

Supplemental Data File, related to Figure 1. Sequence alignment of the blue-shifted NIR FPs, their BphP templates and representative bacterial, plant and cyanobacterial phytochromes in the regions of the PAS and GAF domains containing bilin binding Cys residues (in red). BphPs (*Rhodopseudomonas palustris Rp*BphP1, *Rp*BphP2 and *Rp*BphP6 and *Deinococcus radiodurans Dr*BphP) covalently bind BV via Cys in the PAS domain, whereas plant phytochromes (*Arabidopsis thaliana At*PhyA and *At*PhyB) and cyanobacterial phytochromes (*Synechocystis* Cph1 and *Calothrix* CphA) covalently bind PΦB and PCB via Cys in the GAF domain. BphP1-FP differs from the PAS-GAF domains of *Rp*BphP1 by the twenty-four amino acid residues in total (marked in blue).