

ECOLAB INC.  
Form 4  
March 29, 2016

**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 \*  
JOHNSON JOEL W

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O ECOLAB INC., 370  
WABASHA STREET NORTH

(Street)

SAINT PAUL, MN 55102

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
03/28/2016

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 |   |        |            | 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |                             |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------|---|--------|------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                | V | Amount | (A) or (D) |   |  |                                   | Price                       |
| Common Stock                    | 02/17/2016                           |  | G                   | V | 4,260  | D          | \$ 0  | 5,302  | I                                 | By Elizabeth Johnson GRAT I |
| Common Stock                    | 02/17/2016                           |  | G                   | V | 4,260  | A          | \$ 0  | 70,747.76  | D                                 |                             |
| Common Stock                    | 02/17/2016                           |  | G                   | V | 4,260  | D          | \$ 0  | 5,302  | I                                 | By Joel Johnson GRAT I      |
| Common Stock                    | 02/17/2016                           |  | G                   | V | 4,260  | A          | \$ 0  | 75,007.76  | D                                 |                             |

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|              |            |                  |       |   |            |           |   |
|--------------|------------|------------------|-------|---|------------|-----------|---|
| Common Stock | 03/28/2016 | M                | 4,800 | A | \$ 37.905  | 79,807.76 | D |
| Common Stock | 03/28/2016 | F <sup>(1)</sup> | 1,647 | D | \$ 110.405 | 78,160.76 | D |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

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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) |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Non-Employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$ 37.905  | 03/28/2016                           |  | M                              | 4,800   | 05/12/2006 05/12/2016                                    | Common Stock 4,800  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| JOHNSON JOEL W<br>C/O ECOLAB INC.<br>370 WABASHA STREET NORTH<br>SAINT PAUL, MN 55102 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

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

03/29/2016

\_\_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) Reflects the reporting person's payment of the exercise price for a stock option issued in accordance with Rule 16b-3 by delivering or withholding shares of Ecolab common stock.

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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