

If you are requesting a new vendor, complete this W-9 or attach a W-9 to your request. Detailed instructions are available at www.irs.gov.

Substitute for IRS form <b style="font-size: 2em;">W-9	<b style="font-size: 1.2em;">CenterPoint Energy <b style="font-size: 1.2em;">Request for Taxpayer <b style="font-size: 1.2em;">Identification Number and Certification	Give form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.
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Name (as shown on your income tax return)

Business name, if different from above

Check the appropriate box:

Individual/Sole proprietor	Corporation	Partnership	Exempt payee
Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (D=disregarded entity, C=corporation, P=partnership) _____			
Other (see instructions)			

Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and address (optional)
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City, state, and ZIP code	
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List account number(s) here (optional)

Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on Line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part L instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see How to get a TIN on page 3.

Note. If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose **Employer identification number** to enter.

	Social security number _____
	Employer identification number _____

CERTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS - You must cross out item 2 below if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because of underreporting of interest or dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, the acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement account (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the Certification, but you must provide your correct TIN.

SECTION II - CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the IRS that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of failure to report all interest and dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
3. I am a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien).

The Internal Revenue Service does not require your consent to any provision of this document other than the certifications required to avoid backup withholding.

Signature of U.S. person	Date
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Name	Title	Telephone number	Fax number
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