

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
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1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <u>Vahanian Nicholas N.</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) C/O NEWLINK GENETICS CORPORATION 2503 SOUTH LOOP DR., SUITE 5100 (Street) AMES IA 50010 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>NEWLINK GENETICS CORP [(NLNK)]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>President, Chief Medical Officer</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>01/04/2016</u>	
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially 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. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock ⁽¹⁾	01/04/2016		A		29,456 ⁽²⁾	A	\$0	68,295 ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾	D	
Common Stock	01/05/2016		s ⁽⁵⁾		2,011	D	\$34.8 ⁽⁶⁾	66,284 ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾	D	
Common Stock	01/05/2016		s ⁽⁵⁾		1,000	D	\$35.57 ⁽⁷⁾	65,284 ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾	D	

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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative 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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$34.73	01/04/2016		A		84,275		(8)	01/03/2026	Common Stock	84,275	\$0	84,275	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- This Form 4 does not include 19,637 performance-based restricted stock units granted on January 4, 2016. These shares will be reported on subsequent Form 4's if and when the performance criteria are met.
- Represents shares issued as restricted stock units ("RSUs") under the Issuer's 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan") that were received as an award, for no consideration. The RSUs vest in a series of four successive annual installments beginning on January 4, 2017, provided in each case that the Reporting Person's continuous service to the Issuer has not been terminated as defined in or as determined under the Plan.
- Includes 7,500 RSUs previously reported as holdings of the Reporting Person granted under the Plan. The RSUs will vest, and shares will be delivered to the Reporting Person in a series of two successive annual installments with the next installment occurring on January 2, 2017, provided in each case that the Reporting Person's continuous service to the Issuer has not been terminated as defined in or as determined under the Plan.
- Includes 18,750 RSUs previously reported as holdings of the Reporting Person granted under the Plan. The RSUs will vest, and shares will be delivered to the Reporting Person in a series of three successive annual installments with the next installment occurring on January 2, 2017, provided in each case that the Reporting Person's continuous service to the Issuer has not been terminated as defined in or as determined under the Plan.
- Represents shares of Common Stock sold to cover tax obligations associated with the vesting of previously reported RSUs pursuant to a plan previously implemented with a third party broker and approved by the Issuer's board of directors to offset the cost associated with taxes.
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$34.25 to \$35.18, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to the issuer, any security holder of issuer, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each price within the ranges set forth in this footnote to this Form 4.
- The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$35.21 to \$35.75, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to the issuer, any security holder of issuer, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each price within the ranges set forth in this footnote to this Form 4.
- Grant to the Reporting Person of a stock option under the Plan. The option vests and becomes exercisable in a series of 48 successive equal monthly installments beginning on February 4, 2016, provided that at the relevant vesting dates the Reporting Person's continuous service to the Issuer has not been terminated as defined in or as determined under the Plan. The option expires ten years after the date of grant.

Remarks:

/s/ Ryan Trytten, attorney-in-fact 01/06/2016

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.