## SUPPORTING INFORMATION for

## Influence of Active Site Location on Catalytic Activity in *de Novo*-Designed Zinc Metalloenzymes

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**Figure S1.** Folding of  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{HL23C})_3^{3^{\circ}}$  (apo and +1/3 Hg(II)) and  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL19H})_3^{3^{\circ}}$  (apo and +1/3 Hg(II)) as monitored by circular dichroism. a) CD spectra of  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{HL23C})_3^{3^{\circ}}$  and  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{HL23C})_3^{3^{\circ}} + 1/3$  Hg(II) at pH 8.5 and 25°C. The molar ellipticities [ $\Theta$ ] at 222 nm are -25501 and -27210° dmol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>2</sup>, respectively. b) Guanidine hydrochloride denaturation titrations represented by the molar ellipticity values [ $\Theta$ ] at 222 nm vs denaturant concentration for  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{HL23C})_3^{3^{\circ}}$  and  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{HL23C})_3^{3^{\circ}} + 1/3$  Hg(II). c) CD spectra of  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL19H})_3^{3^{\circ}}$  and  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL19H})_3^{3^{\circ}} + 1/3$  Hg(II) at pH 8.5 and 25°C. The molar ellipticities [ $\Theta$ ] at 222 nm are -26872 and -29002° dmol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>2</sup>, respectively. d) Guanidine hydrochloride denaturation titrations represented by the molar ellipticity values [ $\Theta$ ] at 222 nm vs denaturant concentration for ( $\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL19H})_3^{3^{\circ}} + 1/3$  Hg(II) at pH 8.5 and 25°C. The molar ellipticities [ $\Theta$ ] at 222 nm are -26872 and -29002° dmol<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>2</sup>, respectively. d) Guanidine hydrochloride denaturation titrations represented by the molar ellipticity values [ $\Theta$ ] at 222 nm vs denaturant concentration for ( $\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL19H})_3^{3^{\circ}} + 1/3$  Hg(II). As for our previously reported His-containing  $\mathbf{TRI}$  peptides, we have not reported a quantitative determination of free energy values because the denaturation curves for these peptides do not level off at zero concentration of denaturant.<sup>1</sup>



**Figure S2.** Comparison of the unfolding of  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{HL23C})_3^{3^2}$  (apo and +1/3 Hg(II)) and  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL19H})_3^{3^2}$  (apo and +1/3 Hg(II)) to  $(\mathbf{TRIL}23\mathrm{H})_3$  and  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL23H})_3^{3^2}$  (apo and +1/3 Hg(II))<sup>1</sup>. Guanidine hydrochloride denaturation titrations at pH 8.5 represented by the molar ellipticity values [ $\Theta$ ] at 222 nm vs denaturant concentration for  $(\mathbf{TRIL}23\mathrm{H})_3$ ,  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL23H})_3^{3^2}$ ,  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{HL23C})_3^{3^2}$ , and  $(\mathbf{TRIL}9\mathrm{CL19H})_3^{3^2}$ . For each of the Cys-containing peptides, when comparing the apo versions and the Hg(II)-bound peptides, the midpoint is shifted to a higher denaturant concentration, demonstrating that the structural site confers stability on each of the constructs.



**Figure S3.** Comparison of the unfolding of  $(\mathbf{TRIL9CL23H})_3^{3-} + 1/3 \operatorname{Hg}(II)$  in the presence of 0, 1, and 5 equivalents of  $\operatorname{Zn}(II)$ .<sup>1</sup> Guanidine hydrochloride denaturation titrations at pH 8.5 represented by the molar ellipticity values [ $\Theta$ ] at 222 nm vs denaturant concentration for  $(\mathbf{TRIL9CL19H})_3^{3-} + 1/3 \operatorname{Hg}(II)$  ( $\bullet$ )<sup>1</sup>,  $(\mathbf{TRIL9CL19H})_3^{3-} + 1/3 \operatorname{Hg}(II)$  ( $\bullet$ )<sup>1</sup>,  $(\mathbf{TRIL9CL19H})_3^{3-} + 1/3 \operatorname{Hg}(II)$  ( $\bullet$ )<sup>1</sup>,  $(\mathbf{TRIL9CL19H})_3^{3-} + 1/3 \operatorname{Hg}(II)$  ( $\bullet$ ). There is no shift in the midpoint of unfolding in the presence of Zn(II).



**Figure S4.** Competitive titrations against Zincon at pH 7.5 for  $(\mathbf{TRIL}_{2}WL23H)_3$ ,  $[Hg(II)]_{S}(\mathbf{TRIL}_{9}HL23C)_3^-$ , and  $[Hg(II)]_{S}(\mathbf{TRIL}_{9}CL19H)_3^-$ . Plots of absorbances at 620 nm vs [Zincon] for the forward titrations of a)  $(\mathbf{TRIL}_{2}WL23H)_3$ , b)  $[Hg(II)]_{S}(\mathbf{TRIL}_{9}HL23C)_3^-$ , and c)  $[Hg(II)]_{S}(\mathbf{TRIL}_{9}HL23C)_3^-$ , and vs  $[pep_3]$  for the reverse titrations of d)  $(\mathbf{TRIL}_{2}WL23H)_3$ , e)  $[Hg(II)]_{S}(\mathbf{TRIL}_{9}HL23C)_3^-$ , and f)  $[Hg(II)]_{S}(\mathbf{TRIL}_{9}HL23C)_3^-$ .



**Figure S5.** Competitive Zincon binding titrations at pH 9.0 for  $[Hg(II)]_{S}(TRIL9CL23H)_{3}^{-}$  in the forward  $(Zn(II)pep_{3} + Zincon)$  and reverse  $(Zn(II)Zi + pep_{3})$  direction. a) Representative UV-visible spectra for the titration in the forward direction and b) in the reverse direction. c) Plot of absorbance at 620 nm as a function of increasing [Zincon] for the forward titration and d) as a function of increasing [pep\_{3}] for the reverse titration.



**Figure S6.** Competitive titrations against Zincon at pH 9.0 for (**TRIL**2WL23H)<sub>3</sub>,  $[Hg(II)]_{S}$ (**TRIL**9HL23C)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, and  $[Hg(II)]_{S}$ (**TRIL**9CL19H)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Plots of absorbances at 620 nm vs [Zincon] for the forward titrations of a) (**TRIL**2WL23H)<sub>3</sub>, b)  $[Hg(II)]_{S}$ (**TRIL**9HL23C)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, and c)  $[Hg(II)]_{S}$ (**TRIL**9CL19H)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and vs [pep<sub>3</sub>] for the reverse titrations of d) (**TRIL**2WL23H)<sub>3</sub>, e)  $[Hg(II)]_{S}$ (**TRIL**9HL23C)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, and f)  $[Hg(II)]_{S}$ (**TRIL**9CL19H)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>.



**Figure S7.** pH dependency of a)  $k_{cat}$  and b)  $K_{M}$  parameters for *p*NPA hydrolysis by Zn(II)His<sub>3</sub>O sites in the **TRI** peptides. Results are shown for  $[Zn(II)(H_2O/OH^-)]_N(TRIL2WL23H)_3^{n+}$ ,  $[Hg(II)]_S[Zn(II)(H_2O/OH^-)]_N(TRIL9CL23H)_3^{n+}, 1$   $[Zn(II)(H_2O/OH^-)]_N[Hg(II)]_S[TRIL9HL23C)_3^{n+}$ , and  $[Hg(II)]_S[Zn(II)(H_2O/OH^-)]_N(TRIL9CL19H)_3^{n+}$ . Error bars result from fitting all individual initial rates measured (three per concentration of substrate, without averaging) to the Michaelis-Menten equation in Prism 5 (GraphPad Software).



**Figure S8.** Inhibition of 20  $\mu$ M [Hg(II)]<sub>S</sub>[Zn(II)(H<sub>2</sub>O/OH<sup>-</sup>)]<sub>N</sub>(**TRI**L9CL23H)<sub>3</sub><sup>n+</sup>-catalyzed *p*NPA hydrolysis by acetate at pH 8.5. a) Initial rates as a function of substrate concentration in the presence of 0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, and 0.6 M potassium acetate fitted to a competitive inhibition model in Prism 5 (GraphPad Software). The global data yields the reported *K*<sub>I</sub> and corresponding error. Data shown consists of each individual measured initial rate and does not represent averages. Fitting the same data to a mixed inhibition model yielded  $\alpha \approx 14$  supporting the assignment of a competitive inhibition model.<sup>2</sup> b) Lineweaver-Burke (double-reciprocal) plots corresponding to the data in a). Visual inspection of the intersection of linear fits to each dataset (at the y-axis) also supports a competitive inhibition model.



**Figure S9.** Inhibition of 50  $\mu$ M [Zn(II)(H<sub>2</sub>O/OH)]<sub>N</sub>[Hg(II)]<sub>S</sub>(**TRIL**9HL23C)<sub>3</sub><sup>*n*+</sup>-catalyzed *p*NPA hydrolysis by acetate at pH 8.5. a) Initial rates as a function of substrate concentration in the presence of 0, 0.1, 0.25, and 0.5 M potassium acetate fitted to a competitive inhibition model in Prism 5 (GraphPad Software). The global data yields the reported *K*<sub>I</sub> and corresponding error. Data shown consists of each measured individual initial rate and does not represent averages. Fitting the same data to a mixed inhibition model yielded  $\alpha \approx 3 \times 10^{13}$  supporting the assignment of a competitive inhibition model.<sup>2</sup> b) Lineweaver-Burke (double-reciprocal) plots corresponding to the data in a). Visual inspection of the intersection of linear fits to each dataset (at the y-axis) also supports a competitive inhibition model.



**Figure S10.** Inhibition of 50  $\mu$ M [Hg(II)]<sub>S</sub>[Zn(II)(H<sub>2</sub>O/OH<sup>-</sup>)]<sub>N</sub>(**TRI**L9CL19H)<sub>3</sub><sup>*n*+</sup>-catalyzed *p*NPA hydrolysis by acetate at pH 8.5. a) Initial rates as a function of substrate concentration in the presence of 0, 0.2, 0.4, and 0.6 M potassium acetate fitted to a competitive inhibition model in Prism 5 (GraphPad Software). The global data yields the reported *K*<sub>I</sub> and corresponding error. Data shown consists of each measured individual initial rate and does not represent averages. Fitting the same data to a mixed inhibition model yielded  $\alpha \approx 31$ supporting the assignment of a competitive inhibition model.<sup>2</sup> b) Lineweaver-Burke (double-reciprocal) plots corresponding to the data in a). Visual inspection of the intersection of linear fits to each dataset (at the y-axis) also supports a competitive inhibition model.

## REFERENCES

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