CenterPoint Energy, Inc. is a holding company for Houston Electric, which serves 2.7 million customers in Houston and environs, Indiana Electric, which serves 150,000 customers, and gas utilities with 4.2 million customers in Texas, Minnesota, Louisiana, Mississippi, Indiana, and Ohio. Acquired Vectren 2/19.

The company has completed its exit from its midstream natural gas investment. The sale of the company’s units in Energy Transfer acquires $1.3 billion after taxes. This is being used for debt reduction and capital spending. The net effect of the sale boosted earnings by $0.05 a share in the first quarter, which we included in our quarterly report because of its effect.

In Minnesota, CenterPoint reached a settlement calling for a $48.5 million gas rate increase, based on a 9.39% return on equity. An order from the state commission is expected in the third quarter. In Texas, Houston Electric is seeking $146 million to cover the costs of building a new gas plant.