ECOLAB INC Form 4 July 28, 2005

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Washington, D.C. 20549

January 31, Expires: 2005

Form 5 obligations

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * LEWIS DIANA D			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 STREET N.	ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N.		(Month/Day/Year) 07/28/2005	Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) SVP - Human Resources			
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person			
ST. PAUL, MN 55102				Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Ac	quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned			

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	e I - Non-E	Derivative S	Securi	ities Acqu	ired, Disposed of	f, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit on(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4)	sposed	of (D)	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	07/28/2005		M	30,800	A	\$ 6.703	88,007.704	D	
Common Stock	07/28/2005		F(1)	14,524	D	\$ 33.93	73,483.704	D	
Common Stock							11,477.397 (2)	I	By the 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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative 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
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) (3)	\$ 6.703	07/28/2005		M	30,800	08/18/1996	08/18/2005	Common Stock	30,800

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

LEWIS DIANA D ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102

SVP - Human Resources

Signatures

/s/David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Diana D.

Lewis 07/28/2005

**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.
- Additionally, reporting person indirectly holds 11,477.397 UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as (2) of June 30, 2005, including 203.754 units acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 11,477.397 units are the equivalent to approximately 20,705 shares of the issuer's Common Stock.)
- (3) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 1993 Stock Incentive Plan on August 18, 1995. The option was originally reported as covering 15,400 shares at an exercise price of \$13.40625 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 on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date

Reporting Owners 2

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of grant and as to the remaining shares on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant.

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