ECOLAB INC Form 4 July 31, 2009

### 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 Expires: January 31,

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BAKER DOUGLAS M JR			2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N.			(Month/Day/Year) 07/30/2009	_X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) below)  Chairman, President & CEO		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
ST. PAUL	., MN 55102		Filed(Month/Day/Year)  Applicable Line)  _X_ Form filed by One Reporting F  Form filed by More than One R  Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities A	cquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned		
1 Title of	2 Transaction	Date 2Δ Deer	ned 3 4 Securities Acquired (	(A) 5 Amount of 6 7 Natur		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) 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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit our Dispos (Instr. 3, 4	ed of	` ′	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	07/30/2009		M	12,000	A	\$ 19.9219	137,618.489	D	
Common Stock	07/30/2009		F(1)	8,428	D	\$ 41.45	129,747.215 (2)	D	
Common Stock							4,987.187 <u>(3)</u>	I	By Ecolab Savings Plan

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 (9-02)

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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 orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	erivative Expiration Date ecurities (Month/Day/Year) cquired (A) Disposed of O) nstr. 3, 4,		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securition (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 19.9219	07/30/2009		D	12,000	08/13/2000(4)	08/13/2009	Common Stock	12,0

#### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
Topolong of the family frauess	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BAKER DOUGLAS M JR ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102	X		Chairman, President & CEO				

### **Signatures**

/s/ David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Douglas M. 07/31/2009 Baker, Jr.

# \*\*Signature of Reporting Person 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.

Date

- Includes 502.724 shares acquired by reporting person on January 21, 2009, 27.180 shares acquired on April 20, 2009, and 26.822 shares acquired on July 20, 2009 by dividend reinvestment under the Dividend Reinvestment Plan for shareholders of Ecolab sponsored by Computershare Trust Company, Inc.
- Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of June 30, 2009. Includes 37.695 UNITS (3) acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 4,987.187 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 9,329 SHARES of the issuer's Common Stock.)

Reporting Owners 2

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Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 1997 Stock Incentive Plan on August 13, 1999. The option was originally reported as covering 6,000 shares at an exercise price of \$39.84375 but has been adjusted to reflect a stock split on June 6, 2003. The option became exercisable, cumulatively, as to 25% of the total shares subject to the option (excluding any fractional portion less than one share) on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant and as to the remaing shares on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant.

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.