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CENTURYTEL

August 14, 2002

BY HAND DELIVERY

Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary
Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20549

Re: CenturyTel, Inc. – Sworn Statements of Principal Executive Officer and
Principal Financial Officer

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the Order of the Securities and Exchange Commission dated June 27, 2002 (File No. 4-460) requiring the filing of sworn statements pursuant to Section 21(a)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, enclosed on behalf of the Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer of CenturyTel, Inc. are the following original documents:

1. Statement Under Oath executed by Glen F. Post, III, Principal Executive Officer of CenturyTel, Inc.
2. Statement Under Oath executed by R. Stewart Ewing, Jr., Principal Financial Officer of CenturyTel, Inc.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter and its enclosures by stamping and returning the enclosed copy of the letter in the self-addressed envelope provided. Please contact the undersigned at (318) 388-9000, if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours truly yours,

Harvey P. Perry

Harvey P. Perry
Executive Vice President
and General Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Glen F. Post, III
R. Stewart Ewing, Jr.
Kenneth J. Najder

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**Statement Under Oath of Principal Financial Officer
Regarding Facts and Circumstances Relating to Exchange Act Filings**

I, R. Stewart Ewing, Jr., state and attest that:

(1) To the best of my knowledge, based upon a review of the covered reports of CenturyTel, Inc., and, except as corrected or supplemented in a subsequent covered report:

- no covered report contained an untrue statement of a material fact as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed); and
- no covered report omitted to state a material fact necessary to make the statements in the covered report, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading as of the end of the period covered by such report (or in the case of a report on Form 8-K or definitive proxy materials, as of the date on which it was filed).

(2) I have reviewed the contents of this statement with the Company's audit committee.

(3) In this statement under oath, each of the following, if filed on or before the date of this statement, is a "covered report."

- the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001 of CenturyTel, Inc.;
- all reports on Form 10-Q, all reports on Form 8-K and all definitive proxy materials of CenturyTel, Inc. filed with the Commission subsequent to the filing of the Form 10-K identified above; and
- any amendments to any of the foregoing.

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 14th day of August, 2002

R. Stewart Ewing, Jr.
R. Stewart Ewing, Jr.
August 14, 2002

Kathy Littleton
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: *at death*

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