

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):

March 26, 2007

CenturyTel, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Louisiana
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

1-7784
(Commission File Number)

72-0651161
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

100 CenturyTel Drive, Monroe, Louisiana 71203
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (318) 388-9000

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- ☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item Financial Statements and Exhibits
9.01

(d) Exhibits

12 Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges

SIGNATURES

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

CENTURYTEL, INC.

Dated: March 26, 2007

By: /s/ Neil A. Sweasy

Neil A. Sweasy
Vice President and
Controller

Ratio of earnings from continuing operations to fixed charges and preferred stock dividends

	Twelve months ended Dec. 31 2006	Twelve months ended Dec. 31 2005	Twelve months ended Dec. 31 2004	Twelve months ended Dec. 31 2003	Twelve months ended Dec. 31 2002
Income from continuing operations	370,027	334,479	337,244	344,707	193,533
Income taxes from continuing operations	<u>221,122</u>	<u>203,291</u>	<u>210,128</u>	<u>187,252</u>	<u>105,505</u>
Net income from continuing operations before income taxes	591,149	537,770	547,372	531,959	299,038
Adjustments to earnings (from continuing operations):					
Fixed charges	198,479	205,270	212,427	227,853	223,689
Capitalized interest	(1,905)	(2,826)	(762)	(488)	(1,230)
Preferred stock dividend requirement, before tax	<u>(617)</u>	<u>(643)</u>	<u>(614)</u>	<u>(614)</u>	<u>(614)</u>
Earnings from continuing operations, as adjusted	<u><u>787,106</u></u>	<u><u>739,571</u></u>	<u><u>758,423</u></u>	<u><u>758,710</u></u>	<u><u>520,883</u></u>
Fixed charges from continuing operations:					
Interest expense	195,957	201,801	211,051	226,751	221,845
Capitalized interest	1,905	2,826	762	488	1,230
Preferred stock dividend requirement, before tax	<u>617</u>	<u>643</u>	<u>614</u>	<u>614</u>	<u>614</u>
Total fixed charges	<u><u>198,479</u></u>	<u><u>205,270</u></u>	<u><u>212,427</u></u>	<u><u>227,853</u></u>	<u><u>223,689</u></u>
Ratio of earnings from continuing operations to fixed charges and preferred stock dividends	3.97	3.60	3.57	3.33	2.33