## **Supplementary information**

## Identification, characterization and molecular analysis of the viable but nonculturable *Rhodococcus biphenylivorans*

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Table S1. qPCR primers used in this study.

Table S2. Gene expression value of annotated genes.

Table S3. Differentially expressed genes.

**Table S4.** Genes >20 fold up- or down-regulated in t\_TG9 versus c\_TG9 cultures.

**Table S5.** Gene Ontology function of differentially expressed genes.

 Table S6. GO enrichment analysis of up-regulated genes.

**Table S7.** GO enrichment analysis of down-regulated genes.

Table S8. KEGG pathway enrichment of differentially expressed genes in t\_TG9 and

c\_TG9 libraries.

**Table S9.** KEGG enrichment analysis of up-regulated genes.

**Table S10.** KEGG enrichment analysis of down-regulated genes.

Table S11. qRT-PCR validation of transcriptomic profiles.



Fig. S1. Schematic flow diagram of the experimental design.



**Fig. S2.** Enzymatic activities of *Rhodococcus biphenylivorans* TG9<sup>T</sup> measured by the API ZYM system. (A) exponential-phase cells; (B) VBNC cells; (C) resuscitated cells.