Table S2. Bacterial strains and plasmids used in this study

	Relevant characteristics	**Source or reference**
Strains		
M. extorquens		
AM1	Wild type	Lab strain
Δ*phyR::kanR*	Deletion mutant of the *phyR* gene	(2)
Δ ecfG1	Deletion mutant of the *ecfG1* gene using the vector pCM433-ecfG1	This study
E. coli		
DH5α	*supE44* Δ*lacU169* (ϕ80*lacZ*DM15) *hsdR17 recA1 endA1 gyrA96 thi-1 relA1*	Invitrogen
BL21(DE3)	*ompT hsdS*$_B$($r_B^-m_B^-$) *gal dcm* (DE3)	Invitrogen
Plasmids		
pCM62	Tc^R; *M. extorquens*/*E. coli* shuttle vector (P_{lac})	(1)
pCM62-phyR	Tc^R; pCM62 derivative containing *phyR*	This study
pCM62-phyRD190A	Tc^R; pCM62 derivative containing *phyR* D190A	This study
pCM80	Tc^R; *M. extorquens*/*E. coli* shuttle vector for expression of genes under the control of the *mxaF* promoter (P_{lac}-P_{mxaF})	(1)
pCM80-phyR	Tc^R; pCM80 derivative containing *phyR*	This study
pCM80-phyRNterm	Tc^R; pCM80 derivative containing the ECF sigma factor like domain-encoding part of *phyR*	This study
pCM80-nepR	Tc^R; pCM80 derivative containing *nepR*	This study
pCM80-nepR-his	Tc^R; pCM80 derivative for production of NepR with a C-terminal hexahistidine tag	This study
pCM433	Ap^R, Cm^R, Tc^R; broad-host-range *sacB*-based allelic exchange vector	
pCM433-ecfG1	Ap^R, Cm^R, Tc^R; pCM433 derivative used for the deletion of *ecfG1*	This study
pET16b	Amp^R; vector for production of recombinant protein in *E. coli* adding an N-terminal decahistidine tag	Novagen
pET16b-nepR	Amp^R; vector for production of NepR	This study
pET16b-ecfG1Δ1-64	Amp^R; vector for production of σ^{EcfG1}Δ1-64	This study
pET24b	Kan^R; vector for production of recombinant protein in *E. coli* adding a C-terminal hexahistidine tag	Novagen
pET24b-phyR	Kan^R; pET24b derivative for production of PhyR with a C-terminal hexahistidine tag	This study
pET101/D-TOPO	Amp^R; linearized, topoisomerase I-activated vector for production of recombinant protein with a C-terminal hexahistidine tag in *E. coli*	Invitrogen
pET101-phyRD190A	Amp^R; vector for production of the PhyR D190A mutant	This study
pET101-phyRNterm	Amp^R; vector for production of the N-terminal ECF domain of PhyR	This study