

CENTURYLINK, INC  
Form 8-K  
February 13, 2013

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

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

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): February 13, 2013

**CENTURYLINK, INC.**

(Exact Name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Louisiana**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-7784**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**72-0651161**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**100 CenturyLink Drive**  
**Monroe, Louisiana**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**(318) 388-9000**

**71203**  
(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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))

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**Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.**

On February 13, 2013, CenturyLink, Inc. ( CenturyLink or we or us or our ) issued a press release announcing operating results for the fourth quarter and full year of 2012. This press release is included as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On February 13, 2013, we issued a press release announcing changes in our capital allocation plans, including the authorization of a new stock repurchase program. This press release is included as Exhibit 99.2.

**Forward Looking Statements**

*Certain non-historical statements made in this release and future oral or written statements or press releases by us or our management are intended to be forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements are based on current expectations only, and are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, many of which are beyond our control. Actual events and results may differ materially from those anticipated, estimated or projected if one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or if underlying assumptions prove incorrect. Factors that could affect actual results include but are not limited to: the timing, success and overall effects of competition from a wide variety of competitive providers; the risks inherent in rapid technological change; the effects of ongoing changes in the regulation of the communications industry (including those arising out of the Federal Communications Commission's October 27, 2011 order regarding intercarrier compensation and the Universal Service Fund, among other things); our ability to successfully negotiate collective bargaining agreements on reasonable terms without work stoppage; our ability to effectively adjust to changes in the communications industry and changes in the composition of our markets and product mix caused by our recent acquisitions; our ability to successfully integrate the recently-acquired operations into our incumbent operations, including the possibility that the anticipated benefits from these acquisitions cannot be fully realized in a timely manner or at all, or that integrating the acquired operations will be more difficult, disruptive or costly than anticipated; our ability to use the net operating loss carryovers of Qwest in projected amounts; our ability to effectively manage our expansion opportunities, including retaining and hiring key personnel; possible changes in the demand for, or pricing of, our products and services; our ability to successfully introduce new product or service offerings on a timely and cost-effective basis; our continued access to credit markets on favorable terms; our ability to collect our receivables from financially troubled communications companies; any adverse developments in legal proceedings involving us; our ability to pay common share dividends in amounts previously indicated, which may be affected by changes in our cash requirements, capital spending plans, cash flows or financial position; unanticipated increases or other changes in our future cash requirements, whether caused by unanticipated increases in capital expenditures, increases in pension funding requirements or otherwise; our ability to successfully negotiate collective bargaining agreements on reasonable terms without work stoppages; the effects of adverse weather; other risks referenced from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC); and the effects of more general factors such as changes in interest rates, in tax rates, in accounting policies or practices, in operating, medical, pension or administrative costs, in general market, labor or economic conditions, or in legislation, regulation or public policy. These and other uncertainties related to our business and our recent acquisitions are described in greater detail in Item 1A to our Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2012, as updated and supplemented by our subsequent SEC reports. You should be aware that new factors may emerge from time to time and it is not possible for us to identify all such factors nor can we predict the impact of each such factor on the business or the extent to which any one or more factors may cause actual results to differ from those reflected in any forward-looking statements. You are further cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this release. We undertake no obligation to update any of our forward-looking statements for any reason.*

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

**(d) Exhibits**

The exhibit to this current report on Form 8-K is listed in the Exhibit Index, which appears at the end of this report and is incorporated by reference herein.

**SIGNATURES**

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

**CenturyLink, Inc.**

Dated: February 13, 2013

By: /s/ David D. Cole  
David D. Cole  
Senior Vice President - Controller  
and Operations Support

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| Exhibit No   | Description   |
|--------------|---|
| Exhibit 99.1 | Press release dated February 13, 2013, reporting fourth quarter and full year of 2012 operating results.  |
| Exhibit 99.2 | Press release dated February 13, 2013, announcing changes in our capital allocation plans, including the authorization of a new stock repurchase program. |