JOHNSON JOEL W Form 4 April 27, 2011

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

Number:

Expires:

3235-0287 January 31,

2005

0.5

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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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * JOHNSON JOEL W			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last) THE HORMI FOUNDATIONSTREET		(Middle) MAIN	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 04/25/2011	_X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specifically)		
AUSTIN, MN	(Street) N 55912		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
	(6					

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	e I - Non-E	Derivative	Secu	rities Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)			d of (D)	5. Amount of 6. Securities Ownership Beneficially Form: Direct Owned (D) or Following Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	(Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	04/25/2011		M	3,542	A	\$ 42.905	94,852.82	D	
Common Stock	04/25/2011		F(1)	2,934	D	\$ 51.795	91,918.82	D	
Common Stock	04/25/2011		M	1,522	A	\$ 42.905	93,440.82	D	
Common Stock	04/25/2011		F(1)	1,260	D	\$ 51.795	92,363.106 (2)	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

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 proof 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 Amou Underlying Securit (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Shar
Non-employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 42.905	04/25/2011		M	3,542	05/04/2007	05/11/2011	Common Stock	3,5
Non-employee Director Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 42.905	04/25/2011		M	1,522	05/04/2007	11/01/2011	Common Stock	1,5

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. 04/27/2011 Johnson

> **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)

Reporting Owners 2

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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.

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