

JOHNSON JOEL W
Form 4
April 27, 2011

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 *
JOHNSON JOEL W

(Last) (First) (Middle)

THE HORMEL
FOUNDATION, 301 N. MAIN
STREET

(Street)

AUSTIN, MN 55912

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ECOLAB INC [ECL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
04/25/2011

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)

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | |
| Common Stock | 04/25/2011 | | M | A | 3,542 | \$ 42.905 | 94,852.82 D |
| Common Stock | 04/25/2011 | | F ⁽¹⁾ | D | 2,934 | \$ 51.795 | 91,918.82 D |
| Common Stock | 04/25/2011 | | M | A | 1,522 | \$ 42.905 | 93,440.82 D |
| Common Stock | 04/25/2011 | | F ⁽¹⁾ | D | 1,260 | \$ 51.795 | 92,363.106 <u>(2)</u> D |

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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Non-employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 42.905 | 04/25/2011 | | M | 3,542 | 05/04/2007 05/11/2011 | Common Stock | 3,542 |
| Non-employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 42.905 | 04/25/2011 | | M | 1,522 | 05/04/2007 11/01/2011 | Common Stock | 1,522 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| JOHNSON JOEL W THE HORMEL FOUNDATION 301 N. MAIN STREET AUSTIN, MN 55912 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, as Attorney-in-Fact for Joel W. Johnson

04/27/2011

**Signature of Reporting Person

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)

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Reflects the reporting person's payment of the exercise price for a stock option issued in accordance with rule 16b-3 by withholding shares of Ecolab Common Stock.

- (2) Includes 182.284 shares acquired 04/20/11 by dividend reinvestment under the Dividend Reinvestment Plan for shareholders of Ecolab sponsored by Computershare Trust Company, Inc.

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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