

CENTURYTEL INC  
Form 4  
August 17, 2005

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
PUCKETT KAREN A

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
100 CENTURYTEL DRIVE  
(Street)

MONROE, LA 71203

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
CENTURYTEL INC [CTL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
08/16/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
President & COO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price                                |   |  |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 51,417.74   | D  |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 200   | I  | As Custodian For Child                     |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 436.92  | I  | By 401(k) <u>(1)</u>                       |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 993.06  | I  | By ESOP <u>(2)</u>                         |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 15.2  | I  | By Stock Bonus Plan                        |

(3)

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount       |                  |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|--------------|------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)  | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title        | Number of Shares |
| Phantom Stock Units                        | (4)  | 08/16/2005                           |  | A                              | 989.6  | (5)  | (5)   | Common Stock | 989              |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 29.19   |                                      |  |                                |  | (6)  | 07/25/2010  | Common Stock | 100,000          |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 28.03   |                                      |  |                                |  | 05/21/2002(7)  | 05/21/2011  | Common Stock | 50,000           |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 32.99   |                                      |  |                                |  | 02/25/2003(8)  | 02/25/2012  | Common Stock | 120,000          |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 27.48   |                                      |  |                                |  | 02/24/2004(9)  | 02/24/2013  | Common Stock | 49,900           |
| Employee Stock Option                      | \$ 28.34   |                                      |  |                                |  | 02/25/2004   | 02/25/2014  | Common Stock | 75,000           |

