

\$0.37 Earnings Per Share Expected for Ecopetrol SA (EC) This Quarter

Posted by Irma Garcia on Apr 26th, 2019



Wall Street analysts predict that Ecopetrol SA (NYSE:EC) will announce earnings of \$0.37 per share for the current quarter, Zacks Investment Research reports. Two analysts have provided estimates for

Ecopetrol's earnings, with the lowest EPS estimate coming in at \$0.32 and the highest estimate coming in at \$0.45. Ecopetrol reported earnings of \$0.45 per share during the same quarter last year, which indicates a negative year-over-year growth rate of 17.8%. The business is expected to issue its next earnings report on Tuesday, May 14th.

According to Zacks, analysts expect that Ecopetrol will report full year earnings of \$1.77 per share for the current fiscal year, with EPS estimates ranging from \$1.58 to \$1.94. For the next fiscal year, analysts anticipate that the business will report earnings of \$2.47 per share, with EPS estimates ranging from \$1.76 to \$3.72. Zacks Investment Research's EPS averages are a mean average based on a survey of sell-side analysts that cover Ecopetrol.

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Ecopetrol (NYSE:EC) last posted its quarterly earnings data on Friday, April 5th. The oil and gas company reported \$0.38 EPS for the quarter. Ecopetrol had a return on equity of 10.61% and a net margin of 16.70%. The company had revenue of \$6.02 billion during the quarter.

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A number of equities research analysts have recently issued reports on the company. ValuEngine lowered Ecopetrol from a "hold" rating to a "sell" rating in a research report on Friday, April 19th. Zacks Investment Research upgraded Ecopetrol from a "strong sell" rating to a "hold" rating in a research report on Friday, February 15th. Santander upgraded Ecopetrol from an "underperform" rating to a "hold" rating in a research report on Wednesday, March 6th. Finally, JPMorgan

Chase & Co. upgraded Ecopetrol from an "underweight" rating to a "neutral" rating and set a \$20.00 price objective for the company in a research report on Friday, April 5th. One equities research analyst has rated the stock with a sell rating and seven have given a hold rating to the company's stock. The stock has a consensus rating of "Hold" and an average price target of \$23.33.

NYSE:EC opened at \$18.89 on Tuesday. Ecopetrol has a 12 month low of \$15.25 and a 12 month high of \$27.96. The company has a quick ratio of 1.23, a current ratio of 1.52 and a debt-to-equity ratio of 0.60. The company has a market cap of \$39.92 billion, a price-to-earnings ratio of 10.86, a PEG ratio of 0.63 and a beta of 1.57.

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

Several hedge funds and other institutional investors have recently made changes to their positions in the company. Wetherby Asset Management Inc. raised its stake in shares of Ecopetrol by 3.0% in the fourth quarter. Wetherby Asset Management Inc. now owns 22,344 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$355,000 after acquiring an additional 643 shares in the last quarter. Lindbrook Capital LLC raised its stake in shares of Ecopetrol by 116.6% in the first quarter. Lindbrook Capital LLC now owns 1,315 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$28,000 after acquiring an additional 708 shares in the last quarter. FDX Advisors Inc. raised its stake in shares of Ecopetrol by 10.1% in the fourth quarter. FDX Advisors Inc. now owns 12,060 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$192,000 after acquiring an additional 1,110 shares in the last quarter. Comerica Bank raised its stake in shares of Ecopetrol by 1.2% in the fourth quarter. Comerica Bank now owns 120,025 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$2,164,000 after acquiring an additional 1,367 shares in the last quarter. Finally, Enlightenment Research LLC acquired a new stake in shares of Ecopetrol in the fourth quarter valued at \$27,000.

About Ecopetrol

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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