## **Supporting Information for**

Manganese-Hydroxido Complexes Supported by a Urea/Phosphinic Amide Tripodal Ligand

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Complex	K₂[Mn <sup>II</sup> H₂POUT(OH)]	K[Mn <sup>11</sup> H <sub>2</sub> POUT(OH)]
Empirical		
Formula	$C_{36}H_{61}K_2MnN_8O_6P$	C <sub>36</sub> H <sub>61</sub> KMnN <sub>8</sub> O <sub>6</sub> P
Formula weight	866.03	776.87
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Triclinic
Space group	Pbca	$P\overline{1}$
a (Å)	17.8861(7)	11.5758(11)
b (Å)	21.3269(8	13.6752(13)
c (Å)	23.3999(9	14.4278(14)
a (°)	90°	70.2118(11)°
β (°)	90°	72.9494(11)°
χ (°)	90°	73.1226(12)°
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	8926.0(6)	2007.7(3
Ζ	8	2
δcalc (Mg/m3)	1.289	1.285
GOF	1.015	1.032
R1	0.0343	0.0377
wR2	0.0823	0.092
CCDC Code	1849229	1849228

Table S1. Crystallographic Data and Structure Refinement Parameters

## Preparative Methods for Mn-Oxido Complexes.

*Preparation of Low-Temperature*  $[Mn^{III}H_2pout(O)]^2$ - *EPR Samples.* A solution of  $[Mn^{III}H_2pout(OH)]^-$  (~15 mM, 250 µL) in a DMF:THF mixture was transferred to an EPR tube and sealed with a rubber septum. The tube was brought out of the dry box and placed in a – 30 °C acetonitrile/dry ice bath and allowed to equilibrate for fifteen minutes. A 0.5 M (0.028 g, 0.25 mmol) stock solution of KO<sup>t</sup>Bu was prepared in a DMF:THF mixture and one equiv (8 µL) was added via a syringe. After mixing by careful shaking of the tube, the EPR tube was quickly removed from the cold bath, wiped clean of acetonitrile, and frozen in liquid nitrogen before analysis.

*Preparation of Low-Temperature* [ $Mn^{IV}H_2pout(O)$ ]- *EPR Samples.* Samples were prepared in an analogous manner as described above with the following modifications: subsequent addition of one equivalent of FcBF<sub>4</sub> (18 µL of a 220 mM stock solution). Sample was prepared in a – 80 °C acetone/dry ice bath.

*Generation of* [*Mn*<sup>III</sup>H<sub>2</sub>*pout*(*O*)]<sup>2</sup>*-at Low Temperature using UV-vis Spectroscopy*. For a typical experiment, a stock solution of [*Mn*<sup>III</sup>H<sub>2</sub>*pout*(OH)]<sup>-</sup> at 20 mM concentration (0.013 g, 0.020 mmol) was prepared in a DMF:THF mixture (1 mL) and stored at –35 °C. To a 1 cm cuvette

was added 2 mL of DMF:THF mixture and 40  $\mu$ L of metal complex solution giving the desired experiment concentration (400  $\mu$ M). The cuvette was sealed with a rubber septum then transferred to the precooled UV-vis spectrometer cryostat and allowed to equilibrate for at least 15 minutes at – 30 °C under a flow of argon gas. A 45 mM (0.010 g, 0.089 mmol) stock solution of KO<sup>t</sup>Bu was prepared in 1 mL of a DMF:THF mixture and one equiv (18  $\mu$ L) was added via a syringe and the progress of the reaction monitored optically.

*Generation of*  $[Mn^{IV}H_2pout(O)]^-$  *at Low Temperature using UV-vis Spectroscopy.* Experiments were performed in an analogous manner as described above with the following modifications: subsequent addition of one equivalent (20 µL) of a 40 mM FcBF<sub>4</sub> (0.011 g, 0.040 mmol) stock in 1 mL of DMF:THF mixture at – 80 °C.

**Computational Methods**. The DFT calculations were performed with Gaussian '09 using the hybrid functional B3LYP and the basis set 6-311G.<sup>1</sup>



**Figure S1.** Possible structures for the two  $Mn^{IV}$ -OH complexes of  $[Mn^{IV}H_2pout(OH)]$  determined from DFT. Hydrogens removed for clarity in **A2** and **B2**.



**Figure S2.** Overlaid UV-visible spectra of  $[Mn^{III}H_2pout(OH)]^{2-}(-)$ ,  $[Mn^{III}H_2pout(O)]^{2-}(-)$ (A),  $[Mn^{IV}H_2pout(OH)]^{-}(-)$  and  $[Mn^{IV}H_2pout(O)]^{-}(-)$  (B). Spectra were recorded in a 1:1 DMF:THF mixture at – 30 °C and – 80 °C, respectively.



**Figure S3.** Parallel-mode EPR spectrum of a frozen solution of  $[Mn^{III}H_2pout(O)]^{2-}(A)$  and perpendicular-mode EPR spectrum of a frozen solution  $[Mn^{IV}H_2pout(O)]^{-}(B)$  in 1:1 DMF:THF. Insert: Zoom of low-field region. Sample temperature was 10 K.



**Figure S4**. FTIR spectra for [Mn<sup>II</sup>H<sub>2</sub>pout(OH)]<sup>2-</sup> (**A**) and [Mn<sup>III</sup>H<sub>2</sub>pout(OH)]<sup>-</sup> (**B**) illustrating the region for the O–H vibration.

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