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2 **FIG S1** 16S rRNA (*rrsD*) expression increases under the nutrient limitation stress

3 conditions used in this paper. *E. coli* MG1655 wild-type and isogenic $\Delta dksA1000::cat^+$,

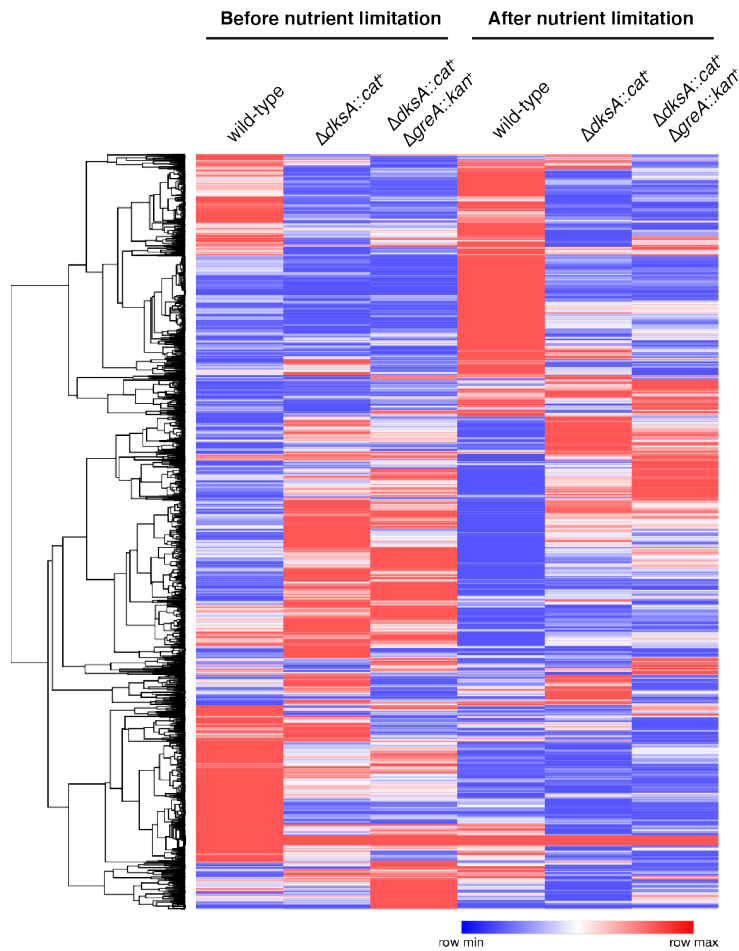
4 and $\Delta dksA1000::cat^+ \Delta greA788::kan^+$ strains were grown at 37°C to $A_{600}=0.2-0.4$ in rich

5 medium (LB) and then shifted to minimal medium (MOPS with no amino acids, 4 g l⁻¹

6 glucose, 0.1 mM K₂HPO₄, 0.1 mM uracil) for 2 hours. qRT-PCR was used to measure

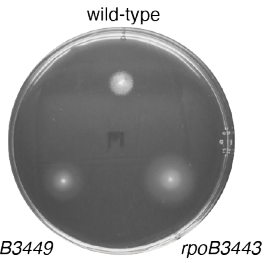
7 fold changes in transcript abundance, relative to the wild-type at t = 0 h, at the indicated

8 timepoints (n=3, ± SD).



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10 **FIG S2** Heatmap of RNA sequencing data. *E. coli* strains MG1655, MJG1419
 11 ($\Delta dksA1000::cat^+$), and MJG1561 ($\Delta dksA1000::cat^+ \Delta greA788::cat^+$) were grown at
 12 37°C to $A_{600}=0.2-0.4$ in rich medium (LB)(black circles) and then shifted to minimal
 13 medium (MOPS with no amino acids, 4 g l⁻¹ glucose, 0.1 mM K₂HPO₄) for 5 minutes (n
 14 = 1). Heatmap was generated by hierarchical clustering of normalized gene expression
 15 values (from Supplemental Dataset S1) with Morpheus
 16 (<https://software.broadinstitute.org/morpheus>), using the default parameters.



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rpoB3449

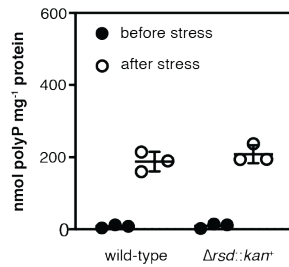
rpoB3443

25 **FIG S4** Stringent mutations of RNA polymerase lead to enhanced motility. *E. coli*

26 MG1655 wild-type and isogenic *rpoB3449* and *rpoB3443* strains were inoculated into

27 LB containing 0.25% agar and incubated at 37°C (representative of 3 independent

28 experiments).



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30 **FIG S5** An *rsd* null mutation does not affect polyP synthesis. *E. coli* MG1655 wild-type
 31 and isogenic $\Delta rsd-766::kan^+$ strains were grown at 37°C to $A_{600}=0.2-0.4$ in rich medium
 32 (LB)(black circles) and then shifted to minimal medium (MOPS with no amino acids, 4 g
 33 l⁻¹ glucose, 0.1 mM K₂HPO₄) for 2 hours (white circles)(n=3, ± SD). PolyP
 34 concentrations are in terms of individual phosphate monomers. No significant difference
 35 was found between polyP levels in the mutant and wild-type strains (two-way repeated
 36 measures ANOVA with Holm-Sidak's multiple comparisons test).

37 **DATASET S1** Results of RNA sequencing of wild-type, *dksA*, and *dksA greA* mutants
38 before and after nutrient limitation stress. *E. coli* strains MG1655, MJG1419
39 ($\Delta dksA1000::cat^+$), and MJG1561 ($\Delta dksA1000::cat^+ \Delta greA788::cat^+$) were grown at
40 37°C to $A_{600}=0.2-0.4$ in rich medium (LB)(black circles) and then shifted to minimal
41 medium (MOPS with no amino acids, 4 g l⁻¹ glucose, 0.1 mM K₂HPO₄) for 5 minutes (n
42 = 1). Gene expression values (RPKM normalized to the upper quartile of gene
43 expression) were determined using Rockhopper 2 (2), with the default parameters.

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45 REFERENCES

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