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: December 21, 2005

(Date of earliest event reported)

VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-8606 (Commission File Number) 23-2259884 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1095 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York (Address of principal executive offices)

10036 (*Zip Code*)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (212) 395-2121

Not applicable

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

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 8.01 Other Events.

Attached as an exhibit is a press release dated December 21, 2005 issued by Verizon Communications Inc. (Verizon) regarding Verizon s response to Moody s announcement on December 21, 2005.

SIGNATURE

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, thereunto duly authorized.

Verizon Communications Inc. (Registrant)

Date: December 21, 2005 /s/ Thomas A. Bartlett
Thomas A. Bartlett

Senior Vice President and Controller

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit

Number Description 99 Press release dated December 21, 2005 issued by Verizon Communications Inc. (Verizon) regarding Verizon s response to

Moody s announcement on December 21, 2005.