ECOLAB INC Form 4 March 02, 2010

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or GES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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

1(0).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * LUMPKINS ROBERT L			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
			ECOLAB INC [ECL]	(Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction			
ECOLAB INC STREET N	., 370 WAB	ASHA	(Month/Day/Year) 03/01/2010	X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
SAINT PAUL, MN 55102			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acc	quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned		

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) Transaction Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)				5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)	(======================================		
Common Stock	03/01/2010		M	16,000	A	\$ 20.2344	36,820.6	D		
Common Stock	03/01/2010		F <u>(1)</u>	7,672	D	\$ 42.195	29,148.6	D		

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

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SEC 1474

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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 or 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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 20.2344	03/01/2010		M	16,000 (2)	05/12/2000	05/12/2010	Common Stock	16,000 (2)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
Toporoug o water tune / Trust ess	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
LUMPKINS ROBERT L							
ECOLAB INC.	v						
370 WABASHA STREET N	X						
SAINT PAUL, MN 55102							

Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Robert L.
Lumpkins 03/02/2010

**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 and withholding taxes for a stock option issued in accordance with Rule 16b-3 by delivering or withholding shares of Ecolab Common Stock.
- (2) The exercise price for the stock option has been halved and the number of shares subject to the option doubled to reflect a 2-for-1 stock split paid June 6, 2003 subsequent to the original reporting of the option.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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