ECOLAB INC Form 4

December 17, 2007

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BAKER DOUGLAS M JR			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an applicable)		
ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N.		BASHA	(Month/Day/Year) 12/14/2007	_X_ Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify 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 Person Form filed by More than One Reportin Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivative	Secur	ities Acqui	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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit or 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	12/14/2007		M	85,295	A	\$ 24.34	185,591.081	D	
Common Stock	12/14/2007		F(1)	59,544	D	\$ 51.445	126,047.081	D	
Common Stock							4,785.01 (2)	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 SEC 1474 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 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 Ar Underlying Se (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title
Common Stock	\$ 24.34 (3)	12/05/2002		M		85,295 (3)	12/05/2003(3)	12/05/2012	Common Stock
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 51.445	12/14/2007		A	59,544		12/14/2007	12/05/2012	Common Stock

Reporting Owners

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

Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Douglas M. 12/17/2007 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).
- 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 and withholding shares of Ecolab Common Stock.
- The reporting person indirectly holds 4,785.010 UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of October 31, 2007. (The 4,785.010 UNITS are equivalent to approximately 8,933 SHARES of Common Stock.)

Date

(3) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2002 Stock Incentive Plan on December 5, 2002. The option was originally reported as covering 110,000 shares at an exercise price of \$48.68 but has been adjusted to reflect a stock split on June 6, 2003, and the subsequent exercise of 49,410 shares on June 13, 2007. The option became exercisable, cumulatively, as to one-third of the total shares subject to the option on

Reporting Owners 2

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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.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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