Taylor Stephen M Form 3 May 10, 2012 FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0104

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 <u>*</u> Taylor Stephen M			2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year)		3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]				
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	05/01/2012		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	
1601 WEST	DIEHL RO	DAD							
(Street)					(Check all applicable)			6. Individual or Joint/Group	
NAPERVILL	E, IL (50563			Director X Officer (give title below EVP and Pre	Other	ow)	Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Т	fable I - N	on-Derivat	ive Securiti	es Be	neficially Owned	
1.Title of Securi (Instr. 4)	ty		F	2. Amount of Beneficially (Instr. 4)		3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nat Owne (Instr.	•	
Common Sto	ck		e	5,272		D	Â		
Reminder: Repor owned directly o	r indirectly. Persor inform require	ns who resp ation conta ed to respo	ch class of securi bond to the col lined in this for nd unless the f //B control num	llection of rm are not form displa	5	EC 1473 (7-02)		

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security		4. Conversion or Exercise	5. Ownership Form of	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
			(Instr. 4)		Price of	Derivative	(Instr. 5)	
	Date Exercisable Exp	Evairation	Title	Amount or Number of	Derivative	Security:		
	1	1			Security	Direct (D)		
	Dat	Date				or Indirect		

January 31,

2005

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Expires:

response...

Estimated average burden hours per

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				Shares		(I) (Instr. 5)	
Restricted Stock Units	(1)	(1)	Common Stock	12,155	\$ <u>(1)</u>	D	Â
Restricted Stock Units	(2)	(2)	Common Stock	9,490	\$ <u>(2)</u>	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2011 <u>(3)</u>	06/28/2016	Common Stock	5,594	\$ 26.2	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2011 <u>(3)</u>	02/15/2007	Common Stock	5,261	\$ 35.34	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2011 <u>(3)</u>	02/14/2018	Common Stock	13,297	\$ 30.1	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2011 <u>(3)</u>	02/12/2019	Common Stock	13,682	\$ 17.55	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2011 <u>(3)</u>	02/09/2020	Common Stock	7,776	\$ 32.35	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2011 <u>(3)</u>	02/08/2021	Common Stock	9,535	\$ 40.53	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2012(4)	12/01/2021	Common Stock	28,800	\$ 55.595	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2014	12/01/2021	Common Stock	38,400	\$ 55.595	D	Â
Restricted Stock Units	12/01/2014 <u>(5)</u>	(5)	Common Stock	9,220	\$ <u>(5)</u>	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
1 8	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Taylor Stephen M 1601 WEST DIEHL ROAD NAPERVILLE, IL 60563	Â	Â	\hat{A} EVP and Pres Global Energy	Â		

Signatures

David F. Duvick, as Attorney-in-Fact for Stephen M. Taylor	05/10/2012	
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date	

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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) The units will vest on February 28, 2013, subject to continued employment at the vesting date. Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Ecolab Inc. common stock.

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(2) The units will vest on February 28, 2014, subject to continued employment at the vesting date. Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Ecolab Inc. common stock.

These options originally represented the option to purchase shares of common stock of Nalco Holding Company ("Nalco") and had a variety of vesting schedules. All options that were unvested as of November 30, 2011 were accelerated pursuant to Mr. Taylor's Change

(3) of Control Agreement with Nalco upon closing of the merger on December 1, 2011 by and among Ecolab Inc., Sustainability Partners Corporation and Nalco. The options were converted into options to purchase shares of Ecolab Inc. common stock pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of July 19, 2011 among Ecolab Inc., Sustainability Partners Corporation and Nalco.

The option will be exercisable, on a cumulative basis, as to one-third of the option shares (excluding any fractional portion less than one(4) share), on each of the first and second anniversaries of the date of grant and as to the remaining shares on the third anniversary of the date of grant.

(5) The units will vest on December 1, 2014, subject to continued employment at the vesting date. Each restricted stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Ecolab Inc. 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. 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.