

Bailard Inc. Sells 75,100 Shares of Ecopetrol SA (EC)

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Bailard Inc. decreased its position in Ecopetrol SA (NYSE:EC) by 45.9% during the 1st quarter, according to the company in its most recent disclosure with the Securities & Exchange Commission. The fund owned 88,550 shares of the oil and gas company's stock after selling 75,100 shares during the period. Bailard Inc.'s holdings in Ecopetrol were worth \$1,899,000 at the end of the most recent quarter.

Other institutional investors have also recently bought and sold shares of the company. Bank of New York Mellon Corp lifted its stake in Ecopetrol by 6.2% in the third quarter. Bank of New York Mellon Corp now owns 265,703 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$7,155,000 after buying an additional 15,602 shares during the period. BlackRock Inc. lifted its stake in Ecopetrol by 12.7% in the third quarter. BlackRock Inc. now owns 1,325,332 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$35,691,000 after buying an additional 149,455 shares during the period. Credit Suisse AG lifted its stake in Ecopetrol by 39.3% in the third quarter. Credit Suisse AG now owns 49,314 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$1,327,000 after buying an additional 13,915 shares during the period. JPMorgan Chase & Co. raised its position in shares of Ecopetrol by 1,014.4% during the third quarter. JPMorgan Chase & Co. now owns 180,828 shares of the oil and gas company's stock worth \$4,870,000 after purchasing an additional 164,602 shares during the period. Finally, LPL Financial LLC acquired a new stake in shares of Ecopetrol during the third quarter worth about \$898,000.

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NYSE EC opened at \$18.89 on Friday. The stock has a market cap of \$39.92 billion, a PE ratio of 10.86, a price-to-earnings-growth ratio of 0.63 and a beta of 1.57. The company has a current ratio of 1.52, a quick ratio of 1.23 and a debt-to-equity ratio of 0.60. Ecopetrol SA has a one year low of \$15.25 and a one year high of \$27.96.

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Ecopetrol (NYSE:EC) last released its quarterly earnings results on Friday, April 5th. The oil and gas company reported \$0.38 EPS for the quarter. The company had revenue of \$6.02 billion for the quarter. Ecopetrol had a return on equity of 10.61% and a net margin of 16.70%. Research analysts anticipate that Ecopetrol SA will post 1.77 earnings per share for the current fiscal year.

The company also recently disclosed a special dividend, which will be paid on Friday, May 3rd. Investors of record on Wednesday, April 24th will be issued a dividend of \$0.3595 per share. The ex-dividend date is Tuesday, April 23rd. This represents a dividend yield of 2.95%. Ecopetrol's payout ratio is presently 62.64%.

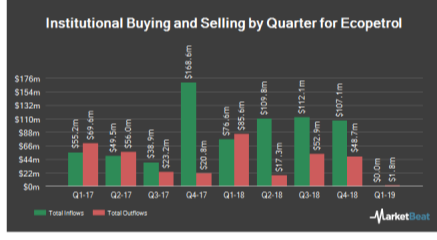
A number of equities research analysts have recently commented on EC shares. Santander raised Ecopetrol from an "underperform" rating to a "hold" rating in a research report on Wednesday, March 6th. Zacks Investment Research raised Ecopetrol from a "strong sell" rating to a "hold" rating in a research report on Friday, February 15th. ValueEngine raised Ecopetrol from a "sell" rating to a "hold" rating in a research report on Monday, February 4th. Finally, JPMorgan Chase & Co. raised Ecopetrol from an "underweight" rating to a "neutral" rating and set a \$20.00 price target on the stock in a research report on Friday, April 5th. One equities research analyst has rated the stock with a sell rating and seven have issued a hold rating to the company. The stock currently has an average rating of "Hold" and a consensus price target of \$23.33.

Ecopetrol Profile

Ecopetrol SA operates as an integrated oil and gas company. The company operates through three segments: Exploration and Production; Transport and Logistics; and Refining, Petrochemical, and Biofuels. It produces crude oil and gas; and engages in the extraction, collection, treatment, storage, commercialization, and pumping.

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Want to see what other hedge funds are holding EC? Visit [HoldingsChannel.com](#) to get the latest 13F filings and insider trades for Ecopetrol SA (NYSE:EC).



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