

Arrowstreet Capital Limited Partnership Buys New Stake in Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC)

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Arrowstreet Capital Limited Partnership acquired a new position in shares of Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE:EC - [Free Report](#)) during the 4th quarter, according to its most recent 13F filing with the SEC. The fund acquired 1,737,389 shares of the oil and gas company's stock, valued at approximately \$13,760,000. Arrowstreet Capital Limited Partnership owned about 0.08% of Ecopetrol as of its most recent SEC filing.

Other institutional investors also recently made changes to their positions in the company. Charles Schwab Investment Management Inc. grew its position in shares of **Ecopetrol** by 81.0% during the third quarter. Charles Schwab Investment Management Inc. now owns 425,116 shares of the oil and gas company's stock worth \$3,796,000 after buying an additional 190,293 shares in the last quarter. Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. acquired a new position in **Ecopetrol** during the 4th quarter worth \$790,000. SBI Securities Co. Ltd. acquired a new position in **Ecopetrol** during the 4th quarter worth \$2,060,000. Strategic Financial Concepts LLC acquired a new stake in shares of **Ecopetrol** in the 4th quarter valued at about \$179,000. Finally, Quantbot Technologies LP raised its stake in shares of **Ecopetrol** by 48,309.7% in the 4th quarter. Quantbot Technologies LP now owns 144,745 shares of the oil and gas company's stock valued at \$1,146,000 after purchasing an additional 144,446 shares in the last quarter.

Analysts Set New Price Targets

A number of research firms recently commented on EC. JPMorgan Chase & Co. upgraded **Ecopetrol** from an "underweight" rating to a "neutral" rating and lifted their price target for the stock from \$7.50 to \$9.50 in a research note on Thursday, February 13th. Citigroup upgraded **Ecopetrol** from a "neutral" rating to a "buy" rating and lifted their target price for the stock from \$9.00 to \$14.00 in a research report on Tuesday, February 18th. Finally, **StockNews.com** lowered **Ecopetrol** from a "buy" rating to a "hold" rating in a research report on Monday, March 17th. One investment analyst has rated the stock with a sell rating, three have issued a hold rating and one has issued a buy rating to the company's stock. According to MarketBeat.com, the company presently has a consensus rating of "Hold" and an average target price of \$11.00.



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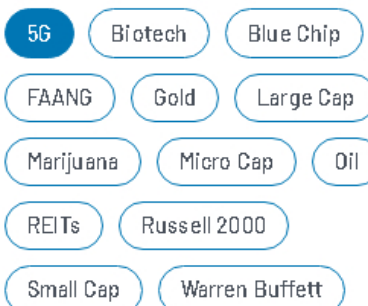
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Ecopetrol Stock Performance

EC traded down \$0.55 on Friday, hitting \$9.01. 5,802,594 shares of the company's stock were exchanged, compared to its average volume of 2,287,588. The company has a current ratio of 1.68, a quick ratio of 1.38 and a debt-to-equity ratio of 1.00. The stock has a fifty day moving average of \$9.93 and a two-hundred day moving average of \$8.82. **Ecopetrol** S.A. has a twelve month low of \$7.21 and a twelve month high of \$12.67. The firm has a market cap of \$18.51 billion, a PE ratio of 4.31 and a beta of 0.86.

Ecopetrol Increases Dividend

The business also recently declared a – dividend, which will be paid on Friday, April 11th. Stockholders of record on Thursday, April 3rd will be given a dividend of \$0.5202 per share. This represents a dividend yield of 30%. This is a boost from **Ecopetrol's** previous – dividend of \$0.49. The ex-dividend date is Thursday, April 3rd. **Ecopetrol's** dividend payout ratio is presently 49.76%.

Ecopetrol Company Profile ([Free Report](#))

Ecopetrol SA operates as an integrated energy company. The company operates through four segments: Exploration and Production; Transport and Logistics; Refining, Petrochemical and Biofuels; and Electric Power Transmission and Toll Roads Concessions. It engages in the exploration and production of oil and gas; transportation of crude oil, motor fuels, fuel oil, and other refined products, including diesel, jet, and biofuels; processing and refining crude oil; distribution of natural gas and LPG; sale of refined and petrochemical products; supplying of electric power transmission services; design, development, construction,

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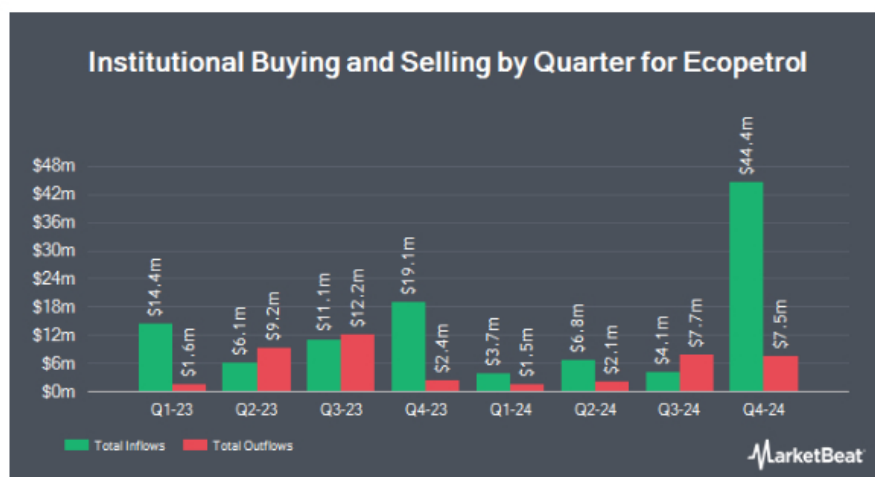
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operation, and maintenance of road and energy infrastructure projects; and supplying of information technology and telecommunications services.

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Should You Invest \$1,000 in Ecopetrol Right Now?

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.

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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