ECOLAB INC Form 4 January 04, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL OMB

Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

response...

if no longer

Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box

subject to

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

1(b).

(Last)

(City)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * HIGGINS ARTHUR J

(First)

(State)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

ECOLAB INC [ECL]

(Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2011

Issuer

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

C/O ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA ST. N

> (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

(Middle)

(Zip)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

_X__ Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

ST. PAUL, MN 55102

		Tuble 1 Tion 2011 and 6 Security 120 quite and 5 to proceed 61, 61 2011 and 61								
1.Title of Security	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if	3.	4. Securities Acquired (A) ransaction Disposed of (D)			5. Amount of Securities	6. Ownership	7. Nature of Indirect	
(Instr. 3)	(Month Day Tear)	any	Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Beneficially	Form:	Beneficial		
(msu. 3)		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(111311. 3,	i una .	3)	Owned	Direct (D)	Ownership	
							Following	or Indirect	(Instr. 4)	
					(A)		Reported	(I)		
					or		Transaction(s)	(Instr. 4)		
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)			
Common Stock	12/31/2011		A	183.84	A	\$ 0	8,959.69	D		
Common Stock	12/31/2011		A	400.12	A	\$ 57.795	9,370.13 (1)	D		

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Edgar Filing: ECOLAB INC - Form 4

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exer		7. Title		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secur
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
					(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Exercisable	Date	Title	Number		
						LACICISADIC	Date		of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
reporting Owner France / Francess	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
HIGGINS ARTHUR J C/O ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA ST. N ST. PAUL, MN 55102	X					

Signatures

David F. Duvick, as Attorney-in-Fact for Arthur J. 01/04/2012 Higgins

> **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).
- Includes 10.32 shares acquired pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Ecolab Inc. 2001 Non-Employee Director Stock Option and Deferred Compensation Plan.

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.

Reporting Owners 2