

EWING R STEWART JR  
 Form 4  
 March 19, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
 EWING R STEWART JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 CENTURYLINK, INC., 100  
 CENTURYLINK DRIVE  
 (Street)

MONROE, LA 71203

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 03/15/2012

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)  
 Ex. VP & CFO

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount (D) Price		
Common Stock	03/15/2012		D		855 <sup>(1)</sup> D \$ 0	200,855.4825	D
Common Stock	03/15/2012		F		7,198 D \$ 39.21	193,657.4825	D
Common Stock						1,694.8336	I By 401(k) plan
Common Stock						9,131.8152	I By ESOP
Common Stock						1,889.5702	I By PAYSOP
						8,795.5777	I

Common  
Stock

By Stock  
Bonus  
Plan

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

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(9-02)

**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 Acquired (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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 5)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
EWING R STEWART JR CENTURYLINK, INC. 100 CENTURYLINK DRIVE MONROE, LA 71203			Ex. VP & CFO	

## Signatures

/s/ Jennifer A. D'Alessandro, as attorney-in-fact  
 \*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
 03/19/2012  
 Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) In a Form 4 filed on March 10, 2010, the reporting person reported the grant of 42,746 shares of restricted stock, 21,373 of which would vest based upon achievement of performance conditions related to the issuer's total shareholder return over specified time periods. On March 15, 2012, the issuer determined that the performance conditions for the first of the two vesting dates had been satisfied at 92% and,

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as a result, 92% of the first tranche was vested and the remainder was forfeited.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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