

Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC) Receives Average Rating of "Hold" from Analysts

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Shares of **Ecopetrol** S.A. (NYSE:EC - [Get Rating](#)) have been given an average recommendation of "Hold" by the six brokerages that are presently covering the company, [Marketbeat.com](#) reports. One equities research analyst has rated the stock with a sell recommendation, three have assigned a hold recommendation and one has issued a buy recommendation on the company. The average 12 month price objective among brokers that have issued a report on the stock in the last year is \$15.60.



A number of brokerages recently weighed in on EC. The Goldman Sachs Group lowered shares of **Ecopetrol** from a "buy" rating to a "neutral" rating and set a \$14.70 price objective for the company. in a report on Wednesday, December 15th. TheStreet lowered shares of **Ecopetrol** from a "b-" rating to a "c" rating in a report on Wednesday, December 15th. [Zacks Investment Research](#) lowered shares of **Ecopetrol** from a "buy" rating to a "hold" rating in a report on Thursday, February 10th. Morgan Stanley downgraded shares of **Ecopetrol** from an "overweight" rating to an "equal weight" rating in a research report on Tuesday, March 1st. Finally, JPMorgan Chase & Co. downgraded shares of **Ecopetrol** from a "neutral" rating to an "underweight" rating and set a \$16.50 target price on the stock. in a research report on Monday, November 29th.

A number of large investors have recently added to or reduced their stakes in EC. Schroder Investment Management Group lifted its stake in **Ecopetrol** by 11.7% during the 4th quarter. Schroder Investment Management Group now owns 43,730 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$28,000 after acquiring an additional 4,574 shares during the period. Advisor Group Holdings Inc. lifted its stake in **Ecopetrol** by 8.7% during the 3rd quarter. Advisor Group Holdings Inc. now owns 11,308 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$162,000 after acquiring an additional 904 shares during the period. Arrowstreet Capital Limited Partnership acquired a new stake in **Ecopetrol** during the 3rd quarter valued at approximately \$162,000. Profund Advisors LLC acquired a new stake in **Ecopetrol** during the 4th quarter valued at approximately \$163,000. Finally, First Trust Advisors LP acquired a new stake in **Ecopetrol** during the 4th quarter valued at approximately \$173,000. 1.29% of the stock is currently owned by institutional investors.

Ecopetrol stock opened at \$17.89 on Tuesday. The firm has a 50-day moving average price of \$14.71 and a 200-day moving average price of \$14.31. The firm has a market capitalization of \$36.78 billion, a PE ratio of 12.17, a price-to-earnings-growth ratio of 0.15 and a beta of 1.62. The company has a current ratio of 1.71, a quick ratio of 1.43 and a debt-to-equity ratio of 0.92. **Ecopetrol** has a 12-month low of \$11.52 and a 12-month high of \$17.90.

Ecopetrol Company Profile ([Get Rating](#))

Ecopetrol SA engages in the exploration, development, and production of crude oil and natural gas. It operates through the following segments: Exploration and Production, Transportation and Logistics, and Refining and Petrochemicals. The Exploration and Production segment deals with oil and gas exploration and production activities.

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Before you consider Ecopetrol, you'll want to hear this.

MarketBeat keeps track of Wall Street's top-rated and best performing research analysts and the stocks they recommend to their clients on a daily basis. MarketBeat has identified the five stocks that top analysts are quietly whispering to their clients to buy now before the broader market catches on... and Ecopetrol wasn't on the list.

While Ecopetrol currently has a "Hold" rating among analysts, top-rated analysts believe these five stocks are better buys.

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