Supplementary figures for:

## SRP RNA controls a conformational switch regulating the SRP-SRP receptor interaction

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**Supplementary Figure 1:** Helix N1 is present in structures of uncomplexed FtsY. Allignment of FtsY structures from PDB files 1FTS, 2QY9, 1ZU4, 1ZU5, 2Q9C, 2Q9B, 2Q9A, 1VMA, 3B9Q, and 2OG2. Residues homologous to *E. coli* residues 204-221 of helix N1 are shown in red.



**Supplementary Figure 2:** Effect of length of Ffh N-terminal truncation. Truncation of the entire Ffh helix N1 (amino acids 1-20, called Ffh-21 here) is functionally equivalent to truncation of the first 8 amino acids (Ffh $\Delta$ N1). Observed binding rates are plotted as a function of Ffh concentration for Ffh $\Delta$ N1-FtsY –RNA ( $\mathbf{V}$ ), Ffh-21-FtsY –RNA ( $\mathbf{I}$ ), and Ffh-FtsY –RNA ( $\mathbf{\bullet}$ ). Lines are fits to the equation k<sub>obs</sub>=k<sub>on</sub>[Ffh]+k<sub>off</sub>.





FtsY-204 С FtsY∆N1 10 15 <sup>13</sup>C (ppm) 20 25

2.0

1.5

1.0

0.5

<sup>1</sup>H (ppm)

0.0

-0.5

-1.0

Supplementary Figure 3: Comparison of FtsY-204 and FtsY $\Delta$ N1. a. Observed binding rates are plotted as a function of Ffh concentration for Ffh-FtsY –RNA ( $\blacklozenge$ ), Ffh-FtsY-204 –RNA ( $\bigstar$ ), and Ffh-FtsY $\Delta$ N1 –RNA ( $\blacklozenge$ ). Lines are fits to the equation  $k_{obs}=k_{on}[Ffh]+k_{off}$ . b. Plot of observed rates from single turnover GTPase assays measuring GTP hydrolysis rate as a function of FtsY $\Delta$ N1 ( $\blacklozenge$ ),FtsY-204 ( $\bigstar$ ), or FtsY ( $\blacklozenge$ ) concentration. Lines are fits to the equation  $k_{obs}=k_{cat}[FtsY]/(K_M+[FtsY])$ . c. 2D CHSQC NMR spectrum for FtsY $\Delta$ N1 (red) is overlaid on the spectrum of FtsY-204 (blue).



**Supplementary Figure 4:** FtsY $\Delta$ N1 but not FtsY-204 undergoes a GppNHp dependent conformational change. a. 2D CHSQC spectrum for FtsY-204+GppNHp (red) is overlaid on the spectrum of FtsY-204 (blue). A peak that broadens in the FtsY-204 spectrum +GppNHp is marked with an arrow. b. 2D CHSQC spectrum for FtsY $\Delta$ N1+GppNHp (red) is overlaid on the spectrum of FtsY- $\Delta$ N1 (blue).



**Supplementary Figure 4.** FtsY $\Delta$ N1 but not FtsY-204 undergoes a GppNHp dependent conformational change. c. The affinity of GppNHp for FtsY $\Delta$ N1 and FtsY-204 was measured by GTPase inhibition assays. Relative rates of GTP hydrolysis are plotted as a function of concentration of GppNHp. Lines are fits to the equation  $k_{rel}=K_l/(K_l+[GppNHp])$  d. A region of the 2D CHSQC spectrum containing the peak marked in a is magnified with decreased contour cutoff.