Charitable Contribution Utilization (Generation)	(1,559,576)	(1,559,576)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
62		GBC Utilization (Generation)	(580,466)	(580,466)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
63		HDZ Utilization (Generation)	(2,426,853)	(2,426,853)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
64		Capital Loss Utilization (Generation)										
65		AMT Credit Carryover										
66		ADS - OCI Amortization										
67		FOR 48 - Tax Reserve										
68		Midstream Part D - Reg Asset	(2,282,000)	(2,282,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
69		Excess DPT Amortization	(171,499)	(171,499)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
70		ITC Amortization										
71		2016 Federal RTA	(1,116,752)	(1,116,752)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
72		InterCo Transfers										
73		TBBS Adjustment - PP&E Transfers	4,336	4,336	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
74		Other L/C Reversals										
75		Federal Tax Rate Reduction	(158,278,467)	64,872,838	0	0	(14,561,723)	(15,994,637)	(37,991,309)	(116,607,286)	0	0
76		Other Deferred FIT Adjustments	(918,111)	(918,111)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
77												
78		Total Deferred FIT Expense (Benefit)	(97,241,930)	246,505,481	0	0	(182,967,856)	(40,492,195)	(42,786,749)	(156,000,223)	0	0
79												
80		Deferred State Provision										
81		Deferred State Tax Provision - Other States	(0)	(0)	0	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	0	0
82		Deferred State Tax Provision - TMT	(88,821)	(88,821)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
83		Unitary Adjustment / CERC LE Adjustment										
84		State NOL Utilization (Generation)										
85		State Capital Loss Utilization (Generation)										
86		State Other Tax Attribution Adjustments										
87		State Valuation Allowance										
88		GBC Utilization (Generation)										
89		ADS - OCI Amortization										
90		State Return-to-Accrual										
91		Deferred Tax Impact - New States (Arms)										
92		Deferred Tax Impact - Rate Change										
93		InterCo Transfers										
94		TBBS Adjustment - PP&E Transfers										
95		Other Deferred Tax Adjustments										
96		Other DPT Adjustments										
97												
98		Total DMT Expense (Benefit)	(88,821)	(88,821)	0	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	0	0
99												

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	R
1	Income Tax Provision										
2	Consolidated CenterPoint Energy Inc. & Subsidiaries										
3	12/31/2017										
4											
5											
6		ST Rate w/o TMT		0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
7		TMT		0.7500%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
8		ST Rate w/o TMT (Deferred)		0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
9		TMT (Deferred Rate)		0.7415%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%	0.0000%
10											
11											
12		CEHE Consolidated	CEHE	CEHE	CEHE	CEHE	CEHE	CEHE	CEHE	CEHE	
13		CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC & Subsidiaries	CNP Houston Electric, LLC	CNP TransitionBend Co LLC	CNP Houston Electric JE	CNP Transition Bend Co II	CNP Transition Bend Co III	CNP Ryeview Bend Co, LLC	CNP Transition Bend Co IV		
14		CEHE	10003	10174	10174	10409	10416	10418	10422		
118	Total Deferred Income Tax Expense (Benefit)	(97,830,775)	246,416,264	-	-	(182,987,894)	(60,492,193)	(42,795,788)	(138,600,221)		106
120											107
121	Total Income Tax Expense (Benefit)	(8,121,809)	218,033,398	0	-	(34,561,713)	(15,984,687)	(37,991,309)	(136,607,294)		108
122											109
123	Effective Tax Rate										110
124	Total Effective Tax Rate	-2.15%	31.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	111
125											112

PUC DOCKET NO. 30485

APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT
ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC LLC
FOR A FINANCING ORDER

§
§
§

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS



RECEIVED
JAN 14 2005

JANUARY 14, 2005

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

DARRYL TIETJEN

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DARRYL TIETJEN

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I. INTRODUCTION

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. Darryl Tietjen, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas.
3
4

5 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

6 A. I am employed by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC or the
7 Commission) as the Director of Financial Analysis in the Financial Review
8 Division.
9

10 **Q. What are your principal areas of responsibility?**

11 A. I am responsible for recommending fair rates of return on invested capital,
12 evaluating financial integrity requirements, conducting various financial analyses,
13 and preparing testimony concerning financial matters relevant to public utilities
14 regulated by the Commission.
15

16 **Q. Please describe your educational background and professional qualifications.**

17 A. I hold a Master of Business Administration degree with concentrations in finance
18 and accounting from The University of Texas at Austin, and a Bachelor of Business
19 Administration degree with a concentration in finance from the same institution.
20 While earning my master's degree, I was employed by the University as an
21 instructor, teaching two sections of undergraduate corporate finance. Prior to
22 attending graduate school, I was employed by a commercial bank, where I was
23 principally involved in investment activities and internal and external financial
24 reporting.

25 I am a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) licensed in the state of Texas and a
26 member of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA). I am
27 currently the chairman of the planning committee for the TSCPA-sponsored Natural

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1 Gas, Telecommunications, and Electric Industries Conference, and have served as a
2 committee member for a number of years.

3 I also hold the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), which is
4 awarded by the CFA Institute (formerly the Association for Investment Management
5 and Research) after successful completion of its three-part examination process over
6 a minimum three-year period. The curriculum for the CFA charter covers a defined
7 body of knowledge fundamental to the practice of investment management, and
8 includes the areas of finance, accounting, economics, statistics, and ethical and
9 professional conduct. In addition to being the administrator of the CFA program,
10 the CFA Institute is an international, nonprofit organization of over 60,000
11 investment practitioners and educators in more than 100 countries.

12
13 **Q. Have you previously testified before this Commission?**

14 **A. Yes.** Exhibit DT-1 provides a summary of the dockets in which I have filed direct
15 testimony or memoranda in lieu of testimony.

16
17 **Q. Have you prepared any exhibits in conjunction with your testimony?**

18 **A. Yes.** Exhibits DT-1 through DT-7 are attached to my testimony. My workpapers are
19 also attached.

20
21 **Q. Were these exhibits prepared by you or under your supervision?**

22 **A. Yes.**

23
24 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying?**

25 **A. I am testifying on behalf of the Commission Staff.**
26
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1 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this case, Docket No. 30485, *Application***
2 ***of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for a Financing Order?***

3 **A. My testimony in this case addresses the following three questions:**

- 4 1. Does the request by CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC (CenterPoint,
5 or the Company) for a financing order meet the test for “total revenues” set
6 forth in PURA § 39.303(a)?
- 7 2. Does the request by CenterPoint for a financing order meet the test for
8 “tangible and quantifiable benefits” set forth in PURA §39.301?
- 9 3. Has CenterPoint properly calculated and applied the present value of the
10 benefit arising from its accumulated deferred federal income taxes (ADFIT)
11 against its recovery, as required by the final order in Docket No. 29526?
12

13 In addition to the tests for total revenues and tangible and quantifiable benefits noted
14 above, PURA requires that the terms of a financing order also meet a third test, the
15 “present value” test (or “cap” test) that is cited in PURA § 39.301. CenterPoint’s
16 compliance with this test is addressed by Staff witness Martha Elvey in her testimony.
17

18 **Q. CenterPoint’s filing includes not only schedules reflecting the request to**
19 **securitize the entire true-up balance¹ approved by the Commission in Docket No.**
20 **29526, but also separate schedules reflecting the securitization of a lesser amount**
21 **that excludes the non-stranded-cost items of the capacity auction true-up balance,**
22 **fuel balance, and the TDU-AREP true-up balance. What requested amount of**
23 **securitization are you addressing in your testimony?**

24 **A. In its Preliminary Order in this docket filed December 20, 2004, the Commission ruled**
25 **that:**

¹ CenterPoint’s request includes certain adjustments—such as ADFIT benefits and bond-issuance costs—to the true-up balance authorized in Docket No. 29526. See page 6 and also page 8 of the testimony of CenterPoint witness James S. Brian for a detailed listing of these adjustments.

1
2 The expansive definition of stranded costs that may be securitized that
3 CenterPoint derives from a single sentence in P.U.C. SUBST. R.
4 25.263(1)(2)(A) cannot be held to govern in light of PURA provisions and
5 the *Reliant* decision to the contrary. Consequently, to the extent any
6 element of CenterPoint's securitization application is not described in
7 either PURA §§ 39.251(7) or 39.302(4), it is not eligible for securitization.
8

9 Consistent with the above ruling, I have focused my analysis on that part of
10 CenterPoint's filing that includes only those amounts implied by the Commission's
11 decision as being securitizable. As discussed by CenterPoint witness Mr. James S.
12 Brian on pages 10 and 11 of his testimony, this amount is \$1,493,747,265, and his
13 computations for the statutory tests on this amount are contained in Figure JSB-1 of
14 his testimony. I have accordingly used in my testimony that same \$1.493 billion figure
15 as the assumed starting point for the securitizable amount.
16

17 II. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

18 **Q. What are your general recommendations in this docket?**

19 A. With respect to the tests for total revenues and tangible and quantifiable benefits, I
20 conclude that CenterPoint's request for a financing order meets the statutory
21 requirements. As demonstrated by the total revenues test, the revenues received from
22 securitized transition charges would be less than the total revenue requirement under a
23 conventional financing method; thus, the total revenues test is met. Additionally, as
24 shown by the tangible and quantifiable benefits test, the proposed securitization would
25 result in present-value savings to customers, and hence this test is also met.

26 With respect to the amount of ADFIT benefits that should be taken into
27 account in CenterPoint's securitization transaction, I recommend \$520,997,278 under
28 CenterPoint's assumptions for a phase-in bond structure and \$488,882,759 under the
29 assumptions for a level bond payment structure. These amounts, which are different

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1 because of the time-value-of-money effects resulting from the different bond
 2 repayment structures, represent the aggregate benefits from the cost-free nature of
 3 ADFIT that CenterPoint has enjoyed and will continue to enjoy on a going-forward
 4 basis. The table below summarizes my recommendations concerning the components
 5 of estimated ADFIT benefits for both the phase-in bond payment structure and the
 6 level payment structure:

	<u>Phase-in structure</u>	<u>Level structure</u>
Prospective ADFIT benefits	\$384,735,038	\$352,620,519
Retrospective ADFIT benefits ²	\$136,262,240	\$136,262,240
Total ADFIT benefits	\$520,997,278	\$488,882,759

12
 13 I discuss all these issues in greater detail later in my testimony.
 14

15 **III. STATUTORY TESTS—TOTAL REVENUES TEST AND TANGIBLE**
 16 **AND QUANTIFIABLE BENEFITS TEST**

17 **III-A. Total Revenues Test**

18 **Q. Please describe the test for total revenues.**

19 **A. PURA § 39.303(a) states:**

20
 21 The commission shall adopt a financing order, on application of a utility to
 22 recover the utility's regulatory assets and eligible stranded costs under
 23 Section 39.201 or 39.262, on making a finding that the total amount of
 24 revenues to be collected under the financing order is less than the revenue
 25 requirement that would be recovered over the remaining life of the stranded
 26 costs using conventional financing methods and that the financing order is
 27 consistent with the standards in Section 39.301
 28

29 This statutory provision essentially requires that the total revenues—expressed on a
 30 *nominal-dollars* basis as opposed to a present-value basis—required to recover a
 31 stranded-asset amount are less under a securitized revenue requirement than under a

² Retrospective benefits are calculated from 1/1/04 through 5/31/05, as described in Section IV-C of my testimony.

1 conventional-financing revenue requirement. In contrast to a conventional-financing
2 revenue requirement, securitization financing reflects a lower-cost debt rate and no
3 equity return (and thus no tax component in the revenue requirement), and therefore
4 the savings from securitization can be especially significant when stated in total
5 revenues expressed on a nominal basis.
6

7 **Q. What assumptions for the *securitized* revenue requirement have you used in your**
8 **total revenue test?**

9 **A.** Similar to the calculations performed by CenterPoint witness Mr. Brian, and relying on
10 CenterPoint's assumptions for interest rates and bond repayment patterns,³ I have used
11 the following four scenarios in conducting the total revenues test:

12 Scenario 1—Phase-in Structure, Expected Case. This scenario assumes a phase-in
13 bond repayment pattern and a securitized interest rate of 4.50%.

14 Scenario 2—Phase-in Structure, Worst Case. This scenario assumes a phase-in bond
15 repayment pattern and a securitized interest rate of 9.0%.

16 Scenario 3—Level Structure, Expected Case. This scenario assumes a leveled bond
17 repayment pattern and a securitized interest rate of 4.36%.

18 Scenario 4—Level Structure, Worst Case. This scenario assumes a leveled bond
19 repayment pattern and a securitized interest rate of 9.0%.

20
21
22 In all these scenarios, I relied upon CenterPoint's estimates for qualified costs such as
23 bond issuance costs and over-collateralization accounts. Additionally, because I
24 assumed a lower securitized amount than CenterPoint (as a result of my higher
25 recommended amount of ADFIT benefits to be used as an offset), the dollar figures of
26 the bonds' interest and principal payments in my calculations are correspondingly
27 lower. As a simplifying assumption in my determination of these lower interest and
28
29
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³ These assumptions, described on page 12 of Mr. Brian's testimony, include a securitized-bond life of 14 years. As noted, however, in the testimony of CenterPoint witness Mr. Wayne Olson, the assumptions for the securitized bonds' interest cost and repayment patterns are subject to change, and will be updated at the time of bond issuance.

1 principal payments, I used the same proportionate relationships (payments relative to
2 bond amount) reflected in CenterPoint's assumed bond repayment schedules. To the
3 extent the final amounts of all these items are different from the assumed figures, such
4 differences should be reflected in the final calculations prior to bond issuance.

5 The most critical assumption I have used that is different from that used by
6 CenterPoint is my estimate of the ADFIT benefits that should be reflected in the
7 securitized amount. I discuss my recommended amount of ADFIT benefits in Section
8 IV of my testimony.
9

10 **Q. What assumptions for the *conventional-financing* revenue requirement have you
11 used in your total revenue test?**

12 **A.** For the cost-of-capital assumption, I used the 11.37% rate approved by the
13 Commission in CenterPoint's unbundled cost of service (UCOS) case. For the
14 recovery period, I used the estimated life of the securitized bonds. Both of these
15 assumptions are consistent with those used by Mr. Brian in his testimony.⁴

16 As with the securitized revenue requirement, however, I have used a different
17 assumption from that of Mr. Brian for the amount of ADFIT benefits in the
18 conventional CTC (competition transition charge) revenue-requirement calculation. I
19 reflected the same amounts of ADFIT benefits in the derivation of the conventional
20 revenue requirement as I did in the securitized revenue requirement.⁵
21
22
23

⁴ As Mr. Brian notes on page 14 of his testimony, using a CTC recovery period longer than the securitized bond life would only result in an increase to the amount of estimated savings.

⁵ Note that the ADFIT balance I have used in my conventional revenue requirement is the sum of the ADFIT balance related to stranded costs that I derive in Section IV of my testimony plus the retrospective ADFIT *benefits*. It is necessary to use the sum of these two components in the conventional revenue requirement to fully reflect all ADFIT benefits.

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Q. What amount of total-revenue savings have you estimated in your analyses?

A. I have calculated the total-revenue savings for each of my four scenarios on Exhibit DT-2, pages 1 through 4 (these schedules are adaptations of the same worksheets used by Mr. Brian in his testimony; note that to facilitate reference, I have labeled the various amounts on the schedule by letter). The following table lists the total revenue savings under each of the scenarios:

	Total Revenue			
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4
	Phase-in	Phase-in	Level	Level
	<u>Expected Case</u>	<u>Worst Case</u>	<u>Expected Case</u>	<u>Worst Case</u>
Securitized	\$1,429,503,021	\$1,853,866,731	\$1,434,492,619	\$1,785,042,732
CTC	<u>\$2,228,712,202</u>	<u>\$2,228,712,202</u>	<u>\$2,228,712,202</u>	<u>\$2,228,712,202</u>
Savings	\$799,209,181	\$374,845,471	\$794,219,583	\$443,669,469

Based on the foregoing analysis, I conclude that CenterPoint's securitization request satisfies the total revenues test as required by PURA § 39.303(a). I again note, however, that these savings figures should be updated at the time of bond issuance when the final interest rate, bond repayment period, qualified costs, and any other relevant terms are known with certainty.

III-B. Tangible and Quantifiable Benefits Test

Q. Please describe the test for tangible and quantifiable benefits.

A. PURA § 39.301 states in part:

The commission shall ensure that securitization provides tangible and quantifiable benefits to ratepayers, greater than would have been achieved absent the issuance of transition bonds.

This statutory provision essentially requires that the total revenues—expressed on a *present-value* basis—required to recover a stranded-asset amount are less under a securitized revenue requirement than under a conventional-financing revenue

1 requirement. This test, because it reflects the time value of money, is generally
 2 considered to be a more accurate indicator of the actual economic benefit of
 3 securitization (hence the name, "tangible and quantifiable benefits"). Because the
 4 calculations for this test reflect in present-value terms the difference between the
 5 securitized revenue requirement and the CTC revenue requirement, the estimated
 6 savings amounts are lower than the amounts indicated by the total revenues test, which
 7 is expressed on a nominal-dollars basis.
 8

9 **Q. What assumptions have you used in your test for tangible and quantifiable**
 10 **benefits?**

11 A. I performed my test for tangible and quantifiable benefits using essentially the same
 12 assumptions as contained in the total revenues test. That is, I performed calculations
 13 under the same four scenarios described above in Section III-A. These savings are
 14 stated on a present-value basis determined with a discount rate based on the estimated
 15 weighted average interest rate of the transition bonds.
 16

17 **Q. What amount of tangible and quantifiable benefits have you estimated in your**
 18 **analyses?**

19 A. My estimates of tangible and quantifiable benefits for each of my four scenarios are
 20 detailed on Exhibit DT-2, pages 1 through 4. The following table lists the benefits
 21 under each of the scenarios:
 22

	Present-Value Revenues			
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4
	Phase-in	Phase-in	Level	Level
	<u>Expected Case</u>	<u>Worst Case</u>	<u>Expected Case</u>	<u>Worst Case</u>
Securitized	\$1,604,231,154	\$1,205,760,418	\$1,619,544,362	\$1,205,760,418
CTC	\$1,007,183,002	\$1,006,507,063	\$1,039,243,719	\$1,039,378,595
Savings	\$597,048,152	\$199,253,355	\$580,300,643	\$166,381,823

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1 Based on the foregoing analysis, I conclude that CenterPoint's securitization request
2 satisfies the test for tangible and quantifiable benefits as required by PURA § 39.301.
3 Like the total-revenue comparisons, these figures should be updated and reviewed at
4 the time of bond issuance when the final terms are known with certainty.

5
6 **IV. RECOMMENDED AMOUNT OF ADFIT BENEFITS**

7 **IV-A. General Discussion of ADFIT**

8 **Q. Please briefly explain how ADFIT balances are created.**

9 **A.** Accumulated deferred income tax liabilities represent amounts that are payable to the
10 government. These amounts arise because there is a difference between the
11 Company's income for accounting purposes and the income it uses to determine its
12 taxes for federal taxation purposes. The major element of ADFIT liabilities typically
13 results from the use of accelerated depreciation of a company's assets for tax purposes.
14 Because the depreciation on an accelerated basis is tax deductible, it creates a
15 difference between the taxes reported on the company's books and the taxes currently
16 payable to the government.

17
18 **Q. How does the use of accelerated depreciation for tax purposes lead first to the
19 creation and then to the eventual elimination of ADFIT?**

20 **A.** The use of accelerated depreciation means that, in the early years of an asset's life, tax
21 depreciation is higher than book depreciation, resulting in a reduction of current taxes
22 payable and creating a future tax liability payable to the government. In the later years
23 of the asset's life, after the asset is fully depreciated for tax purposes, the book
24 depreciation is higher, causing the tax liability to the government to become due and
25 the accumulated deferred tax amount to reverse and eventually be reduced to zero over
26 the remaining life of the asset.

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1 For regulated companies, ADFIT balances arise because in the determination
2 of a company's regulated cost of service, ratepayers pay income taxes on a normalized
3 basis. That is, a company's regulated cost of service usually incorporates a constant
4 amount of depreciation each year (*i.e.*, straight-line depreciation), along with the
5 related tax effects, until the asset is fully depreciated. Thus, while ratepayers pay a
6 relatively constant amount of taxes based on a normalized revenue requirement, a
7 portion of the company's tax liability to the government is not immediately payable.
8

9 **Q. Can you clarify the distinction between ADFIT *balances* and ADFIT *benefits*?**

10 **A. Yes.** As described above, ADFIT *balances* consist of the funds reflected on a
11 company's books that are payable to the government for tax liabilities. Until these
12 liabilities are paid, however, the company has the use of these funds.

13 When I refer to ADFIT *benefits*, I am referring to the value that can be created
14 by putting the ADFIT balances to use—in other words, I am essentially referring to the
15 time value of money on the ADFIT balances.⁶ For example, if I have \$100 in my
16 possession that I owe to the government, but because of tax laws I am not obligated to
17 make the payment until one year from now, I can invest that \$100 balance for one year
18 in a savings account and earn, say, 8%, or \$8.⁷ In this situation, the deferred tax-

⁶ Consistent with this point, in the final order for Docket No. 29526, the Commission states on page 79 that, "Staff witness Tietjen proposed that the time value of money associated with the ADFIT amount should be considered in the post true-up proceeding. Mr. Tietjen testified that the adjustment is necessary because the joint applicant will have enjoyed ADFIT as a quantity of cost-free capital that could be put to productive use until the account reverses, and that this treatment is analogous to the deduction of ADFIT from rate base that occurs in a traditional ratemaking proceeding." Also, see Exhibit DT-6, containing CenterPoint's response to City of Houston RFI COH1-3. CenterPoint's response includes a reference to Finding of Fact No. 16 in the Commission's order in Docket No. 21665 (CenterPoint's previous financing-order case) concerning the present-value effects of ADFIT as a reduction in revenue requirements.

⁷ Unfortunately, a bank that pays an 8% interest rate on savings accounts is only hypothetical.

1 liability balance is \$100, while the related benefit that results from my being able to
2 use the funds is \$8.⁸

3 Moreover, as I shall describe later in Section V of my testimony, for
4 purposes of this proceeding there is more than one way to reflect the benefits that
5 result from a given ADFIT balance.
6

7 **IV-B. Discussion and Recommendation of the Appropriate Interest-Rate for**
8 **Determination of ADFIT Benefits**

9 **Q. Please describe more specifically how ADFIT balances provide benefits to a**
10 **regulated utility company.**

11 **A. ADFIT balances provide benefits to a regulated company because these amounts are**
12 **traditionally considered to be *cost-free* capital to the company. This is because, as**
13 **noted above, ADFIT balances consist of a regulated company's tax-expense amounts**
14 **that are currently received, but which are not currently payable. Thus, the company**
15 **can use these funds on a cost-free basis until they are ultimately paid as income taxes**
16 **to the federal government. As with any form of capital, the ADFIT can be employed**
17 **to fund the company's operations; thus, the use of the ADFIT provides economic**
18 **value. But—and this is the key point—because the ADFIT amount has not been**
19 **contributed by investors who require a rate of return, a value or benefit is created as a**
20 **result of the company being able to use the cost-free ADFIT as a *substitute* for other**
21 **capital that would otherwise need to be provided by investors who *do* require a rate of**
22 **return.**
23
24

⁸ Obviously, if I had the use of the funds for a period of time longer than one year, the benefits would be correspondingly greater.

1 **Q. In the traditional determination of a regulated revenue requirement, how do**
2 **regulatory bodies typically reflect the benefits of cost-free ADFIT capital?**

3 **A. In a traditional cost-of-service rate proceeding, the benefits of cost-free ADFIT are**
4 **realized by subtracting the ADFIT balance from the company's return-earning rate**
5 **base. In this way, ratepayers effectively receive the benefit of the cost-free capital by**
6 **paying a reduced amount of return dollars, with the reduction being equivalent to the**
7 **company's rate of return—i.e., its weighted average cost of capital, or WACC—**
8 **multiplied by its ADFIT balance.⁹**
9

10 **Q. You have described how ratepayers traditionally realize the benefits of cost-free**
11 **ADFIT balances. Does the utility company still receive its regulated rate of**
12 **return¹⁰ if the benefits of cost-free capital are flowed through to ratepayers?**

13 **A. Yes. There are two basic ways in which a company can realize the benefits of cost-**
14 **free ADFIT. The first way is to use the cost-free ADFIT to pay off existing providers**
15 **of capital (such as debt and equity holders), and the second way is to use the ADFIT**
16 **amounts as a source of funds for new investments and projects, thereby eliminating or**
17 **reducing the need to issue additional debt and/or equity. In either instance, the**
18 **company realizes the benefits of cost-free ADFIT by effectively “avoiding” the costs**
19 **of capital that would otherwise be imposed by traditional providers of debt and equity**
20 **capital for the use of their funds. Therefore, even though the cost-free effects of**
21 **ADFIT capital are flowed through to ratepayers, the company has avoided having to**
22 **pay an equivalent amount of capital costs. For the company's existing traditional**
23 **capital providers, the net effect is that they still receive their authorized regulated rate**
24 **of return.**
25

⁹ This point is directly comparable to my previous discussion of how I would be able to enjoy a benefit of \$8 on a \$100 deferred tax balance.

¹⁰ Strictly speaking, the regulated company has the *opportunity* to receive its regulated rate of return.

1 **Q. Based on your above discussion, what rate is the appropriate rate to use for the**
2 **determination of ADFIT benefits in the present docket?**

3 A. As I have explained above, a company is able to use cost-free ADFIT balances to
4 effectively "avoid" the costs of capital it would otherwise incur. Therefore, it is quite
5 straightforward to see that the appropriate rate of interest with which to calculate the
6 benefits of cost-free ADFIT is a company's *weighted-average cost of capital*. This
7 rate represents a company's composite opportunity cost that can be avoided as a result
8 of using the ADFIT as a substitute for traditional forms of capital. Accordingly, for
9 purposes of this docket, I recommend that the rate of 11.075% be deemed as the
10 appropriate rate with which to calculate ADFIT benefits.¹¹ This is the same rate that
11 the Commission authorized for purposes of determining interest on CenterPoint's
12 stranded costs.
13

14 **Q. CenterPoint witness James S. Brian testifies on pages 21 and 22 of his direct**
15 **testimony that the appropriate rate for calculating ADFIT benefits is the**
16 **transition bond rate. Do you have any comments in response to this argument?**

17 A. Yes. I disagree with Mr. Brian's testimony on this issue because his argument is based
18 solely on the continued mechanical application of a traditional method of ratemaking
19 without any consideration of the economic rationale underlying the actual
20 circumstances. On page 21, lines 9 through 21 of his testimony, Mr. Brian states:
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¹¹ The pre-tax rate actually authorized in CenterPoint's unbundled cost-of-service docket was 11.37%. However, for purposes of computing interest on stranded cost, the Commission reduced the rate to 11.075% to reflect an adjustment related to franchise taxes.

1
2 In conventional ratemaking, consumers pay a return to the utility on the
3 utility's investment at the utility's weighted average cost of capital over a
4 regulatory life. At the same time, consumers receive the benefits of ADFIT
5 through a return on ADFIT at the utility weighted average cost of capital
6 over the regulatory life. The return rate that consumers pay to the utility
7 and the return rate that consumers receive are the same.

8
9 Securitization provides benefits to consumers through a lower return paid
10 on the investment than the utility's weighted average cost of capital.
11 Securitization also provides for a shorter recovery period.

12
13 When the true-up balance is securitized, the ADFIT becomes due and is
14 paid over the securitization recovery period. Consumers are effectively
15 paying a return at the transition bond rate. Consumers should therefore
16 receive the ADFIT benefits at the transition bond rate since this rate is
17 consistent with the rate they are paying and consistent with ratemaking
18 methodology.
19

20 Mr. Brian is correct in the first paragraph of the above statements when he says that in
21 conventional ratemaking, consumers receive the benefits of ADFIT through a return
22 on ADFIT at the utility weighted-average cost of capital. This particular point is
23 entirely consistent with my previous discussion concerning the deduction of ADFIT
24 from rate base in conventional ratemaking. But Mr. Brian's comments go astray in the
25 third paragraph quoted above. As I discussed in my earlier explanation of ADFIT
26 benefits, the reason that the ratepayers properly receive the benefit of ADFIT at the
27 weighted-average cost of capital in conventional ratemaking is because that is the rate
28 that the utility can avoid by having the use of the ADFIT funds. *And that fact is not*
29 *changed* simply because the ADFIT happens to become due as a result of the recovery
30 of a securitization transition charge. Regardless of the rate of the transition bonds, the
31 Company's use of the ADFIT funds is not inextricably tied to avoiding a particular
32 capital cost at the level of that transition bond rate. Indeed, given that the transition
33 bond rate is expected to be based on a AAA-credit rating and thus is virtually
34 guaranteed to cost significantly less than the cost of any other financing available to

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1 the Company, to say that the transition bond rate is representative of the cost of capital
2 that can be avoided by the use of ADFIT is not logical.

3 Accordingly, there is no theoretical support for Mr. Brian's statement that
4 "consumers should receive the ADFIT benefits at the transition bond rate because this
5 is consistent with the rate they are paying and consistent with ratemaking
6 methodology." A company's use of its ADFIT balance is not tied to the transition
7 bond rate paid by ratepayers. The overall WACC—the cost of capital for the capital
8 remaining on the company's books¹² and not identified with any particular asset—is
9 the best representation of the relevant opportunity cost to the company that can be
10 avoided by using ADFIT as a source of cost-free capital. It is on this basis that I
11 recommend the 11.075% rate as the correct rate for the determination of ADFIT
12 benefits.

13
14 **IV-C. Quantification of ADFIT Benefits**

15 **Q. How have you quantified the actual amount of ADFIT benefits to be applied in
16 this proceeding?**

17 **A.** I have used a two-step procedure to determine the amount of ADFIT benefits in this
18 case. For the first step, I essentially replicated the procedure used by Mr. Brian in his
19 calculation of the benefits. This step reflects the benefits of ADFIT on a *prospective*
20 basis; that is, it reflects the future period of time over which the securitized bonds are
21 expected to be repaid as well as the pattern of the bonds' repayment.

22 For the second step, I have calculated the benefits to CenterPoint on a
23 *retrospective* basis; that is, from the date of 1/1/04 (I explain this starting point later in
24 my testimony) to an assumed bond-issuance date of 6/1/05. CenterPoint witness Mr.

¹² As described on page 27 of Mr. Brian's testimony, the securitized transition property is sold to the special purpose entity, removed from the Company's books, and proceeds therefrom are used to retire debt and equity.

1 Brian completely ignores these retrospective ADFIT benefits. However, it is proper to
2 include the amount of ADFIT benefits on a retrospective basis because 1) it is
3 undeniable that CenterPoint has in fact had the use of these funds since that date, and
4 2) the Commission specifically stated in the final order for Docket No. 29526 that such
5 benefits should be considered.
6

7 **Q. Where in the final order for Docket No. 29526 did the Commission state that past**
8 **ADFIT benefits should be considered?**

9 **A.** In Findings of Fact 405 and 406, the Commission states the following:

10
11 405. CenterPoint has enjoyed, and will continue to enjoy, the benefit of
12 the ADFIT reserve as a source of cost-free capital.

13
14 406. The benefit that CenterPoint has derived from retaining ADFIT as
15 cost-free capital should be considered in the subsequent recovery
16 proceeding, but not deducted from stranded costs in this proceeding.
17

18 Note the past-tense nature of the Commission's statements: CenterPoint "*has*
19 *enjoyed*," and "*has derived*." These statements clearly indicate that the Commission
20 believes that any benefits enjoyed by CenterPoint during the time period between the
21 beginning of deregulation and the issuance of the true-up order should be taken into
22 account in this proceeding.

23 For the sake of clarity, I would note that in the following analyses of ADFIT
24 benefits, the *prospective* benefits relate only to the stranded-cost portion of ADFIT,
25 while the *retrospective* benefits relate to the total amount of ADFIT. This is because
26 the *non-stranded-cost* portion of ADFIT will become currently payable when the sale
27 of Texas Genco is consummated, and thus there will be no prospective benefits from
28 this portion of the ADFIT.
29
30

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1 **Q. Please provide the details of your quantification of prospective ADFIT benefits.**

2 A. I have previously established the appropriate interest rate for the quantification of
3 benefits as 11.075%, and, as I stated above, I have assumed the same bond life and
4 repayment patterns as Mr. Brian. For the *balance* of ADFIT on which prospective
5 benefits should be calculated, I have used \$626,341,423. I show my derivation of this
6 figure in the top portion of Exhibit DT-3, pages 1 and 2 (which correspond to the
7 phase-in structure and level structure, respectively).
8

9 **Q. What balance of stranded-cost-related ADFIT did CenterPoint use to calculate**
10 **benefits?**

11 A. On Figure JSB-1, page 9, Schedule 3, CenterPoint proposes a figure of \$336,458,720
12 as the applicable amount of ADFIT on which to calculate prospective benefits.
13 CenterPoint derives this figure by starting with an ADFIT balance of \$867,783,937 (a
14 figure that was included in the filing for Docket No. 29526), and then, after making
15 certain adjustments to reflect Commission decisions in that docket, CenterPoint
16 calculates a 26.3% proportion of stranded costs to adjusted book value. CenterPoint
17 then applies the 26.3% ratio to the adjusted generation-related ADFIT amount, and to
18 this product adds one final computation related to ADFIT for equity AFUDC and debt
19 AFUDC.
20

21 **Q. Do you agree with the above approach used by CenterPoint?**

22 A. No. CenterPoint's method understates the proportionate amount of ADFIT that is
23 associated with stranded costs. While at first blush it may seem intuitively correct that
24 the relevant stranded-cost proportion of ADFIT is determined by taking the ratio of
25 stranded costs to book value and then applying that ratio to the ADFIT balance, in fact
26 this methodology leads to an incorrect result. To achieve the correct result, the ratio
27 that should actually be applied to the ADFIT balance is the ratio of stranded costs to

1 the difference between the assets' book basis and tax basis. This is because the
2 ADFIT balance does not originate from the book value, but rather, it originates from
3 multiplying the tax rate times the difference between the book and tax bases. While
4 this may not be as intuitive, an illustration may help to clarify:

5 Suppose that a company has a \$1,000 asset that has a book basis of \$600 and a
6 tax basis of \$100. The difference between the book basis and tax basis, therefore, is
7 \$500. With an assumed 40% tax rate, this means that the ADFIT balance would be
8 \$200, which is calculated as 40% times the \$500 difference in bases.

9 Now assume that the company sells the asset for \$500. Because the book basis
10 was \$600, the company has incurred a \$100 loss, which we will assume for purposes
11 of this illustration is recoverable as a stranded cost. However, even though there is a
12 book-basis loss, there is a tax-basis gain of \$400 because the tax basis was \$100.
13 Therefore, the company would immediately pay taxes of \$160 (calculated as $\$400 * 40\%$)
14 on the \$400 tax gain. These taxes would be paid out of the existing \$200
15 ADFIT balance, and after paying the \$160 of taxes, the company would have
16 remaining ADFIT funds of \$40. This remaining \$40 amount would eventually be paid
17 when the company received its stranded cost recovery of \$100—*i.e.*, stranded-cost
18 recovery of $\$100 * 40\%$ tax rate equals the remaining \$40 in taxes. Thus, at the
19 completion of final stranded-cost recovery, all the mechanics would have worked out
20 as they should—the asset would be fully recovered and all the ADFIT taxes would be
21 fully reversed.

22 To see how CenterPoint's ratio method would lead to the incorrect result in the
23 above example, I will first determine the ratio of stranded costs to book value. I will
24 then apply this ratio to the ADFIT balance to determine the proportion of ADFIT that
25 CenterPoint would assert is applicable to stranded costs. Recall that the stranded-cost
26 amount is \$100, and the book value is \$600. Thus, the ratio is calculated as $\$100 /$

1 \$600 = 16.67%, and the proportion of stranded-cost ADFIT is then calculated under
2 CenterPoint's method as $16.67\% * \$200 = \33.33 . However, we already know from
3 the preceding paragraph that the actual ADFIT related to the stranded-cost was not
4 \$33.33, but \$40. Thus, it can easily be seen that CenterPoint's methodology
5 understates the correct amount.

6 The correct amount, however, can be determined by using the ratio of stranded
7 costs to the *difference between the book basis and tax basis*. As previously noted, that
8 basis difference was \$500, and dividing the \$100 stranded-cost figure by this \$500
9 amount produces a ratio of 20%, which, when applied to the ADFIT balance of \$200,
10 yields the correct \$40 amount of remaining ADFIT associated with stranded-cost
11 recovery.

12
13 **Q. Is there an additional perspective that demonstrates the validity of this method?**

14 **A.** Yes. Consider the fact that in this example, the company would be earning interest
15 (per the Commission decision pursuant to court rulings) on \$100 of stranded costs.
16 However, the company still had \$40 of ADFIT funds that it could put to use and with
17 which it could thereby avoid a portion of its costs of capital. As I have previously
18 described, standard ratemaking methodology would therefore require that the actual
19 balance of return-earning stranded costs should be $\$100 \text{ less } \$40 = \$60$. Earning
20 interest on this net amount of \$60 would fully reflect the benefits of the \$40 ADFIT
21 balance. However, if the Commission adopted CenterPoint's ratio methodology, the
22 net stranded-cost amount on which the company would be earning a return would not
23 be \$60, but \$66.67 (calculated as $\$100 \text{ less } \33.33). Thus, the company would earn
24 interest on a net stranded-cost amount that is too high, and would consequently enjoy a
25 windfall.
26
27

1 **Q. Is there a more straightforward way of calculating the correct amount of ADFIT**
2 **related to stranded costs?**

3 A. Fortunately, yes. The correct \$40 result can be obtained by simply multiplying the
4 example's 40% tax rate by the \$100 stranded-cost amount. Accordingly, as a general
5 matter, the correct amount of stranded-cost-related ADFIT can be determined by
6 simply multiplying the tax rate by the stranded-cost amount (or more precisely, the
7 excess of book value over market value). The reason I have included the more
8 detailed explanation above is to demonstrate the incorrectness of CenterPoint's
9 approach.
10

11 **Q. Does your detailed example above illustrate the same principle described by**
12 **Office of Public Utility Counsel and TIEC witness Mr. David Effron on pages 9**
13 **through 12 of his testimony?**

14 A. Yes. My example above illustrates the very same concept discussed by Mr. Effron in
15 that portion of his testimony. I have simply attempted to explain the mechanics of the
16 concept in a different way.
17

18 **Q. Given your discussion above, what balance of ADFIT do you recommend be used**
19 **for the calculation of prospective benefits?**

20 A. As I show in the top portion of Exhibit DT-3, pages 1 and 2, applying CenterPoint's
21 tax rate of 35% to the excess of book value over market value yields an ADFIT
22 balance of \$485,178,496, to which I then added the \$141,162,927 ADFIT figure
23 related to the regulatory assets. The \$626,341,423 sum of these two amounts is the
24 balance on which I have calculated prospective ADFIT benefits.
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1 **Q. Based on your calculated ADFIT balance, what is your recommended amount of**
2 ***prospective ADFIT benefits?***

3 A. Using essentially the same spreadsheet employed by Mr. Brian in his Figure JSB-1,
4 page 9, Schedule 3, I have calculated on pages 1 and 2 of Exhibit DT-3 the prospective
5 ADFIT benefit amount of \$384,735,038 for the phase-in bond payment structure and
6 \$352,620,519 for the level bond payment structure. The difference between the two
7 amounts relates solely to the effect of different repayment patterns on the present-value
8 calculations.

9
10 **Q. With respect to *retrospective ADFIT benefits*, what do you recommend as the**
11 **appropriate amount?**

12 A. On Exhibit DT-4, I show my calculations deriving my recommended \$136,262,240
13 amount of retrospective ADFIT benefits. These calculations reflect the effects of
14 actual reductions in the remaining balance of the excess mitigation credits through
15 August 31, 2004, and projected reductions from that date through the end of May
16 2005. The starting date for the calculations is January 1, 2004.

17
18 **Q. Please explain why you used a 1/1/04 starting date and a 5/31/05 ending date in**
19 **your calculations.**

20 A. I used a starting date of 1/1/04 because, theoretically, the benefits of ADFIT for 2002
21 and 2003 were taken into account by the Commission's decisions regarding the
22 capacity auction true-up balance and the amount of interest contributed thereby. I used
23 an ending date of 5/31/05 because that is the date CenterPoint assumed in its filing as
24 the estimated date on which securitization would take place. Additionally, an ending
25 date of 5/31/05 reflects an estimate of the date on which CenterPoint's sale of Texas
26 Genco will be final (see Exhibit DT-5, containing CenterPoint's response to City of
27 Houston RFI COH3-6). Following the completion of the sale, the non-stranded-cost

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1 portion of ADFIT will reverse and become payable, but until that time, those ADFIT
2 funds are still in CenterPoint's possession.
3

4 **Q. In its final determination of ADFIT benefits, should the Commission update the**
5 **calculations with more refined data?**

6 A. Yes.
7

8 **Q. Based on your preceding discussion, what is the total estimated amount of ADFIT**
9 **benefits that should be recognized by the Commission in its determination of the**
10 **true-up balance recovery?**

11 A. The table below summarizes my recommendations concerning estimated ADFIT
12 benefits for both the phase-in bond payment structure and the level payment structure:
13

	<u>Phase-in structure</u>	<u>Level structure</u>
Prospective ADFIT benefits ¹³	\$384,735,038	\$352,620,519
Retrospective ADFIT benefits ¹⁴	<u>\$136,262,240</u>	<u>\$136,262,240</u>
Total ADFIT benefits	\$520,997,278	\$488,882,759

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19 **V. ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO REFLECT ADFIT BENEFITS**

20 **Q. Is the application of the ADFIT benefits as a direct offset to the securitized**
21 **amount the only Commission alternative for reflecting the ADFIT benefits in**
22 **CenterPoint's recovery of its true-up items?**

23 A. No. While it seems that much (or most) of the discussion in this proceeding (as well
24 as Docket No. 29526) concerning the use of the ADFIT benefits has assumed that the
25 benefits will be used to directly reduce the amount of securitized bonds, there are at

¹³ Calculations are shown on Exhibit DT-3.

¹⁴ Retrospective benefits are calculated through the end of May 2005, as described in my testimony. Calculations are shown on Exhibit DT-4.

1 least two other alternatives available to the Commission to incorporate the effects of
2 the benefits.

3 The first alternative is to simply switch the application of the benefits from the
4 securitized true-up amount to the non-securitized CTC true-up amount. Should the
5 Commission opt for this alternative, there are two ways to realize the benefits. One
6 way is to simply use the amount of ADFIT benefits as a direct offset to the CTC
7 balance (just as it would be used as a direct offset if it were applied to the securitized
8 true-up amount), and the other way is to use the ADFIT *balance*¹⁵ (not the ADFIT
9 benefits) as a deduction to the CTC balance for purposes of calculating the associated
10 return dollars. This latter methodology is exactly analogous to the treatment of ADFIT
11 in a traditional rate proceeding when the ADFIT balance is used to reduce a company's
12 rate base before the rate of return is applied. In either situation—whether the ADFIT
13 *benefits* are used as a direct offset to the CTC amount or whether the ADFIT *balance*
14 is used to reduce the return-earning CTC balance—the economic effect is the same.

15 The second alternative at the Commission's disposal is to use a combination
16 approach—that is, use part of the benefits (for example, the prospective benefits) to
17 offset the securitized amount, and the remaining part (the retrospective benefits) in the
18 recovery of the CTC amount.

19
20 **Q. Can you illustrate with a simple example how the resulting economic effect is the**
21 **same for each of the two different ways of reflecting the ADFIT benefits in the**
22 **CTC recovery (described in your first alternative above)?**

23 **A. Yes. Assume a CTC recovery amount of \$800, an ADFIT *balance* of \$600, and an**
24 **interest rate of 10%. Further assume that recovery of the entire amount as well as**
25 **payment to the government of the ADFIT occurs at the end of a one-year period (I**

¹⁵ Note that the ADFIT balance in this situation would include the retrospective time value of the ADFIT. This concept is consistent with my statements in footnote 5 on page 8.

1 have assumed a one-year recovery period for the sake of simplicity). In this situation,
2 the benefits of the ADFIT would be calculated as the present value of the interest that
3 could be earned¹⁶ during the year on the \$600 balance. With a 10% interest rate, the
4 interest on \$600 would be \$60, and the present value of that \$60 would be \$54.55.¹⁷
5 This present-value amount of *benefits* could be used to directly offset the recoverable
6 CTC amount of \$800, resulting in a net recoverable balance of \$745.45 (\$800 less
7 \$54.55). Including 10% interest for one year on the \$745.45 amount would lead to a
8 total cost of $\$745.45 * 1.10 = \820 .

9 Now consider the other possibility, in which the entire ADFIT *balance* is used
10 to reduce the CTC amount that earns a return. Note that in this instance, the company
11 would receive the full return *of* the \$800, but the return *on* the CTC would be reduced
12 to only \$20, because the \$600 would be used as a reduction to the amount on which
13 interest is calculated. The one-year return *on* the CTC would be calculated as $(\$800$
14 $\text{minus } \$600) * 10\% = \20 , and this figure, when added to the \$800 full recovery *of* the
15 CTC amount, equals the same \$820 figure calculated in the approach described in the
16 paragraph above. (As previously noted, this methodology is analogous to the way
17 ADFIT is treated in a traditional rate case; *i.e.*, even though a company receives full
18 recovery *of* its rate base through depreciation, the amount of rate base that actually
19 earns a return is reduced by the available ADFIT balance.)

20 Thus, the foregoing examples show that the two methods are mathematically
21 equivalent, and therefore the benefits of the ADFIT can be achieved by the use of
22 either approach.
23
24

¹⁶ Or, stated in a way more consistent with my prior discussions, the benefits of the ADFIT would be calculated as the present value of the costs of capital that could be avoided.

¹⁷ $\$60 / (1 + .10) = \54.5454

1 **Q. If the Commission were to incorporate the ADFIT benefits in the recovery of the**
2 **CTC amount (using either of the two methods described above), would this**
3 **reduce the total carrying costs of the true-up balances vis-à-vis the approach in**
4 **which ADFIT benefits are applied as a direct offset to the *securitizable* amount?**

5 **A. Yes. If the Commission were to reflect the ADFIT benefits in the recovery of the CTC**
6 **balance rather than the recovery of the securitized balance, the total carrying charges**
7 **on the entirety of all the true-up balances would be reduced. Hence, there is a benefit**
8 **that can be realized by reflecting the ADFIT benefits in this way. Again, I will use a**
9 **simplified example to illustrate the potential benefit.**

10 Suppose a company had an authorized true-up balance of \$2,300, with \$1,500
11 deemed as securitizable and the remaining \$800 recoverable through a CTC. Further
12 suppose that the Commission determined that the appropriate amount of ADFIT
13 benefits to be reflected in the recovery of these true-up balances was \$500. Also
14 assume that the interest rate on the \$1,500 securitized amount was 5% and the interest
15 rate on the \$800 CTC amount was 11%. Finally, again for the sake of simplicity,
16 assume that there is a one-year recovery period for both the securitized balance and the
17 CTC balance.

18 Based on the above assumptions, and comparing the two scenarios in which the
19 ADFIT benefits are used to reduce either the securitizable amount or the CTC amount,
20 the total charges paid by ratepayers under the two scenarios would be as follows:
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First scenario—ADFIT benefits used to reduce securitizable balance:

Securitizable amount	\$1,500
Less ADFIT benefits	<u>\$500</u>
Amount securitized	\$1000
Interest for one year @ 5%	<u>\$50</u>
Total securitized recovery = \$1000 + \$50 =	\$1,050

CTC Amount	\$800
Interest for one year @ 11%:	<u>\$88</u>
Total CTC recovery = \$800 + \$88 =	\$888

Total cost = \$1,050 + \$888 = \$1,938

Second scenario—ADFIT benefits used to reduce CTC balance:

Securitizable amount	\$1,500
Amount securitized	\$1,500
Interest for one year @ 5%:	<u>\$75</u>
Total securitized cost = \$1,500 + \$75 =	\$1,575

CTC Amount	\$800
Less ADFIT benefits	<u>\$500</u>
Net amount of CTC recovery:	\$300
Interest for one year @ 11%:	<u>\$33</u>
Total CTC cost = \$300 + \$33 =	\$333

Total cost = \$1,575 + \$333 = \$1,908

Difference in total costs between two scenarios: \$1,938 less \$1,908 = \$30.

As illustrated in this simplified example, the application of the ADFIT benefits to the higher-cost CTC financing results in total costs that are \$30 lower (this \$30 savings can also be computed in this example by simply multiplying the \$500 ADFIT benefits by the 6% difference [11% less 5%] between the securitized and CTC interest rates). This illustration is directly analogous to a situation in which a consumer is trying to decide how to apportion a payment towards two credit-card bills with different interest

1 rates. Obviously, it is financially advantageous to first pay off the card with the higher
2 rate. The very same concept applies here.

3

4 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

5 **A. Yes.**

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**LIST OF TESTIMONIES
BY DARRYL TIETJEN**

<u>PUC Docket</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Subject</u>
10060	Brazos River Authority	Rate of Return
10462	Tex-La Electric Cooperative	Interim Rates/ Rate of Return
10325	Central Texas Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
10744	Rayburn Country Electric Cooperative	Sale, Transfer, Merger
10820	Magic Valley Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11347	Johnson County Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11571	Fayette Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11520	Southwestern Public Service Company	Rate of Return
12065	Houston Lighting & Power Company	Decomm. Exp.
12700	El Paso Electric Company	Rate Moderation/ Mirror CWIP
12815	Pedernales Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
12820	Central Power and Light Company	Decomm. Exp.
12852	Gulf States Utilities Company	Decomm. Expense/ Contra-AFUDC
13827	Southwestern Public Service	Notice of Intent
14965	Central Power and Light Company	Rate of Return/ Decomm. Expense
15638	Texas Utilities Electric Company	Transmission Cost of Service
16585	T&H Communications	SPCOA
16705	Entergy Gulf States	Rate of Return
16705	Entergy Gulf States	ROR on ECOM
18290	Entergy Gulf States	Carrying Charges on Tax Remand
18845	Central and South West Companies	Financial Condition of Resource Providers
21527	TXU Electric Company	Securitization
21528	Central Power and Light Company	Securitization
22344	Generic Unbundled Docket	Return on Equity
22355	Reliant Energy	ECOM Estimate
22352	Central Power and Light Company	Cost of Debt
22354	West Texas Utilities Company	Recovery of Refi Costs
22350	TXU Electric Company	ECOM Estimate
26942	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Treatment of Reg Asset
29206	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Stranded Costs & True- up Issues
29206	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Interest on Stranded Costs
29526	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, et al.	Stranded Costs & True- up Issues
29526	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, et al.	Interest on Stranded Costs

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**LIST OF TESTIMONIES
BY DARRYL TIETJEN (cont.)**

Memoranda in Lieu of Testimony

10156	Cap Rock Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
10394	Coleman County Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
10714	J-A-C Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11259	Farmers Electric Cooperative	Sale, Transfer, Merger
12368	Cooke County Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
15120	Southwestern Public Service/Cap Rock	Transfer of Property
15904	Alenco Communications, Inc.	Sale, Transfer, Merger
15906	Central Texas Telephone Cooperative	Sale, Transfer, Merger
18443	Tri-County and B-K Electric Cooperatives	Sale, Transfer, Merger
21850	CPL Electric/SESCO	Sale, Transfer, Merger
22222	United Electric Cooperative Services	Sale, Transfer, Merger

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**LIST OF TESTIMONIES
BY DARRYL TIETJEN**

<u>PUC Docket</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Subject</u>
10060	Brazos River Authority	Rate of Return
10462	Tex-La Electric Cooperative	Interim Rates/ Rate of Return
10325	Central Texas Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
10744	Rayburn Country Electric Cooperative	Sale, Transfer, Merger
10820	Magic Valley Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11347	Johnson County Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11571	Fayette Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11520	Southwestern Public Service Company	Rate of Return
12065	Houston Lighting & Power Company	Decomm. Exp.
12700	El Paso Electric Company	Rate Moderation/ Mirror CWIP
12815	Pedernales Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
12820	Central Power and Light Company	Decomm. Exp.
12852	Gulf States Utilities Company	Decomm. Expense/ Contra-AFUDC
13827	Southwestern Public Service	Notice of Intent
14965	Central Power and Light Company	Rate of Return/ Decomm. Expense
15638	Texas Utilities Electric Company	Transmission Cost of Service
16585	T&H Communications	SPCOA
16705	Entergy Gulf States	Rate of Return
16705	Entergy Gulf States	ROR on ECOM
18290	Entergy Gulf States	Carrying Charges on Tax Remand
18845	Central and South West Companies	Financial Condition of Resource Providers
21527	TXU Electric Company	Securitization
21528	Central Power and Light Company	Securitization
22344	Generic Unbundled Docket	Return on Equity
22355	Reliant Energy	ECOM Estimate
22352	Central Power and Light Company	Cost of Debt
22354	West Texas Utilities Company	Recovery of Refi Costs
22350	TXU Electric Company	ECOM Estimate
26942	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Treatment of Reg Asset
29206	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Stranded Costs & True- up Issues
29206	Texas-New Mexico Power Company	Interest on Stranded Costs
29526	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, et al.	Stranded Costs & True- up Issues
29526	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, et al.	Interest on Stranded Costs

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**LIST OF TESTIMONIES
BY DARRYL TIETJEN (cont.)**

Memoranda in Lieu of Testimony

10156	Cap Rock Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
10394	Coleman County Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
10714	J-A-C Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
11259	Farmers Electric Cooperative	Sale, Transfer, Merger
12368	Cooke County Electric Cooperative	Rate of Return
15120	Southwestern Public Service/Cap Rock	Transfer of Property
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15906	Central Texas Telephone Cooperative	Sale, Transfer, Merger
18443	Tri-County and B-K Electric Cooperatives	Sale, Transfer, Merger
21850	CPL Electric/SESCO	Sale, Transfer, Merger
22222	United Electric Cooperative Services	Sale, Transfer, Merger

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Exhibit DT-2
Summaries of Cost-Benefit Analyses

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CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Cost/Benefit Analyses
Expected Transition BondRate 4.5%
Phase-in Structure

True-Up Amount	Traditional Financing				Securitization Financing (Excluding Securitization Costs)		Costs of Securitization					
	(Schedule 1A) 20 Year Amortization		(Schedule 1B) 14 Year Amortization		(Schedule 5) Nominal Dollars	(Schedule 2A) Present Value	(Schedule 5) Upfront Costs	(Schedule 6) Ongoing Costs	Total	(Schedule 2A) Upfront Costs	(Schedule 6) Ongoing Costs	Total
	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value						
1,493,747,264	2,589,602,116	1,643,698,912	2,228,712,202	1,604,231,154	1,389,105,675	972,749,986	25,704,346	14,693,000	40,397,346	18,000,000	16,433,016	34,433,016
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I = (G + H)	J	K	L = (J + K)

Securitization Financing (Including Securitization Costs) Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Saving/(Cost) (Excluding Securitization Costs)				Saving/(Cost) (Including Securitization Costs)			
		Versus 20 Year CTC		Versus 14 Year CTC		Versus 20 Year CTC		Versus 14 Year CTC	
		Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value
1,429,503,021	1,007,183,002	1,200,496,442	670,948,928	839,606,527	631,481,168	1,160,099,096	636,515,910	799,209,181	597,048,152
M = (E + I)	N = (F + L)	O = (A - E)	P = (B - F)	Q = (C - E)	R = (D - F)	S = (A - M)	T = (B - N)	U = (C - M)	V = (D - N)

Required Economic Tests

	Test Met?	Savings Result	
Total Revenue Test (PURA Section 39.303)	yes	799,209,181	U
Tangible and Quantifiable Benefits to Ratepayers (PURA Section 39.301)	yes	597,048,152	V
Present Value (or "Cap") Amt (PURA Section 39.301)		1,604,231,154	D
Amount to be securitized (excluding securitization costs)		972,749,986	F

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CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Cost/Benefit Analyses
Worst Rate 9.0%
Phase-in Structure

True-Up Amount	Traditional Financing				Securitization Financing		Costs of Securitization					
	(Schedule 1A) 20 Year Amortization		(Schedule 1B) 14 Year Amortization		(Excluding Securitization Costs) (Schedule 2B) (Schedule 2B)		Nominal Dollars			Present Value		
	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	(Schedule 2B) Upfront Costs	(Schedule 6) Ongoing Costs	Total	(Schedule 2B) Upfront Costs	(Schedule 6) Ongoing Costs	Total
1,493,747,264	2,589,802,116	1,129,115,279	2,228,712,202	1,205,760,418	1,805,759,522	972,749,986	33,414,209	14,893,000	48,107,209	18,000,000	15,757,078	33,757,078
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I = (G + H)	J	K	L = (J + K)

Securitization Financing (Including Securitization Costs) Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Saving/(Cost) (Excluding Securitization Costs)				Saving/(Cost) (Including Securitization Costs)			
		Versus 20 Year CTC		Versus 14 Year CTC		Versus 20 Year CTC		Versus 14 Year CTC	
		Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value
1,853,866,731	1,006,507,063	783,842,595	156,365,293	422,952,880	233,010,433	735,735,385	122,808,215	374,845,471	199,253,355
M = (E + I)	N = (F + L)	O = (A - E)	P = (B - F)	Q = (C - E)	R = (D - F)	S = (A - M)	T = (B - N)	U = (C - M)	V = (D - N)

Required Economic Tests

Total Revenue Test (PURA Section 39.303)

Test Met? Savings Result

yes 374,845,471 U

Tangible and Quantifiable Benefits to Ratepayers (PURA Section 39.301)

yes 199,253,355 V

Present Value (or "Cap") Amt (PURA Section 39.301) 1,205,760,418 D

Amount to be securitized (excluding securitization costs) 972,749,986 F

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Cost/Benefit Analysis
Expected Transition Bond Rate 4.36%
Level Structure

True-Up Amount	Traditional Financing				Securitization Financing		Costs of Securitization							
	(Schedule 1A) 20 Year Amortization		(Schedule 1B) 14 Year Amortization		(Excluding Securitization Costs) (Schedule 5) (Schedule 2A)		(Schedule 5) Upfront Costs	Nominal Dollars (Schedule 6) Ongoing Costs		Total	(Schedule 2A) Upfront Costs	Present Value (Schedule 6) Ongoing Costs		Total
	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value								
1,493,747,264	2,589,602,116	1,664,911,299	2,228,712,202	1,619,544,362	1,394,731,976	1,004,664,505	24,983,643	14,777,000	39,760,643		18,000,000	16,379,214	34,379,214	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I = (G + H)	J	K	L = (J + K)		

Securitization Financing (Including Securitization Costs) Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Saving/(Cost) (Excluding Securitization Costs)				Saving/(Cost) (Including Securitization Costs)			
		Versus 20 Year CTC		Versus 14 Year CTC		Versus 20 Year CTC		Versus 14 Year CTC	
		Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value
1,434,492,619	1,039,243,719	1,194,870,140	660,046,795	833,980,225	614,679,857	1,155,109,498	625,667,580	794,219,583	580,300,643
M = (E + I)	N = (F + L)	O = (A - E)	P = (B - F)	Q = (C - E)	R = (D - F)	S = (A - M)	T = (B - N)	U = (C - M)	V = (D - N)

Required Economic Tests

	Test Met?	Savings Result	
Total Revenue Test (PURA Section 39.303)	yes	794,219,583	U
Tangible and Quantifiable Benefits to Ratepayers (PURA Section 39.301)	yes	580,300,643	V
Present Value (or "Cap") Amt (PURA Section 39.301)		1,619,544,362	D
Amount to be securitized (excluding securitization costs)		1,004,664,505	F

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CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Cost/Benefit Analyses
Worst Rate 9.0%
Level Structure

True-Up Amount	Traditional Financing				Securitization Financing (Excluding Securitization Costs)		Costs of Securitization					
	(Schedule 1A) 20 Year Amortization		(Schedule 1B) 14 Year Amortization		(Schedule 2B) Nominal Dollars	(Schedule 2B) Present Value	(Schedule 2B) Upfront Costs	Nominal Dollars (Schedule 6) Ongoing Costs	Total	(Schedule 2B) Upfront Costs	Present Value (Schedule 6) Ongoing Costs	Total
	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value						
1,493,747,264	2,589,602,116	1,129,115,279	2,228,712,202	1,205,760,418	1,739,113,235	1,004,864,505	31,152,497	14,777,000	45,929,497	18,000,000	18,514,091	34,514,091
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I = (G + H)	J	K	L = (J + K)

Securitization Financing (Including Securitization Costs) Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Saving/(Cost) (Excluding Securitization Costs)				Saving/(Cost) (Including Securitization Costs)			
		Versus 20 Year CTC		Versus 14 Year CTC		Versus 20 Year CTC		Versus 14 Year CTC	
		Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value	Nominal Dollars	Present Value
1,785,042,732	1,039,378,595	850,488,881	124,250,774	489,598,966	200,895,914	804,559,384	89,736,683	443,669,469	166,381,823
M = (E + I)	N = (F + L)	O = (A - E)	P = (B - F)	Q = (C - E)	R = (D - F)	S = (A - M)	T = (B - N)	U = (C - M)	V = (D - N)

Required Economic Tests

	Test Met?	Savings Result	
Total Revenue Test (PURA Section 39.303)	yes	443,669,469	U
Tangible and Quantifiable Benefits to Ratepayers (PURA Section 39.301)	yes	166,381,823	V
Present Value (or "Cap") Amt (PURA Section 39.301)		1,205,760,418	D
Amount to be securitized (excluding securitization costs)		1,004,864,505	F

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Exhibit DT-3

Prospective ADFIT Benefits on Applicable Assets

January 14, 2005

Direct Testimony of Darryl Tietjen
000040

Prospective ADFIT Benefit on Applicable Assets
Phase-in Payment Structure

Calculation of Applicable ADFIT Balance

Net Book Value of Assets	4,803,652,497	(a) (referenced below)
Market Value	3,417,428,222	(b) (referenced below)
Generation Book Value over Market Value	<u>1,386,224,275</u>	(c) = (a) - (b)
Federal Tax Rate	35%	(d) (referenced below)
ADFIT Related to Excess	<u>485,178,496</u>	(e) = (c) * (d)
Plus: ADFIT related to Regulatory Assets	<u>141,162,927</u>	(f) (referenced below)
Total Applicable ADFIT Balance	<u>626,341,423</u>	(g) = (e) + (f)

Calculation of Prospective ADFIT Benefits:

Period	Year	Estimated Bond Amortization	ADFIT Payment	PV @ 11.075%
0.583	2005	-0.93%	(5,799,337)	(5,454,674)
1.583	2006	-1.90%	(11,902,772)	(10,079,112)
2.583	2007	2.59%	16,212,495	12,359,693
3.583	2008	6.03%	37,755,485	25,913,231
4.583	2009	6.47%	40,544,741	25,052,999
5.583	2010	6.92%	43,339,051	24,109,503
6.583	2011	7.38%	46,206,476	23,141,707
7.583	2012	7.86%	49,226,806	22,196,162
8.583	2013	8.39%	52,575,556	21,342,426
9.583	2014	8.99%	56,285,900	20,570,422
10.583	2015	9.61%	60,218,355	19,813,269
11.583	2016	10.28%	64,371,816	19,068,068
12.583	2017	10.98%	68,782,977	18,343,220
13.583	2018	11.82%	74,007,757	17,768,695
14.583	2019	5.51%	<u>34,516,116</u>	<u>7,460,774</u>
			<u>626,341,423</u>	<u>241,606,385</u>

Prospective ADFIT Benefits (time value of money) = 626,341,423 - 241,606,385 = 384,735,038

References

- (a) = Commission Order, Docket No 29526, Schedule I, line 10 - line 23
- (b) = Commission Order, Docket No. 29526, Schedule I, line 19
- (d) = Federal tax rate
- (f) = James S. Brian testimony, Figure JSB-1, Schedule 3, line 10

000041

Prospective ADFIT Benefit on Applicable Assets
Level Payment Structure

Calculation of Applicable ADFIT Balance

Net Book Value of Assets	4,803,652,497	(a) (referenced below)
Market Value	3,417,428,222	(b) (referenced below)
Generation Book Value over Market Value	1,386,224,275	(c) = (a) - (b)
Federal Tax Rate	35%	(d) (referenced below)
ADFIT Related to Excess	485,178,496	(e) = (c) * (d)
Plus: ADFIT related to Regulatory Assets	141,162,927	(f) (referenced below)
Total Applicable ADFIT Balance	626,341,423	(g) = (e) + (f)

Calculation of Prospective ADFIT Benefits:

Period	Year	Estimated Bond Amortization	ADFIT Payment	PV @ 11.075%
0.583	2005	1.03%	6,443,487	6,060,541
1.583	2006	4.75%	29,754,707	25,195,897
2.583	2007	5.09%	31,894,921	24,315,285
3.583	2008	5.43%	34,030,383	23,356,532
4.583	2009	5.81%	36,393,764	22,488,069
5.583	2010	6.20%	38,808,622	21,589,227
6.583	2011	6.59%	41,281,196	20,674,967
7.583	2012	7.01%	43,930,262	19,807,972
8.583	2013	7.48%	46,848,498	19,017,594
9.583	2014	7.99%	50,054,878	18,293,213
10.583	2015	8.53%	53,440,089	17,583,059
11.583	2016	9.10%	57,009,241	16,887,144
12.583	2017	9.70%	60,786,409	16,210,675
13.583	2018	10.42%	65,266,989	15,670,104
14.583	2019	4.85%	30,397,976	6,570,624
			626,341,423	273,720,904

Prospective ADFIT Benefits (time value of money) = 626,341,423 - 273,720,904 = 352,620,519

References

- (a) = Commission Order, Docket No. 29526, Schedule I, line 10 - line 23
- (b) = Commission Order, Docket No. 29526, Schedule I, line 19
- (d) = Federal tax rate
- (f) = James S. Brian testimony, Figure JSB-1, Schedule 3, line 10

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Exhibit DT-4
Retrospective ADFIT Benefits

January 14, 2005

Direct Testimony of Darryl Tietjen
000043

Retrospective ADFIT Benefit on Applicable Assets

End of Period	(1) Gross ADFIT Balance	(2) EMC ADFIT	(3) Net ADFIT	(4) Return @ 11.075% (0.8791% monthly)	(5) Cumulative Return	(6) Cumulative Return Net of Taxes
Dec-03	1,105,362,019	(278,760,046)	826,601,973			
Jan-04	1,105,362,019	(273,681,344)	831,680,675	7,266,967	7,266,967	4,723,529
Feb-04	1,105,362,019	(268,895,099)	836,466,920	7,353,142	14,620,110	9,503,071
Mar-04	1,105,362,019	(263,837,011)	841,525,008	7,437,239	22,057,349	14,337,277
Apr-04	1,105,362,019	(259,064,283)	846,297,736	7,524,206	29,581,555	19,228,010
May-04	1,105,362,019	(253,662,649)	851,699,370	7,609,161	37,190,715	24,173,965
Jun-04	1,105,362,019	(247,168,617)	858,193,402	7,700,130	44,890,846	29,179,050
Jul-04	1,105,362,019	(239,559,336)	865,802,683	7,801,223	52,692,069	34,249,845
Aug-04	1,105,362,019	(231,570,193)	873,791,826	7,912,699	60,604,768	39,393,099
Sep-04	1,105,362,019	(226,175,359)	879,186,660	8,028,151	68,632,918	44,611,397
Oct-04	1,105,362,019	(220,780,526)	884,581,493	8,121,455	76,754,373	49,890,342
Nov-04	1,105,362,019	(215,385,693)	889,976,326	8,215,292	84,969,665	55,230,282
Dec-04	1,105,362,019	(209,990,860)	895,371,159	8,309,665	93,279,330	60,631,564
Jan-05	1,105,362,019	(204,596,026)	900,765,993	8,404,578	101,683,908	66,094,540
Feb-05	1,105,362,019	(199,201,193)	906,160,826	8,500,033	110,183,941	71,619,561
Mar-05	1,105,362,019	(193,806,360)	911,555,659	8,596,033	118,779,974	77,206,983
Apr-05	1,105,362,019	(188,411,527)	916,950,492	8,692,583	127,472,557	82,857,162
May-05	1,105,362,019	(183,016,693)	922,345,326	8,789,683	136,262,240	88,570,456

Total Restrospective ADFIT benefits = **136,262,240**

References

- Column 1: (1,069,915,582+31,564,455+3,881,982) from Company response to PUC 1-3 (shown in Exhibit DT-7)
- Column 2: See Workpaper DT-4/1
- Column 3: Column 1 + Column 2
- Column 4: (Column 3 + Column 6) * .00879137436 (12th root of 11.075%)
- Column 5: Prior month's balance plus current month's balance.
- Column 6: Column 5 * (1 - 35% tax rate)

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Exhibit DT-5

Response to City of Houston RFI COH3-6

January 14, 2005

Direct Testimony of Darryl Tietjen
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PUC DOCKET NO . 30485

APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT
ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
FOR A FINANCING ORDER

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS

Contact: Andy Machtemes

(713) 207-5372

Fax: (713) 207-9840

December 29, 2004

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Request No: COH3-6

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC

PUC DOCKET NO. 30485

City of Houston

Q. Have the generation assets been sold? Provide the date the sale was or will be final. Explain in detail the income tax liability that results from this sale and identify the organization that will incur this tax liability.

A. On July 21, 2004, Texas Genco Holdings, Inc. (Genco Holdings) and CenterPoint Energy, Inc. announced a definitive agreement for GC Power Acquisition LLC (GC Power) to acquire Genco Holdings. The transaction is expected to be accomplished in two steps. First, on December 15, 2004, GC Power acquired Genco Holdings' fossil fuel assets. Second, in the first half of 2005 and following receipt of approval by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Genco Holdings (with the principal remaining asset being the interest in in the South Texas Project Nuclear Electric Generating Station) will merge with a subsidiary of GC Power.

The ADFIT related to the sold generating assets will become a current payable and shall be payable in accordance with IRS regulations. CenterPoint Energy, Inc. will incur the tax liability from the sale.

Sponsor: James S. Brian

Attachments: None

PUC Docket No. 30485

Exhibit DT-6

Response to City of Houston RFI COH1-3

January 14, 2005

Direct Testimony of Darryl Tietjen
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PUC DOCKET NO . 30485

APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT
ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
FOR A FINANCING ORDER

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS

Contact: Andy Machtemes

(713) 207-5372

Fax: (713) 207-9840

December 20, 2004

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Request No: COH1-3

CENTERPOINT ENERGY, INCORPORATED

PUC DOCKET NO. 30485

City of Houston

Q. Explain the reason CenterPoint has used "an amount to reflect the present value of the benefits associated with applicable accumulated deferred federal income taxes" in this filing (Figure JSB-1, Page 20, Schedule 2A). Did CenterPoint use this approach in its previous application for a financing order? If so, provide a copy of the schedules on which this approach was presented.

A. CenterPoint Houston has provided this calculation in response to FOF 406 in the true-up proceeding Docket 29526 which says " the benefit that CenterPoint has derived from retaining ADFIT as cost-free capital should be considered in the subsequent recovery proceeding...."

In Docket 21665, the previous securitization application, Finding of Fact No. 16 says "The \$740 million is an agreed amount for recovery of the \$1,070,530,866 of generation-related regulatory assets Applicant asked to securitize in its application in this docket and fully reflects the present value of the reduction in revenue requirements that under conventional ratemaking would have resulted if the \$592,633,762 of accumulated deferred income taxes associated with such assets as of December 31, 1998 had continued to be included in invested capital." In this settled proceeding, no schedules were provided for the ADFIT calculations.

Sponsor: James S. Brian

Attachments: None

PUC Docket No. 30485

Exhibit DT-7

Response to Public Utility Commission Staff RFI PUC1-3

January 14, 2005

Direct Testimony of Darryl Tietjen
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PUC DOCKET NO . 30485

APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT
ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC
FOR A FINANCING ORDER

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS

Contact: Andy Machtemes

(713) 207-5372

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January 10, 2005

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Request No: PUC1-3

CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC

PUC DOCKET NO. 30485

Public Utility Commission

- Q. Regarding the 12/31/01 ADFIT amount of \$867,783,937 shown on line 1 of Schedule 3, please provide the corresponding balance for this figure (that is, state how this specific amount of ADFIT has changed) as of 12/31/02 and 12/31/03, and also 12/31/04 if possible, and explain the reasons for any changes. If no change has occurred in the \$867,783,937 balance since 12/31/01, please provide an explanation why not.
- A. Please see the attachment for changes to ADFIT amounts as of 12/31/02 and 12/31/03 where available. ADFIT amounts for excess mitigation credits as of December 31, 2004 are not available because tax analysis for 2004 has not been completed.

Method/Life, Basis and AFUDC related ADFIT were captured at 12/31/01 on a regulatory basis for use in the True-up proceeding. CenterPoint did not continue to maintain property records on a regulatory basis for book or tax purposes, therefore these components are not available after that date. Please refer to Docket No. 29526 Bates page 2398 for a reconciliation of the property accounts from a regulatory basis to a GAAP basis for an explanation of events creating differences in regulatory and GAAP books through 12/31/01.

Non-confidential responsive documents, if any, are attached to this response. Protected Materials and Highly Sensitive Protected Materials are being provided to you separately under seal pursuant to the Protective Order in Docket No. 30485.

Sponsor: James S. Brian

Attachments: PUC1-3 Attachment 1

**CenterPoint Houston
Accumulated Deferred Federal Income Taxes
As of December 31, 2001, 2002 and 2003**

PUC1-3 Attachment 1

Accumulated Deferred Federal Income Taxes ("ADIT")

	2001 ADIT	2002 ADIT	2003 ADIT
Method/Life	1,069,915,582	Not Available	Not Available
Basis	31,564,455	Not Available	Not Available
Equity AFUDC and Debt AFUDC	141,162,927	Not Available	Not Available
Unamortized Loss on Reacquired Debt	3,881,982	3,881,982	3,881,982 Note 1
Final Fuel Balance Underrecovery	17,215,830	-	- Note 2
Excess Mitigation Liability	(395,956,839)	(345,013,912)	(272,218,922) Note 3
Total Generation Related ADIT	<u><u>867,783,937</u></u>		

Note 1: Amount is frozen at December 31, 2001.

Note 2: Fuel related ADIT is updated as of August 2004 on Schedule 3 in the application.

Note 3: ADIT changed due to interest accrued and EMC refunded.

Attachment to Docast: 30485
Req. # PUC1-3 Page 1 of 1

PUC Docket No. 30485

Workpapers

January 14, 2005

Direct Testimony of Darryl Tietjen
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CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Expected Securitization Amount
True Up Balance (Excluding Capacity Auction, Fuel and Retail Clawback) - Phase-in Structure

Exhibit DT-1
WP DT-2/3

1	Requested Amount	True-up Final Order	1,493,747,264
2	ADFIT Benefit on Applicable Assets	Schedule 4	<u>(520,997,278)</u>
		Sub-total	972,749,986
3	Projected Qualified Cost	Schedule 6	18,000,000
4	Securitization Amount (including ADFIT Benefits)	Total	<u><u>990,749,986</u></u>
5	Applicable Assets ADFIT Rate	Schedule 3 Line 11 divided by Line 1	51.1%

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CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Worst Case Securitization Amount
True Up Balance (Excluding Capacity Auction, Fuel and Retail Clawback) - Phase-in Structure

Exhibit DT-2
WP DT-2/4

1	Requested Amount	True-up Final Order	1,493,747,264
2	ADFIT Benefit on Applicable Assets		<u>(520,997,278)</u>
		Sub-total	972,749,986
3	Projected Qualified Cost		18,000,000
4	Securitization Amount (including ADFIT Benefits)	Total	<u><u>990,749,986</u></u>

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WP DT-2/5

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
 CSFB Payments
 True Up Balance (Excluding Capacity Auction, Fuel and Retail Clawback) - Phase-in Structure
 June 2005 through July 2019

WP

	Payments		Principal Balance	Over Collateralization Account	CSFB Payment Schedule			OC Acct	
	Principal	Interest			Balance BOP	Interest Paid	Interest Shortfall	Principal Paid	Total Funding
0 Jun-05			990,749,986		1,393,000,000				
1 Jul-05			990,749,986		1,393,000,000				
2 Aug-05			990,749,986		1,393,000,000				
3 Sep-05			990,749,986		1,393,000,000				
4 Oct-05			990,749,986		1,393,000,000				
5 Nov-05			990,749,986		1,393,000,000				
6 Dec-05	(7,062,361)	-0.7128%	15,224,805	1.537%	1,402,929,719	21,406,161		2,500,000	2,500,000
7 Jan-06			997,812,347	2,500,000	1,402,929,719				2,500,000
8 Feb-06			997,812,347		1,402,929,719				2,500,000
9 Mar-06			997,812,347		1,402,929,719				2,500,000
10 Apr-06			997,812,347		1,402,929,719				2,500,000
11 May-06			997,812,347		1,413,056,517	21,406,161		2,500,000	5,000,000
12 Jun-06	(7,202,530)	0.7218%	15,224,805	1.526%	1,005,014,877				5,000,000
13 Jul-06			1,005,014,877	2,500,000	1,413,056,517				5,000,000
14 Aug-06			1,005,014,877		1,413,056,517				5,000,000
15 Sep-06			1,005,014,877		1,413,056,517				5,000,000
16 Oct-06			1,005,014,877		1,423,384,324	21,406,161		2,500,000	7,500,000
17 Nov-06			1,005,014,877		1,423,384,324				7,500,000
18 Dec-06	(7,345,495)	-0.7309%	15,224,805	1.515%	1,005,014,877				7,500,000
19 Jan-07			1,012,360,372	2,500,000	1,423,384,324				7,500,000
20 Feb-07			1,012,360,372		1,423,384,324				7,500,000
21 Mar-07			1,012,360,372		1,433,817,150	21,406,161		2,500,000	10,000,000
22 Apr-07			1,012,360,372		1,433,817,150				10,000,000
23 May-07			1,012,360,372		1,433,817,150				10,000,000
24 Jun-07	(7,491,312)	-0.7454%	15,224,805	1.515%	1,012,360,372				10,000,000
25 Jul-07			1,019,851,884	2,500,000	1,433,817,150				10,000,000
26 Aug-07			1,019,851,884		1,433,817,150				10,000,000
27 Sep-07			1,019,851,884		1,433,817,150	32,148,094	51,298,679	291,667	10,291,667
28 Oct-07			1,019,851,884		1,382,820,471				10,291,667
29 Nov-07			1,019,851,884		1,382,820,471				10,291,667
30 Dec-07	36,483,980	3.6039%	22,864,841	2.259%	1,019,851,884				10,291,667
31 Jan-08			983,367,704	291,667	1,382,820,471			291,667	10,583,333
32 Feb-08			983,367,704		1,349,898,960	31,327,198	32,723,511		10,583,333
33 Mar-08			983,367,704		1,349,898,960				10,583,333
34 Apr-08			983,367,704		1,349,898,960				10,583,333
35 May-08			983,367,704		1,349,898,960				10,583,333
36 Jun-08	23,274,098	2.2821%	22,280,991	2.185%	983,367,704				10,875,000
37 Jul-08			960,093,607	291,667	1,349,898,960	30,687,978	51,349,823	291,667	10,875,000
38 Aug-08			960,093,607		1,298,847,037				10,875,000
39 Sep-08			960,093,607		1,298,847,037				10,875,000
40 Oct-08			960,093,607		1,298,847,037				10,875,000
41 Nov-08			960,093,607		1,298,847,037				10,875,000
42 Dec-08	36,521,849	3.7140%	21,826,356	2.220%	960,093,607	29,673,223	35,573,473	291,667	11,166,667
43 Jan-09			923,571,758	291,667	1,262,873,564				11,166,667
44 Feb-09			923,571,758		1,262,873,564				11,166,667
45 Mar-09			923,571,758		1,262,873,564				11,166,667
46 Apr-09			923,571,758		1,262,873,564				11,166,667
47 May-09			923,571,758		1,262,873,564				11,166,667
48 Jun-09	25,301,090	2.6353%	21,104,627	2.196%	923,571,758	28,970,236	54,573,664	291,667	11,458,333
49 Jul-09			898,270,668	291,667	1,208,399,901				11,458,333
50 Aug-09			898,270,668		1,208,399,901				11,458,333
51 Sep-09			898,270,668		1,208,399,901				11,458,333
52 Oct-09			898,270,668		1,208,399,901	27,891,774	38,468,020	291,667	11,750,000
					1,189,931,881				11,750,000
					1,189,931,881				11,750,000
					1,189,931,881				11,750,000
					1,189,931,881				11,750,000
					1,189,931,881				11,750,000
					1,112,233,546	27,131,686	67,898,336	291,667	12,041,667
					1,112,233,546				12,041,667
					1,112,233,546				12,041,667
					1,112,233,546				12,041,667
					1,112,233,546				12,041,667
					1,112,233,546	25,991,377	41,382,778	291,667	12,333,333
					1,070,850,788				12,333,333
					1,070,850,788				12,333,333
					1,070,850,788				12,333,333
					1,070,850,788				12,333,333
					1,070,850,788				12,333,333
					1,070,850,788	25,173,588	60,840,593	291,667	12,625,000
					1,008,901,174				12,625,000
					1,008,901,174				12,625,000
					1,008,901,174				12,625,000
					1,008,901,174				12,625,000
					1,008,901,174				12,625,000
					1,009,801,174	23,988,128	44,434,704	291,667	12,916,667
					995,496,471				12,916,667
					995,496,471				12,916,667
					995,496,471				12,916,667
					995,496,471				12,916,667
					995,496,471				12,916,667

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WOP DT-2/7

121	Jul-15				430,679,518				
122	Aug-15				430,679,518				
123	Sep-15				430,679,518				
124	Oct-15				430,679,518				
125	Nov-15				430,679,518				
126	Dec-15	54,614,018	11.6153%	10,475,023	2.228%	430,679,518	291,667		
127	Jan-16				378,065,500				
128	Feb-16				378,065,500				
129	Mar-16				378,065,500				
130	Apr-16				378,065,500				
131	May-16				378,065,500				
132	Jun-16	42,505,177	9.8693%	9,192,859	2.135%	378,065,500	291,667		
133	Jul-16				333,560,323				
134	Aug-16				333,560,323				
135	Sep-16				333,560,323				
136	Oct-16				333,560,323				
137	Nov-16				333,560,323				
138	Dec-16	57,909,264	15.3987%	8,194,990	2.179%	333,560,323	291,667		
139	Jan-17				275,851,058				
140	Feb-17				275,851,058				
141	Mar-17				275,851,058				
142	Apr-17				275,851,058				
143	May-17				275,851,058				
144	Jun-17	45,672,802	13.6925%	8,835,474	2.049%	275,851,058	291,667		
145	Jul-17				229,978,166				
146	Aug-17				229,978,166				
147	Sep-17				229,978,166				
148	Oct-17				229,978,166				
149	Nov-17				229,978,166				
150	Dec-17	61,415,304	22.2801%	5,722,568	2.076%	229,978,166	291,667		
151	Jan-18				168,562,862				
152	Feb-18				168,562,862				
153	Mar-18				168,562,862				
154	Apr-18				168,562,862				
155	May-18				168,562,862				
156	Jun-18	49,136,883	21.3659%	4,194,364	1.824%	168,562,862	291,667		
157	Jul-18				119,425,979				
158	Aug-18				119,425,979				
159	Sep-18				119,425,979				
160	Oct-18				119,425,979				
161	Nov-18				119,425,979				
162	Dec-18	65,866,026	39.0751%	2,971,887	1.763%	119,425,979	291,663		
163	Jan-19				53,559,953				
164	Feb-19				53,559,953				
165	Mar-19				53,559,953				
166	Apr-19				53,559,953				
167	May-19				53,559,953				
168	Jun-19	53,559,953	44.8478%	1,332,734	1.116%	53,559,953	291,663		
169	Jul-19						(17,000,000)		
total		990,749,988		394,958,337					
P&I total		1,385,708,323							
Total CSFB		1,414,810,021							
Deferred Int		29,101,698		29,101,698					
Revised Int				424,060,035					

387,568,924	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,541,667
387,568,924	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,541,667
387,568,924	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,541,667
387,568,924	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,541,667
323,350,584	9,610,714	-	-	84,216,341	-	291,667	-	-	15,833,333
323,350,584	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,833,333
323,350,584	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,833,333
323,350,584	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,833,333
323,350,584	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,833,333
323,350,584	8,048,859	-	-	86,350,260	-	291,667	-	-	16,125,000
237,000,324	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,125,000
237,000,324	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,125,000
237,000,324	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,125,000
237,000,324	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,125,000
237,000,324	5,897,299	-	-	88,085,731	-	291,667	-	-	16,416,667
187,913,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,416,667
187,913,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,416,667
187,913,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,416,667
187,913,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,416,667
187,913,593	4,178,208	-	-	82,607,969	-	291,667	-	-	16,708,333
75,305,594	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,708,333
75,305,594	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,708,333
75,305,594	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,708,333
75,305,594	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,708,333
75,305,594	1,873,834	-	-	75,305,594	-	291,667	-	-	17,000,000
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,000,000
		866,313,622		1,433,917,188					

Class	Class Sizes	Coupon	P
1	50,000,000.00	3.2006%	
2	363,000,000.00	3.9523%	
3	90,000,000.00	4.3469%	
4	526,000,000.00	4.6953%	
5	364,000,000.00	4.9766%	
6	-	0.0000%	
7	-	0.0000%	
8	-	0.0000%	
9	-	0.0000%	
10	-	0.0000%	
Total Bond	1,393,000,000	4.4990%	

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Schedule 1B

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
 Securitization
 Total Requested Amount
 Securitised Life
 Expected Cash

Exhibit DT-2
 WP DT-2/8

True Up Balance (Excluding Capacity Auction, Fuel and Retail Clawback) - Level Structure

Total Requested Amount	1,403,747,204
Amortization Period	14.00
Rate of Return	8.05%
Weighted Cost of Equity	4.50%
ADFIT Rate	51.1%
Revenue Related Tax Rate	4.9500%
Allowed a Return on Asset? (Yes/No)	Yes

Period	NPV	Year	Unrecovered Asset Balance	ADFIT	Rate Base (a) * (b)	Return (c) * ROR	Return on Equity (c) * WCE	Depreciation Add-Back	Other FIT Adjustments	Taxable Income (e) + (f) + (g)	FIT (h) * Tax Factor	Annual Amortization	Revenue Related Taxes (i) * Tax Factor	COGS (d)+(j)+(k)+(l)	PV @ 4.36% PV of (l)
1	1	2005	1,403,747,204	(702,603,603)	731,143,001	63,243,821	32,901,482	-	-	32,901,482	17,716,172	58,200,668	2,171,496	141,332,277	135,428,022
2	2	2006	1,435,546,570	(732,800,432)	702,656,144	60,770,750	31,019,526	-	-	31,019,526	17,025,809	63,328,286	2,085,880	143,220,829	131,504,477
3	3	2007	1,372,218,282	(700,559,406)	671,658,880	58,068,494	30,224,650	-	-	30,224,650	16,274,811	66,007,033	1,994,827	145,275,705	127,810,791
4	4	2008	1,303,310,659	(665,379,952)	637,930,707	55,181,006	28,706,842	-	-	28,706,842	15,457,552	74,078,533	1,894,654	147,511,746	124,364,181
5	5	2009	1,228,332,125	(627,101,117)	601,231,008	52,006,482	27,056,395	-	-	27,056,395	14,568,290	81,584,292	1,785,956	149,944,720	121,134,282
6	6	2010	1,140,747,833	(585,449,841)	561,297,992	48,552,270	25,258,410	-	-	25,258,410	13,000,682	88,772,032	1,667,055	152,592,045	118,123,134
7	7	2011	1,057,876,801	(540,120,004)	517,846,798	44,793,748	23,303,106	-	-	23,303,106	12,547,826	98,593,025	1,538,005	155,472,004	115,325,174
8	8	2012	981,382,770	(480,815,310)	470,567,460	40,704,086	21,175,536	-	-	21,175,536	11,402,212	105,103,004	1,397,585	158,006,847	112,735,223
9	9	2013	859,279,713	(437,159,982)	418,122,731	36,254,116	18,800,523	-	-	18,800,523	10,155,066	114,362,854	1,244,705	162,017,431	110,348,477
10	10	2014	741,916,859	(378,771,247)	363,145,612	31,412,095	16,341,553	-	-	16,341,553	8,790,298	124,438,450	1,078,542	165,728,385	108,100,498
11	11	2015	617,478,409	(315,241,013)	302,236,796	26,143,483	13,000,056	-	-	13,000,056	7,323,430	135,401,726	807,843	160,760,283	106,167,208
12	12	2016	482,076,882	(240,114,890)	235,061,792	20,410,895	10,018,281	-	-	10,018,281	5,717,536	147,330,880	700,807	174,156,926	104,364,878
13	13	2017	334,745,793	(170,897,995)	163,847,828	14,172,837	7,373,152	-	-	7,373,152	3,970,159	100,311,035	488,828	178,040,659	102,750,122
14	14	2018	174,434,758	(80,054,279)	85,380,479	7,385,411	3,842,122	-	-	3,842,122	2,068,835	174,434,758	263,580	184,142,584	101,310,894
										150,628,367	1,403,747,204	18,457,955	2,228,712,202	1,019,544,382	

WP DT-2/8

000063

0000111

WP DT-2/9

Exhibit DT-2
WP DT-2/9

Schedule 1B

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Security Station
Total Requested Amount
Securitized Amount
Securitized Life
Warrant Case

True Up Balance (Excluding Capacity Auction, Fuel and Retail Clawback) - Level Structure

Total Requested Amount	1,863,357,264
Amortization Period	14.00
Rate of Return	8.50%
Weighted Cost of Equity	1.33%
ADFF Ratio	51.1%
Revenue Related Tax Rate (see note)	43.600%
Allowed a Return on Asset? (Yes/No)	Yes

Period	Year	Unrecovered Asset Balance	ADFF	Rate Base (a) * (b)	Return (c) * ROR	Return on Equity (c) * WCE	Depreciation Add-Back	Other FIT Adjustments	Taxable Income (e) * (f) + (g)	FIT (h) * Tax Factor	Annual Amortization	Revenue Related Taxes (i) * Tax Factor	COG (j) * (k) - (l)	PV @ 8.00% PV of (j)
1	2005	1,463,747,264	(792,002,603)	731,143,001	65,243,921	32,901,402	-	-	32,901,402	17,716,172	58,200,848	2,171,490	141,332,277	120,602,940
2	2006	1,435,540,570	(792,890,432)	702,650,144	60,778,750	31,018,526	-	-	31,018,526	17,025,890	63,328,285	2,046,840	143,220,820	120,646,100
3	2007	1,372,218,292	(790,858,496)	671,058,440	56,088,494	30,224,650	-	-	30,224,650	16,274,811	68,007,633	1,994,827	145,275,786	112,179,848
4	2008	1,303,310,050	(685,379,952)	637,930,707	55,181,000	28,706,882	-	-	28,706,882	15,457,552	74,978,533	1,894,054	147,511,748	104,501,039
5	2009	1,228,332,125	(627,101,117)	601,231,008	52,006,482	27,065,395	-	-	27,065,395	14,568,290	81,584,292	1,785,050	149,944,720	97,453,780
6	2010	1,146,747,833	(585,448,841)	561,297,092	48,552,270	25,258,410	-	-	25,258,410	13,600,082	88,772,032	1,687,055	152,592,045	90,945,651
7	2011	1,057,875,801	(540,126,004)	517,849,798	44,783,748	23,303,106	-	-	23,303,106	12,547,870	94,583,025	1,538,005	155,472,004	85,048,839
8	2012	961,382,778	(480,815,310)	479,567,468	40,704,080	21,175,536	-	-	21,175,536	11,402,212	105,103,064	1,397,585	158,006,947	79,506,478
9	2013	859,279,713	(437,156,982)	418,122,731	36,254,110	18,890,523	-	-	18,890,523	10,185,000	114,382,854	1,244,795	162,017,431	74,597,326
10	2014	741,916,850	(378,771,247)	365,145,612	31,412,095	16,341,553	-	-	16,341,553	8,790,298	124,434,450	1,078,542	166,728,385	70,005,401
11	2015	617,478,400	(315,241,613)	302,236,780	26,143,443	13,000,650	-	-	13,000,650	7,323,430	135,461,720	897,643	169,786,283	65,700,011
12	2016	482,076,042	(246,114,860)	235,961,762	20,410,895	10,018,281	-	-	10,018,281	5,970,159	147,330,880	700,807	174,150,920	61,919,902
13	2017	334,745,793	(170,897,966)	163,847,828	14,172,837	7,373,152	-	-	7,373,152	3,970,139	160,311,035	488,828	178,940,659	58,386,622
14	2018	174,434,758	(88,054,279)	85,380,479	7,385,411	3,842,122	-	-	3,842,122	2,068,835	174,534,758	253,580	184,192,568	55,108,017
									159,028,367	1,483,747,204	19,457,865	2,228,712,202	1,205,786,418	

000064

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Expected Securitization Amount
True Up Balance (Excluding Capacity Auction, Fuel and Retail Clawback) - Level Structure

Exhibit DT-2
WP DT-2/10

1	Requested Amount	True-up Final Order	1,493,747,264
2	ADFIT Benefit on Applicable Assets	Schedule 4	<u>(488,882,759)</u>
		Sub-total	1,004,864,505
3	Projected Qualified Cost	Schedule 6	18,000,000
4	Securitization Amount (including ADFIT Benefits)	Total	<u>1,022,864,505</u>
5	Applicable Assets ADFIT Rate	Schedule 3 Line 11 divided by Line 1	51.1%

000065

CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric
Worst Case Securitization Amount
True Up Balance (Excluding Capacity Auction, Fuel and Retail Clawback) - Level Structure

Exhibit DT-2
WP DT-2/11

1	Requested Amount	True-up Final Order	1,493,747,264
2	ADFIT Benefit on Applicable Assets		<u>(488,882,759)</u>
		Sub-total	1,004,864,505
3	Projected Qualified Cost		18,000,000
4	Securitization Amount (including ADFIT Benefits)	Total	<u>1,022,864,505</u>

000066

WP DT-2/14

121	Jul-15					399,229,595	350,949,455	-	-	-	-	14,074,074
122	Aug-15					399,229,595	350,949,455	-	-	-	-	14,074,074
123	Sep-16					399,229,595	350,949,455	-	-	-	-	14,074,074
124	Oct-15					399,229,595	350,949,455	-	-	-	-	14,074,074
125	Nov-15					399,229,595	350,949,455	8,877,924	-	68,172,663	185,185	14,259,259
126	Dec-15	50,631,723	11.616%	9,692,033	2.224%	399,229,595	282,776,793	-	-	-	-	14,259,259
127	Jan-16					348,597,872	282,776,793	-	-	-	-	14,259,259
128	Feb-16					348,597,872	282,776,793	-	-	-	-	14,259,259
129	Mar-16					348,597,872	282,776,793	7,285,189	-	78,182,528	185,185	14,444,444
130	Apr-16					348,597,872	214,594,284	-	-	-	-	14,444,444
131	May-16					348,597,872	214,594,284	-	-	-	-	14,444,444
132	Jun-16	39,414,256	9.873%	6,503,370	2.130%	348,597,872	214,594,284	-	-	-	-	14,444,444
133	Jul-16					309,183,616	214,594,284	-	-	-	-	14,444,444
134	Aug-16					309,183,616	214,594,284	-	-	-	-	14,444,444
135	Sep-16					309,183,616	152,036,208	5,338,767	-	62,558,055	185,185	14,629,630
136	Oct-16					309,183,616	152,036,208	-	-	-	-	14,629,630
137	Nov-16					309,183,616	162,036,209	-	-	-	-	14,629,630
138	Dec-16	53,686,292	15.401%	7,578,054	2.174%	309,183,616	162,036,209	-	-	-	-	14,629,630
139	Jan-17					255,497,324	152,036,209	-	-	-	-	14,629,630
140	Feb-17					255,497,324	152,036,209	3,763,130	-	83,847,609	185,185	14,814,815
141	Mar-17					255,497,324	88,188,300	-	-	-	-	14,814,815
142	Apr-17					255,497,324	88,188,300	-	-	-	-	14,814,815
143	May-17					255,497,324	88,188,300	-	-	-	-	14,814,815
144	Jun-17	42,350,713	13.698%	6,317,680	2.043%	255,497,324	88,188,300	-	-	-	-	14,814,815
145	Jul-17					213,146,611	88,188,300	1,686,735	-	68,188,300	185,185	15,000,000
146	Aug-17					213,146,611	-	-	-	-	-	-
147	Sep-17					213,146,611	-	-	-	-	-	-
148	Oct-17					213,146,611	-	-	-	-	-	-
149	Nov-17					213,146,611	-	-	-	-	-	-
150	Dec-17	56,918,244	22.277%	5,303,745	2.076%	213,146,611	-	-	-	-	-	-
151	Jan-18					156,228,367	-	-	-	-	-	-
152	Feb-18					156,228,367	-	-	-	-	-	-
153	Mar-18					156,228,367	-	-	-	-	-	-
154	Apr-18					156,228,367	-	-	-	-	-	-
155	May-18					156,228,367	-	-	-	-	-	-
156	Jun-18	45,543,355	21.367%	3,887,444	1.824%	156,228,367	-	-	-	-	-	-
157	Jul-18					110,685,012	-	-	-	-	-	-
158	Aug-18					110,685,012	-	-	-	-	-	-
159	Sep-18					110,685,012	-	-	-	-	-	-
160	Oct-18					110,685,012	-	-	-	-	-	-
161	Nov-18					110,685,012	-	-	-	-	-	-
162	Dec-18	61,042,740	39.073%	2,754,185	1.763%	110,685,012	-	-	-	-	-	-
163	Jan-19					49,642,272	-	-	-	-	-	-
164	Feb-19					49,642,272	-	-	-	-	-	-
165	Mar-19					49,642,272	-	-	-	-	-	-
166	Apr-19					49,642,272	-	-	-	-	-	-
167	May-19					49,642,272	-	-	-	-	-	-
168	Jun-19	49,642,272	44.850%	1,235,253	1.116%	49,642,272	-	-	-	-	-	-
169	Jul-19					-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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total		1,022,864,505		396,851,114								
P&I total		1,419,715,619										

646,112,977 1,405,000,000

Class	Class Sizes	Coupon
1	193,000,000.00	3.1710%
2	280,000,000.00	3.9130%
3	116,000,000.00	4.2978%
4	504,000,000.00	4.6953%
5	312,000,000.00	4.9766%
6	-	0.0000%
7	-	0.0000%
8	-	0.0000%
9	-	0.0000%
10	-	0.0000%
Total Bond	1,405,000,000	4.3597%

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CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric

	Beginning EMC Balance	Accumulated Credits (Sept 04–May 05 estimated)	Remaining EMCs	ADFIT on Remaining EMCs (flowed to Exhibit DT-4)
Dec-03	(1,131,305,254)	334,847,980	(796,457,274)	(278,760,046)
Jan-04	(1,131,305,254)	349,358,556	(781,946,698)	(273,681,344)
Feb-04	(1,131,305,254)	363,033,543	(768,271,711)	(268,895,099)
Mar-04	(1,131,305,254)	377,485,223	(753,820,031)	(263,837,011)
Apr-04	(1,131,305,254)	391,121,589	(740,183,665)	(259,064,283)
May-04	(1,131,305,254)	406,554,828	(724,750,426)	(253,662,649)
Jun-04	(1,131,305,254)	425,109,206	(706,196,048)	(247,168,617)
Jul-04	(1,131,305,254)	446,850,009	(684,455,245)	(239,559,336)
Aug-04	(1,131,305,254)	469,676,132	(661,629,122)	(231,570,193)
Sep-04	(1,131,305,254)	485,089,941	(646,215,313)	(226,175,359)
Oct-04	(1,131,305,254)	500,503,751	(630,801,503)	(220,780,526)
Nov-04	(1,131,305,254)	515,917,560	(615,387,694)	(215,385,693)
Dec-04	(1,131,305,254)	531,331,369	(599,973,885)	(209,990,860)
Jan-05	(1,131,305,254)	546,745,179	(584,560,075)	(204,596,026)
Feb-05	(1,131,305,254)	562,158,988	(569,146,266)	(199,201,193)
Mar-05	(1,131,305,254)	577,572,797	(553,732,457)	(193,806,360)
Apr-05	(1,131,305,254)	592,986,607	(538,318,647)	(188,411,527)
May-05	(1,131,305,254)	608,400,416	(522,904,838)	(183,016,693)

Estimate of monthly decline in EMCs

Aug-03	(1,131,305,254)	267,830,544		
Sep-03	(1,131,305,254)	288,614,309	-1.84%	
Oct-03	(1,131,305,254)	306,070,663	-1.54%	
Nov-03	(1,131,305,254)	320,836,361	-1.31%	
Dec-03	(1,131,305,254)	334,847,980	-1.24%	
Jan-04	(1,131,305,254)	349,358,556	-1.28%	
Feb-04	(1,131,305,254)	363,033,543	-1.21%	
Mar-04	(1,131,305,254)	377,485,223	-1.28%	
Apr-04	(1,131,305,254)	391,121,589	-1.21%	
May-04	(1,131,305,254)	406,554,828	-1.36%	
Average monthly reduction in EMCs (applied as estimate for Sept '04 thru May '05)			-1.36%	

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