

## Supplementary material

**TABLE S1.** Fluorescence signal strength at different formamide concentrations obtained in double hybridizations with oligonucleotide probes ELM1034 (specifically designed for strain Pei191<sup>T</sup>; Cy3-labeled) and EUB338 (detecting most bacteria; fluorescein-labeled).<sup>a</sup>

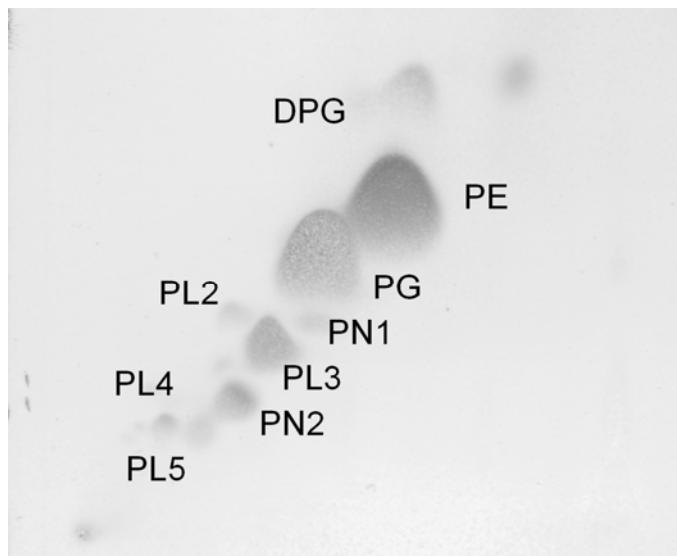
Formamide (%)	Strain Pei191 <sup>T</sup>		<i>Desulfurella acetivorans</i>	
	ELM1034	EUB338	ELM1034	EUB338
0	+++	+	-	++
10	+++	+	-	++
20	+++	+	-	++
30 <sup>b</sup>	+++	+	-	++
40	++	W	-	++
50	-	-	-	++

<sup>a</sup> Symbols indicate fluorescence signal strength in decreasing order: +++, ++, +, w (weak), - (absent).

<sup>b</sup> Optimal formamide concentration used for purity control (see text).

**TABLE S2.** Whole-cell fatty acid composition of strain Pei191<sup>T</sup>.

Fatty acid	Abundance (%)
C15:0 <i>iso</i>	25.3
C15:0 <i>anteiso</i>	16.3
C16:0 <i>iso</i>	12.1
C17:0 <i>iso</i>	8.0
C17:0 <i>anteiso</i>	7.3
C14:0 <i>iso</i>	6.1
C17:0 <i>iso</i> 3-OH	4.9
C16:0 <i>iso</i> 3-OH	3.3
C13:0 <i>iso</i>	2.9
C14:0 <i>iso</i> 3-OH	2.3
C16:0	2.1
C13:0 <i>anteiso</i>	1.7
C15:0 <i>iso</i> 3-OH	1.6
C17:0 2-OH	1.3



**FIG. S1.** Polar lipid analysis of strain Pei191<sup>T</sup> by two-dimensional thin-layer chromatography. DPG, diphosphatidylglycerol; PG, phosphatidylglycerol; PE, phosphatidylethanolamine; PN1, PN2, unidentified amino-phospholipids; PL1, PL2, PL3, PL4, PL5, unidentified phospholipids. The first dimension was developed in chloroform/methanol/water (65:25:4, by vol.) and the second dimension in chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/water (80:12:15:4, by vol.).