

MATERIALS AND METHODS FOR PROTEIN PRODUCTION

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 62/835,338, filed on April 17, 2019, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

5

DESCRIPTION OF THE TEXT FILE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

The contents of the text file submitted electronically herewith are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety: A computer readable format copy of the Sequence Listing filename: 38767-0193WO1_SequenceListing.txt, date recorded, April 17, 2020, file size $\approx$ 53 kilobytes.

10

TECHNICAL FIELD

This disclosure generally relates to DNA constructs and methods of using such DNA constructs to genetically engineer cells, such as yeast cells or methylotrophic yeast cells.

BACKGROUND

15

Recombinant expression of products is a common method to produce said products. In some cases, proteins can be produced by recombinant production. Constructs that can be used to efficiently express one or more products (e.g., proteins) in a cell, such as a yeast cell or a methylotrophic yeast cell, are provided herein.

20

SUMMARY

This document is based, at least in part, on the identification of point mutations in the AOX1 promoter that can confer increased expression of linked coding sequences. The mutated

AOX1 promoters described herein can be used for efficient expression of operably linked coding sequences in *Pichia*, for example.

In one aspect, provided herein is a nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Implementations can have one or more of the following features. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 673-729 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 678-724 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 683-719 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 688-714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include five or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

In another aspect, provided herein is a nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Implementations can include one or more of the following features. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected

from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions
5 corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and
10 T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include five or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected
15 from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations at nucleotide
20 positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include mutations at
25 nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

In another aspect, provided herein is a nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C,

C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Implementations can include one or more of the following features. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include five or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include the mutations T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Implementations of any of the nucleic acid constructs described herein can have one or more of the following features. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can be an alcohol oxidase 1 promoter element. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can have at least 90%

sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can have at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28. The nucleic acid construct can further include a nucleotide sequence encoding a first protein, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the first protein is operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element. The first protein can be exogenous to a methylotrophic yeast cell. The first protein can be heterologous to a methylotrophic yeast cell. The first protein can be selected from the group consisting of an antibody or fragment thereof, an enzyme, a regulatory protein, a peptide hormone, a blood clotting protein, a cytokine, a cytokine inhibitor, and a heme-binding protein. The first protein can be a heme-binding protein. The heme-binding protein can be selected from the group consisting of a globin, a cytochrome, a cytochrome c oxidase, a ligninase, a catalase, and a peroxidase. The heme-binding protein can be selected from the group consisting of an androglobin, a chlorocruorin, a cytoglobin, an erythrocruorin, a flavohemoglobin, a globin E, a globin X, a globin Y, a hemoglobin, a histoglobin, a leghemoglobin, a myoglobin, a neuroglobin, a non-symbiotic hemoglobin, a protoglobin, and a truncated hemoglobin. The heme-binding protein can be a non-symbiotic hemoglobin. The heme-binding protein can be a leghemoglobin. The heme-binding protein can include an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1-27. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a recognition sequence for a transcription factor.

In another aspect, also provided herein is a methylotrophic yeast cell comprising a first nucleic acid construct, wherein the first nucleic acid construct is any nucleic acid construct described herein.

Implementations can have one or more of the following features. The methylotrophic yeast cell can be a *Pichia* cell, a *Candida* cell, a *Hansenula* cell, or a *Torulopsis* cell. The methylotrophic yeast cell can be a *Pichia methanolica* cell, a *Pichia pastoris* cell, a *Candida boidinii* cell, or a *Hansenula polymorpha* cell. The methylotrophic yeast cell can be a *Pichia pastoris* cell. The methylotrophic yeast cell can further include a second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence encoding a second protein, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the second protein is operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element or to a second promoter element. The nucleotide sequence encoding the second protein can be operably linked to a second promoter element that has the same sequence as the first alcohol

oxidase promoter element. The second protein can be a transcription factor. The nucleotide sequence encoding the second protein can be operably linked to a second promoter element that can include a recognition sequence for the transcription factor. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a recognition sequence for the transcription factor. The second protein can be a protein involved in heme biosynthesis. The protein involved in heme biosynthesis can be selected from the group consisting of aminolevulinic acid synthase (ALAS), δ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase (ALAD), porphobilinogen deaminase (PBGD), uroporphyrinogen III synthase (UPG3S), uroporphyrinogen III decarboxylase (UPG3D), coproporphyrinogen oxidase (COPROX), protoporphyrinogen IX oxidase (PROTOX), and ferrochelatase (FC).

In another aspect, provided herein is method of producing a protein in a methylotrophic yeast cell including expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence encoding a first protein operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Implementations can include one or more of the following features. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 673-729 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 678-724 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 683-719 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 688-714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first

alcohol oxidase promoter element can include five or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

In another aspect, also provided herein is a method of producing a protein in a methylotrophic yeast cell including expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence encoding a first protein operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Implementations can include one or more of the following features. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include five or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations at nucleotide

positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 as compared to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 as compared to SEQ ID NO: 28.

In another aspect, provided herein is a method of producing a protein in a methylotrophic yeast cell including expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence encoding a first protein operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Implementations can include one or more of the following features. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include five or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include two or more mutations selected from

the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include the mutations T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Implementations of any of the methods described herein can have one or more of the following features. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can be an alcohol oxidase 1 promoter element. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can have at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can have at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28. The first protein can be exogenous to the methylotrophic yeast cell. The first protein can be heterologous to the methylotrophic yeast cell. The first protein can be selected from the group consisting of an antibody or fragment thereof, an enzyme, a regulatory protein, a peptide hormone, a blood clotting protein, a cytokine, and a heme-binding protein. The first protein can be a heme-binding protein. The heme-binding protein can be selected from the group consisting of a globin, a cytochrome, a cytochrome c oxidase, a ligninase, a catalase, and a peroxidase. The heme-binding protein can be selected from the group consisting of an androglobin, a chlorocruorin, a cytoglobin, an erythrocrucorin, a flavohemoglobin, a globin E, a globin X, a globin Y, a hemoglobin, a histoglobin, a leghemoglobin, a myoglobin, a neuroglobin, a non-symbiotic hemoglobin, a protoglobin, and a truncated hemoglobin. The heme-binding protein can be a non-symbiotic hemoglobin. The heme-binding protein can be a leghemoglobin. The heme-binding protein can include an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to an amino acid sequence in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-27. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can contain one or more recognition sequences for a transcription factor. The method can further include expressing a second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence encoding a second protein, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the second protein is operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element or to a second promoter element. The nucleotide sequence encoding the second protein can be operably linked to a second promoter element that has the

same sequence as the first alcohol oxidase promoter element. The second protein can be a transcription factor. The nucleotide sequence encoding the second protein can be operably linked to a second promoter element that can include a recognition sequence for the transcription factor. The first alcohol oxidase promoter element can include a recognition sequence for the transcription factor. The second protein can be a protein involved in heme biosynthesis. The protein involved in heme biosynthesis can be selected from the group consisting of ALAS, ALAD, PBGD, UPG3S, UPG3D, COPROX, PROTOX, and FC. The method can be carried out in the absence of added methanol.

In another aspect, provided herein is a *Pichia pastoris* cell including a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the one or more mutations can be selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

In another aspect, also provided herein is a method of producing leghemoglobin, the method including expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence encoding leghemoglobin operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the method can be carried out in the absence of added methanol. In some embodiments, the one or more mutations can be selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

In another aspect, provided herein is a *Pichia pastoris* cell including a first nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence with at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28, wherein the first nucleic acid construct includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G,

T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the one or more mutations can be selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

5 Unless otherwise defined, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this invention pertains. Although methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used to practice the invention, suitable methods and materials are described below. All publications, patent applications, patents, and other references mentioned herein are incorporated
10 by reference in their entirety. In case of conflict, the present specification, including definitions, will control. In addition, the materials, methods, and examples are illustrative only and not intended to be limiting.

The details of one or more embodiments of the invention are set forth in the accompanying drawings and the description below. Other features, objects, and advantages of
15 the invention will be apparent from the description and drawings, and from the claims. The word “comprising” in the claims may be replaced by “consisting essentially of” or with “consisting of,” according to standard practice in patent law.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 provides the sequences of exemplary heme-binding proteins (SEQ ID NOs: 1-27).

20 Figure 2 provides the sequences of pAOX1 wild-type and mutant sequences (SEQ ID NOs: 28-29).

Figure 3 is an image showing growth of pMx0414 transformants on YPD medium.

Figure 4 is a graph plotting the relative expression of GFP in strains MxY0270 and MxY0279 under different growth conditions.

25 Figure 5 is a comparison of portions of the sequence of MxG0038 and MxG0220.

Figure 6 is a graph plotting the relative expression of GFP in strains MxY0964, MxY965, and MxY1039.

Figure 7 provides the sequences of SEQ ID NOs: 30-37.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

This document is related to materials and methods for protein production. For example, in one aspect, this document is related to materials and method for the production of products (e.g., proteins (e.g., plant proteins)) in cells (e.g., yeast (e.g., methylotrophic yeast) using an engineered promoter.

Methylotrophic yeast, such as *Pichia pastoris*, are commonly used to produce recombinant products (e.g., proteins). *Pichia* strains are typically able to grow on methanol as the sole carbon source. It will be understood that *Pichia pastoris* has been reclassified as *Komagataella* species, such as *Komagataella phaffii*, *Komagataella pastoris*, or *Komagataella pseudopastoris*, though the term '*Pichia pastoris*' is still in use and may refer to any appropriate *Komagataella* species. Commonly, laboratory strains of *P. pastoris* are *Komagataella phaffii*.

Methanol utilization can be initiated by the conversion of methanol to formaldehyde by the action of alcohol oxidase. *P. pastoris* contains two genes for alcohol oxidases, AOX1 and AOX2. Strains with reduced alcohol oxidase activity ("methanol utilization slow" or MutS strains) can usually produce more of a recombinant product (e.g., protein) expressed from the AOX1 promoter than strains that do not have reduced alcohol oxidase activity. The *Pichia pastoris* promoter for the alcohol oxidase 1 (AOX1) gene, referred to as pAOX1, can be used for production of heterologous products (e.g., proteins (e.g., proteins of industrial relevance)). Expression from this promoter can be induced in the presence of methanol, a flammable and toxic compound. In some embodiments, the materials and methods described herein can allow for expression of recombinant products (e.g., proteins) at high level from this promoter, or a promoter element therefrom, in the absence of methanol. In some embodiments, the materials and methods described herein can allow for expression of recombinant products (e.g., proteins) at high level from this promoter, or a promoter element therefrom, in the absence of added methanol.

Expression from pAOX1 is typically absent or very poor in the presence of non-inducing carbon sources, such as glucose or glycerol. Herein are described mutations in pAOX1 that allow significant expression from pAOX1 in the absence of methanol. Herein are described mutations in pAOX1 that allow significant expression from pAOX1 in the absence of added methanol. A reference pAOX1 sequence is provided in SEQ ID NO: 28 (Figure 2). Exemplary mutations in

pAOX1, as described herein, are provided in SEQ ID NO: 29 (Figure 2). These mutations can be present individually or in any combination. These mutations can also provide an additional increase in expression from pAOX1 when methanol is present.

Thus, provided herein are nucleic acid constructs (sometimes also called nucleic acid molecules) that include a promoter element having a sequence that includes one or more mutations as compared to a reference promoter sequence. In some embodiments, a promoter element can be an alcohol oxidase promoter element. In some embodiments, a promoter element can have at least 70% (e.g., at least 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%) sequence identity to an alcohol oxidase promoter element (e.g., SEQ ID NO: 28 or SEQ ID NO: 29). In some embodiments, a promoter element can have the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29. In some embodiments, a single mutation can be present in a promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, a single mutation corresponding to a mutation in one of nucleotide positions 668-734 (e.g., nucleotide positions 673-729, nucleotide positions 678-724, nucleotide positions 683-719, or nucleotide positions 688-714) relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, a single mutation corresponding to one of the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: T146C; C154T; T303C; T426A; A433T; A435G; T530A; C572T; T596C; T617C; T688C; A696T; T702C; A709G; A712G; T714G; A790G; A841T; or T862A. For example, in some embodiments, a single mutation corresponding to one of the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: 146C; 154T; 303C; 426A; 433T; 435G; 530A; 572T; 596C; 617C; 688C; 696T; 702C; 709G; 712G; 714G; 790G; 841T; or 862A, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. For example, in some embodiments, a single mutation at a position corresponding to one of the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: T146; C154; T303; T426; A433; A435; T530; C572; T596; T617; T688; A696; T702; A709; A712; T714; A790; A841; or T862. For example, in some embodiments, a single mutation at a position corresponding to one of the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: 146; 154; 303; 426; 433; 435; 530; 572; 596; 617; 688; 696; 702; 709; 712; 714; 790; 841; or 862. For example, in some embodiments, a single mutation corresponding to one of the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element:

T688C; A696T; T702C; A712G; or T714G. For example, in some embodiments, a single mutation corresponding to one of the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: 688C; 696T; 702C; 712G; or 714G, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. For example, in
5 some embodiments, a single mutation at a position corresponding to one of the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: T688; A696; T702; A712; or T714. For example, in some embodiments, a single mutation at a position corresponding to one of the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: 688; 696; 702; 712; or 714.

10 Also provided herein are nucleic acid constructs that include a promoter element having a sequence that includes multiple (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, or more) mutations as compared to a reference promoter sequence. For example, in some embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 10, at least 15, 2 to 5, 2 to 10, 2 to 15, 2 to 20, 5 to 10, 5 to 15, 5 to 20, 10 to 15, 10 to 20, or 15 to 20) mutations
15 corresponding to a mutation in nucleotide positions 668-734 (e.g., nucleotide positions 673-729, nucleotide positions 678-724, nucleotide positions 683-719, or nucleotide positions 688-714) relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least 16, at least 18, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,
20 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: T146C; C154T; T303C; T426A; A433T; A435G; T530A; C572T; T596C; T617C; T688C; A696T; T702C; A709G; A712G; T714G; A790G; A841T; or T862A. For example, in some embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least
25 16, at least 18, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: 146C; 154T; 303C; 426A; 433T; 435G; 530A; 572T; 596C; 617C; 688C; 696T; 702C; 709G; 712G; 714G; 790G; 841T; or 862A, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. For example, in some
30 embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at

least 9, at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least 16, at least 18, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: T146; C154; T303; T426; A433; A435; T530; C572; T596; T617; T688; A696; T702; A709; A712; T714; A790; A841; or T862. For example, in some embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 12, at least 14, at least 16, at least 18, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: 146; 154; 303; 426; 433; 435; 530; 572; 596; 617; 688; 696; 702; 709; 712; 714; 790; 841; or 862. For example, in some embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: T688C; A696T; T702C; A712G; or T714G. For example, in some embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: 688C; 696T; 702C; 712G; or 714G, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. For example, in some embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations corresponding to one of the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: T688; A696; T702; A712; or T714. For example, in some embodiments, at least 2 (e.g., at least 3, at least 4, 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations corresponding to one of the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter element: 688; 696; 702; 712; or 714.

In some embodiments, a mutation in a nucleic acid can be an insertion, a deletion or a substitution. In some embodiments, a mutation in a nucleic acid can be a substitution (e.g., a guanosine to cytosine mutation). In some embodiments, a mutation in a nucleic acid can be in a non-coding sequence. In some embodiments, a substitution in a coding sequence (e.g., encoding a protein) can be a silent mutation (e.g., the same amino acid is encoded). In some embodiments, a substitution in a coding sequence can be a nonsynonymous mutation (e.g., a missense mutation or a nonsense mutation). In some embodiments, a substitution in a coding sequence can be a missense mutation (e.g., a different amino acid is encoded). In some embodiments, a substitution in a coding sequence can be nonsense mutation (e.g., a premature stop codon is encoded). It will

be understood that mutations can be used to alter an endogenous nucleic acid, using, for example, CRISPR, TALEN, and/or Zinc-finger nucleases.

In some embodiments, a mutation in a protein sequence can be an insertion, a deletion, or a substitution. It will be understood that a mutation in a nucleic acid that encodes a protein can cause a mutation in a protein sequence. In some embodiments, a mutation in a protein sequence is a substitution (e.g., a cysteine to serine mutation, or a cysteine to alanine mutation).

As used herein, a “corresponding” nucleic acid position (or substitution) in a nucleic acid sequence different from a reference nucleic acid sequence (e.g., in a truncated, extended, or mutated nucleic acid sequence of a pAOX1 promoter compared to a reference pAOX nucleic acid sequence, such as SEQ ID NO: 28) can be identified by performing a sequence alignment between the nucleic acid sequences of interest. It will be understood that in some cases, a gap can exist in a nucleic acid alignment. Similarly, a “corresponding” amino acid position (or substitution) in a protein sequence different from a reference protein sequence (e.g., in the myoglobin protein sequence of a different organism compared to a reference myoglobin protein sequence, such as SEQ ID NO: 18) can be identified by performing a sequence alignment between the protein sequences of interest. It will be understood that in some cases, a gap can exist in a protein alignment. As used herein, a nucleotide or amino acid position “relative to” a reference sequence can be the corresponding nucleotide or amino acid position in a reference sequence.

In some embodiments, a reference sequence can be from the same taxonomic rank as a comparator sequence. In some embodiments, a reference sequence can be from the same domain as a comparator sequence. For example, in some embodiments, both a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can be from domain *Eukarya*. In some embodiments, a reference sequence can be from the same kingdom as a comparator sequence. For example, in some embodiments, both a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can be from the kingdom *Fungi*. In some embodiments, a reference sequence can be from the same phylum as a comparator sequence. For example, in some embodiments, both a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can be from phylum *Ascomycota*. In some embodiments, a reference sequence can be from the same class as a comparator sequence. For example, in some embodiments, both a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can be from the class *Saccharomycetes*. In some embodiments, a

reference sequence can be from the same order as a comparator sequence. For example, in some embodiments, both a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can be from the order *Saccharomycetales*. In some embodiments, a reference sequence can be from the same family as a comparator sequence. For example, in some embodiments, both a reference sequence and
5 comparator sequence can be from the family *Saccharomycetaceae*. In some embodiments, a reference sequence can be from the same genus as a comparator sequence. For example, in some embodiments, both a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can be from the genus *Pichia*. In some embodiments, a reference sequence can be from the same species as a comparator sequence.

10 In some embodiments, a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can both be from yeast. In some embodiments, a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can both be from methylotrophic yeast.

In some embodiments, a reference sequence and a comparator sequence can have at least 50% (e.g., at least 55%, 60%, 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, or 99%) sequence identity.

15 In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include two mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, two mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T146C and C154T; T146C and T303C; T146C and T426A; T146C and A433T; T146C and A435G; T146C and
20 T530A; T146C and C572T; T146C and T596C; T146C and T617C; T146C and T688C; T146C and A696T; T146C and T702C; T146C and A709G; T146C and A712G; T146C and T714G; T146C and A790G; T146C and A841T; T146C and T862A; C154T and T303C; C154T and T426A; C154T and A433T; C154T and A435G; C154T and T530A; C154T and C572T; C154T and T596C; C154T and T617C; C154T and T688C; C154T and A696T; C154T and T702C;
25 C154T and A709G; C154T and A712G; C154T and T714G; C154T and A790G; C154T and A841T; C154T and T862A; T303C and T426A; T303C and A433T; T303C and A435G; T303C and T530A; T303C and C572T; T303C and T596C; T303C and T617C; T303C and T688C; T303C and A696T; T303C and T702C; T303C and A709G; T303C and A712G; T303C and T714G; T303C and A790G; T303C and A841T; T303C and T862A; T426A and A433T; T426A
30 and A435G; T426A and T530A; T426A and C572T; T426A and T596C; T426A and T617C;

T426A and T688C; T426A and A696T; T426A and T702C; T426A and A709G; T426A and
 A712G; T426A and T714G; T426A and A790G; T426A and A841T; T426A and T862A; A433T
 and A435G; A433T and T530A; A433T and C572T; A433T and T596C; A433T and T617C;
 A433T and T688C; A433T and A696T; A433T and T702C; A433T and A709G; A433T and
 5 A712G; A433T and T714G; A433T and A790G; A433T and A841T; A433T and T862A;
 A435G and T530A; A435G and C572T; A435G and T596C; A435G and T617C; A435G and
 T688C; A435G and A696T; A435G and T702C; A435G and A709G; A435G and A712G;
 A435G and T714G; A435G and A790G; A435G and A841T; A435G and T862A; T530A and
 C572T; T530A and T596C; T530A and T617C; T530A and T688C; T530A and A696T; T530A
 10 and T702C; T530A and A709G; T530A and A712G; T530A and T714G; T530A and A790G;
 T530A and A841T; T530A and T862A; C572T and T596C; C572T and T617C; C572T and
 T688C; C572T and A696T; C572T and T702C; C572T and A709G; C572T and A712G; C572T
 and T714G; C572T and A790G; C572T and A841T; C572T and T862A; T596C and T617C;
 T596C and T688C; T596C and A696T; T596C and T702C; T596C and A709G; T596C and
 15 A712G; T596C and T714G; T596C and A790G; T596C and A841T; T596C and T862A; T617C
 and T688C; T617C and A696T; T617C and T702C; T617C and A709G; T617C and A712G;
 T617C and T714G; T617C and A790G; T617C and A841T; T617C and T862A; T688C and
 A696T; T688C and T702C; T688C and A709G; T688C and A712G; T688C and T714G; T688C
 and A790G; T688C and A841T; T688C and T862A; A696T and T702C; A696T and A709G;
 20 A696T and A712G; A696T and T714G; A696T and A790G; A696T and A841T; A696T and
 T862A; T702C and A709G; T702C and A712G; T702C and T714G; T702C and A790G; T702C
 and A841T; T702C and T862A; A709G and A712G; A709G and T714G; A709G and A790G;
 A709G and A841T; A709G and T862A; A712G and T714G; A712G and A790G; A712G and
 A841T; A712G and T862A; T714G and A790G; T714G and A841T; T714G and T862A;
 25 A790G and A841T; A790G and T862A; or A841T and T862A.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein
 can include three mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter
 element. For example, in some embodiments, three mutations corresponding to the following
 mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T146C, C154T, and
 30 T303C; T146C, C154T, and T426A; T146C, C154T, and A433T; T146C, C154T, and A435G;

T146C, C154T, and T530A; T146C, C154T, and C572T; T146C, C154T, and T596C; T146C, C154T, and T617C; T146C, C154T, and T688C; T146C, C154T, and A696T; T146C, C154T, and T702C; T146C, C154T, and A709G; T146C, C154T, and A712G; T146C, C154T, and T714G; T146C, C154T, and A790G; T146C, C154T, and A841T; T146C, C154T, and T862A; T146C, T303C, and T426A; T146C, T303C, and A433T; T146C, T303C, and A435G; T146C, T303C, and T530A; T146C, T303C, and C572T; T146C, T303C, and T596C; T146C, T303C, and T617C; T146C, T303C, and T688C; T146C, T303C, and A696T; T146C, T303C, and T702C; T146C, T303C, and A709G; T146C, T303C, and A712G; T146C, T303C, and T714G; T146C, T303C, and A790G; T146C, T303C, and A841T; T146C, T303C, and T862A; T146C, T426A, and A433T; T146C, T426A, and A435G; T146C, T426A, and T530A; T146C, T426A, and C572T; T146C, T426A, and T596C; T146C, T426A, and T617C; T146C, T426A, and T688C; T146C, T426A, and A696T; T146C, T426A, and T702C; T146C, T426A, and A709G; T146C, T426A, and A712G; T146C, T426A, and T714G; T146C, T426A, and A790G; T146C, T426A, and A841T; T146C, T426A, and T862A; T146C, A433T, and A435G; T146C, A433T, and T530A; T146C, A433T, and C572T; T146C, A433T, and T596C; T146C, A433T, and T617C; T146C, A433T, and T688C; T146C, A433T, and A696T; T146C, A433T, and T702C; T146C, A433T, and A709G; T146C, A433T, and A712G; T146C, A433T, and T714G; T146C, A433T, and A790G; T146C, A433T, and A841T; T146C, A433T, and T862A; T146C, A435G, and T530A; T146C, A435G, and C572T; T146C, A435G, and T596C; T146C, A435G, and T617C; T146C, A435G, and T688C; T146C, A435G, and A696T; T146C, A435G, and T702C; T146C, A435G, and A709G; T146C, A435G, and A712G; T146C, A435G, and T714G; T146C, A435G, and A790G; T146C, A435G, and A841T; T146C, A435G, and T862A; T146C, T530A, and C572T; T146C, T530A, and T596C; T146C, T530A, and T617C; T146C, T530A, and T688C; T146C, T530A, and A696T; T146C, T530A, and T702C; T146C, T530A, and A709G; T146C, T530A, and A712G; T146C, T530A, and T714G; T146C, T530A, and A790G; T146C, T530A, and A841T; T146C, T530A, and T862A; T146C, C572T, and T596C; T146C, C572T, and T617C; T146C, C572T, and T688C; T146C, C572T, and A696T; T146C, C572T, and T702C; T146C, C572T, and A709G; T146C, C572T, and A712G; T146C, C572T, and T714G; T146C, C572T, and A790G; T146C, C572T, and A841T; T146C, C572T, and T862A; T146C, T596C, and T617C; T146C, T596C, and T688C; T146C, T596C, and A696T; T146C, T596C,

and T702C; T146C, T596C, and A709G; T146C, T596C, and A712G; T146C, T596C, and
T714G; T146C, T596C, and A790G; T146C, T596C, and A841T; T146C, T596C, and T862A;
T146C, T617C, and T688C; T146C, T617C, and A696T; T146C, T617C, and T702C; T146C,
T617C, and A709G; T146C, T617C, and A712G; T146C, T617C, and T714G; T146C, T617C,
5 and A790G; T146C, T617C, and A841T; T146C, T617C, and T862A; T146C, T688C, and
A696T; T146C, T688C, and T702C; T146C, T688C, and A709G; T146C, T688C, and A712G;
T146C, T688C, and T714G; T146C, T688C, and A790G; T146C, T688C, and A841T; T146C,
T688C, and T862A; T146C, A696T, and T702C; T146C, A696T, and A709G; T146C, A696T,
and A712G; T146C, A696T, and T714G; T146C, A696T, and A790G; T146C, A696T, and
10 A841T; T146C, A696T, and T862A; T146C, T702C, and A709G; T146C, T702C, and A712G;
T146C, T702C, and T714G; T146C, T702C, and A790G; T146C, T702C, and A841T; T146C,
T702C, and T862A; T146C, A709G, and A712G; T146C, A709G, and T714G; T146C, A709G,
and A790G; T146C, A709G, and A841T; T146C, A709G, and T862A; T146C, A712G, and
T714G; T146C, A712G, and A790G; T146C, A712G, and A841T; T146C, A712G, and T862A;
15 T146C, T714G, and A790G; T146C, T714G, and A841T; T146C, T714G, and T862A; T146C,
A790G, and A841T; T146C, A790G, and T862A; T146C, A841T, and T862A; C154T, T303C,
and T426A; C154T, T303C, and A433T; C154T, T303C, and A435G; C154T, T303C, and
T530A; C154T, T303C, and C572T; C154T, T303C, and T596C; C154T, T303C, and T617C;
C154T, T303C, and T688C; C154T, T303C, and A696T; C154T, T303C, and T702C; C154T,
20 T303C, and A709G; C154T, T303C, and A712G; C154T, T303C, and T714G; C154T, T303C,
and A790G; C154T, T303C, and A841T; C154T, T303C, and T862A; C154T, T426A, and
A433T; C154T, T426A, and A435G; C154T, T426A, and T530A; C154T, T426A, and C572T;
C154T, T426A, and T596C; C154T, T426A, and T617C; C154T, T426A, and T688C; C154T,
T426A, and A696T; C154T, T426A, and T702C; C154T, T426A, and A709G; C154T, T426A,
25 and A712G; C154T, T426A, and T714G; C154T, T426A, and A790G; C154T, T426A, and
A841T; C154T, T426A, and T862A; C154T, A433T, and A435G; C154T, A433T, and T530A;
C154T, A433T, and C572T; C154T, A433T, and T596C; C154T, A433T, and T617C; C154T,
A433T, and T688C; C154T, A433T, and A696T; C154T, A433T, and T702C; C154T, A433T,
and A709G; C154T, A433T, and A712G; C154T, A433T, and T714G; C154T, A433T, and
30 A790G; C154T, A433T, and A841T; C154T, A433T, and T862A; C154T, A435G, and T530A;

C154T, A435G, and C572T; C154T, A435G, and T596C; C154T, A435G, and T617C; C154T, A435G, and T688C; C154T, A435G, and A696T; C154T, A435G, and T702C; C154T, A435G, and A709G; C154T, A435G, and A712G; C154T, A435G, and T714G; C154T, A435G, and A790G; C154T, A435G, and A841T; C154T, A435G, and T862A; C154T, T530A, and C572T; C154T, T530A, and T596C; C154T, T530A, and T617C; C154T, T530A, and T688C; C154T, T530A, and A696T; C154T, T530A, and T702C; C154T, T530A, and A709G; C154T, T530A, and A712G; C154T, T530A, and T714G; C154T, T530A, and A790G; C154T, T530A, and A841T; C154T, T530A, and T862A; C154T, C572T, and T596C; C154T, C572T, and T617C; C154T, C572T, and T688C; C154T, C572T, and A696T; C154T, C572T, and T702C; C154T, C572T, and A709G; C154T, C572T, and A712G; C154T, C572T, and T714G; C154T, C572T, and A790G; C154T, C572T, and A841T; C154T, C572T, and T862A; C154T, T596C, and T617C; C154T, T596C, and T688C; C154T, T596C, and A696T; C154T, T596C, and T702C; C154T, T596C, and A709G; C154T, T596C, and A712G; C154T, T596C, and T714G; C154T, T596C, and A790G; C154T, T596C, and A841T; C154T, T596C, and T862A; C154T, T617C, and T688C; C154T, T617C, and A696T; C154T, T617C, and T702C; C154T, T617C, and A709G; C154T, T617C, and A712G; C154T, T617C, and T714G; C154T, T617C, and A790G; C154T, T617C, and A841T; C154T, T617C, and T862A; C154T, T688C, and A696T; C154T, T688C, and T702C; C154T, T688C, and A709G; C154T, T688C, and A712G; C154T, T688C, and T714G; C154T, T688C, and A790G; C154T, T688C, and A841T; C154T, T688C, and T862A; C154T, A696T, and T702C; C154T, A696T, and A709G; C154T, A696T, and A712G; C154T, A696T, and T714G; C154T, A696T, and A790G; C154T, A696T, and A841T; C154T, A696T, and T862A; C154T, T702C, and A709G; C154T, T702C, and A712G; C154T, T702C, and T714G; C154T, T702C, and A790G; C154T, T702C, and A841T; C154T, T702C, and T862A; C154T, A709G, and A712G; C154T, A709G, and T714G; C154T, A709G, and A790G; C154T, A709G, and A841T; C154T, A709G, and T862A; C154T, A712G, and T714G; C154T, A712G, and A790G; C154T, A712G, and A841T; C154T, A712G, and T862A; C154T, T714G, and A790G; C154T, T714G, and A841T; C154T, T714G, and T862A; C154T, A790G, and A841T; C154T, A790G, and T862A; C154T, A841T, and T862A; T303C, T426A, and A433T; T303C, T426A, and A435G; T303C, T426A, and T530A; T303C, T426A, and C572T; T303C, T426A, and T596C; T303C, T426A, and T617C; T303C, T426A, and T688C; T303C, T426A,

and A696T; T303C, T426A, and T702C; T303C, T426A, and A709G; T303C, T426A, and A712G; T303C, T426A, and T714G; T303C, T426A, and A790G; T303C, T426A, and A841T; T303C, T426A, and T862A; T303C, A433T, and A435G; T303C, A433T, and T530A; T303C, A433T, and C572T; T303C, A433T, and T596C; T303C, A433T, and T617C; T303C, A433T, and T688C; T303C, A433T, and A696T; T303C, A433T, and T702C; T303C, A433T, and A709G; T303C, A433T, and A712G; T303C, A433T, and T714G; T303C, A433T, and A790G; T303C, A433T, and A841T; T303C, A433T, and T862A; T303C, A435G, and T530A; T303C, A435G, and C572T; T303C, A435G, and T596C; T303C, A435G, and T617C; T303C, A435G, and T688C; T303C, A435G, and A696T; T303C, A435G, and T702C; T303C, A435G, and A709G; T303C, A435G, and A712G; T303C, A435G, and T714G; T303C, A435G, and A790G; T303C, A435G, and A841T; T303C, A435G, and T862A; T303C, T530A, and C572T; T303C, T530A, and T596C; T303C, T530A, and T617C; T303C, T530A, and T688C; T303C, T530A, and A696T; T303C, T530A, and T702C; T303C, T530A, and A709G; T303C, T530A, and A712G; T303C, T530A, and T714G; T303C, T530A, and A790G; T303C, T530A, and A841T; T303C, T530A, and T862A; T303C, C572T, and T596C; T303C, C572T, and T617C; T303C, C572T, and T688C; T303C, C572T, and A696T; T303C, C572T, and T702C; T303C, C572T, and A709G; T303C, C572T, and A712G; T303C, C572T, and T714G; T303C, C572T, and A790G; T303C, C572T, and A841T; T303C, C572T, and T862A; T303C, T596C, and T617C; T303C, T596C, and T688C; T303C, T596C, and A696T; T303C, T596C, and T702C; T303C, T596C, and A709G; T303C, T596C, and A712G; T303C, T596C, and T714G; T303C, T596C, and A790G; T303C, T596C, and A841T; T303C, T596C, and T862A; T303C, T617C, and T688C; T303C, T617C, and A696T; T303C, T617C, and T702C; T303C, T617C, and A709G; T303C, T617C, and A712G; T303C, T617C, and T714G; T303C, T617C, and A790G; T303C, T617C, and A841T; T303C, T617C, and T862A; T303C, T688C, and A696T; T303C, T688C, and T702C; T303C, T688C, and A709G; T303C, T688C, and A712G; T303C, T688C, and T714G; T303C, T688C, and A790G; T303C, T688C, and A841T; T303C, T688C, and T862A; T303C, A696T, and T702C; T303C, A696T, and A709G; T303C, A696T, and A712G; T303C, A696T, and T714G; T303C, A696T, and A790G; T303C, A696T, and A841T; T303C, A696T, and T862A; T303C, T702C, and A709G; T303C, T702C, and A712G; T303C, T702C, and T714G; T303C, T702C, and A790G; T303C, T702C, and A841T; T303C, T702C, and T862A;

T303C, A709G, and A712G; T303C, A709G, and T714G; T303C, A709G, and A790G; T303C, A709G, and A841T; T303C, A709G, and T862A; T303C, A712G, and T714G; T303C, A712G, and A790G; T303C, A712G, and A841T; T303C, A712G, and T862A; T303C, T714G, and A790G; T303C, T714G, and A841T; T303C, T714G, and T862A; T303C, A790G, and A841T; T303C, A790G, and T862A; T303C, A841T, and T862A; T426A, A433T, and A435G; T426A, A433T, and T530A; T426A, A433T, and C572T; T426A, A433T, and T596C; T426A, A433T, and T617C; T426A, A433T, and T688C; T426A, A433T, and A696T; T426A, A433T, and T702C; T426A, A433T, and A709G; T426A, A433T, and A712G; T426A, A433T, and T714G; T426A, A433T, and A790G; T426A, A433T, and A841T; T426A, A433T, and T862A; T426A, A435G, and T530A; T426A, A435G, and C572T; T426A, A435G, and T596C; T426A, A435G, and T617C; T426A, A435G, and T688C; T426A, A435G, and A696T; T426A, A435G, and T702C; T426A, A435G, and A709G; T426A, A435G, and A712G; T426A, A435G, and T714G; T426A, A435G, and A790G; T426A, A435G, and A841T; T426A, A435G, and T862A; T426A, T530A, and C572T; T426A, T530A, and T596C; T426A, T530A, and T617C; T426A, T530A, and T688C; T426A, T530A, and A696T; T426A, T530A, and T702C; T426A, T530A, and A709G; T426A, T530A, and A712G; T426A, T530A, and T714G; T426A, T530A, and A790G; T426A, T530A, and A841T; T426A, T530A, and T862A; T426A, C572T, and T596C; T426A, C572T, and T617C; T426A, C572T, and T688C; T426A, C572T, and A696T; T426A, C572T, and T702C; T426A, C572T, and A709G; T426A, C572T, and A712G; T426A, C572T, and T714G; T426A, C572T, and A790G; T426A, C572T, and A841T; T426A, C572T, and T862A; T426A, T596C, and T617C; T426A, T596C, and T688C; T426A, T596C, and A696T; T426A, T596C, and T702C; T426A, T596C, and A709G; T426A, T596C, and A712G; T426A, T596C, and T714G; T426A, T596C, and A790G; T426A, T596C, and A841T; T426A, T596C, and T862A; T426A, T617C, and T688C; T426A, T617C, and A696T; T426A, T617C, and T702C; T426A, T617C, and A709G; T426A, T617C, and A712G; T426A, T617C, and T714G; T426A, T617C, and A790G; T426A, T617C, and A841T; T426A, T617C, and T862A; T426A, T688C, and A696T; T426A, T688C, and T702C; T426A, T688C, and A709G; T426A, T688C, and A712G; T426A, T688C, and T714G; T426A, T688C, and A790G; T426A, T688C, and A841T; T426A, T688C, and T862A; T426A, A696T, and T702C; T426A, A696T, and A709G; T426A, A696T, and A712G; T426A, A696T, and T714G; T426A, A696T, and A790G; T426A, A696T,

and A841T; T426A, A696T, and T862A; T426A, T702C, and A709G; T426A, T702C, and A712G; T426A, T702C, and T714G; T426A, T702C, and A790G; T426A, T702C, and A841T; T426A, T702C, and T862A; T426A, A709G, and A712G; T426A, A709G, and T714G; T426A, A709G, and A790G; T426A, A709G, and A841T; T426A, A709G, and T862A; T426A, A712G, and T714G; T426A, A712G, and A790G; T426A, A712G, and A841T; T426A, A712G, and T862A; T426A, T714G, and A790G; T426A, T714G, and A841T; T426A, T714G, and T862A; T426A, A790G, and A841T; T426A, A790G, and T862A; T426A, A841T, and T862A; A433T, A435G, and T530A; A433T, A435G, and C572T; A433T, A435G, and T596C; A433T, A435G, and T617C; A433T, A435G, and T688C; A433T, A435G, and A696T; A433T, A435G, and T702C; A433T, A435G, and A709G; A433T, A435G, and A712G; A433T, A435G, and T714G; A433T, A435G, and A790G; A433T, A435G, and A841T; A433T, A435G, and T862A; A433T, T530A, and C572T; A433T, T530A, and T596C; A433T, T530A, and T617C; A433T, T530A, and T688C; A433T, T530A, and A696T; A433T, T530A, and T702C; A433T, T530A, and A709G; A433T, T530A, and A712G; A433T, T530A, and T714G; A433T, T530A, and A790G; A433T, T530A, and A841T; A433T, T530A, and T862A; A433T, C572T, and T596C; A433T, C572T, and T617C; A433T, C572T, and T688C; A433T, C572T, and A696T; A433T, C572T, and T702C; A433T, C572T, and A709G; A433T, C572T, and A712G; A433T, C572T, and T714G; A433T, C572T, and A790G; A433T, C572T, and A841T; A433T, C572T, and T862A; A433T, T596C, and T617C; A433T, T596C, and T688C; A433T, T596C, and A696T; A433T, T596C, and T702C; A433T, T596C, and A709G; A433T, T596C, and A712G; A433T, T596C, and T714G; A433T, T596C, and A790G; A433T, T596C, and A841T; A433T, T596C, and T862A; A433T, T617C, and T688C; A433T, T617C, and A696T; A433T, T617C, and T702C; A433T, T617C, and A709G; A433T, T617C, and A712G; A433T, T617C, and T714G; A433T, T617C, and A790G; A433T, T617C, and A841T; A433T, T617C, and T862A; A433T, T688C, and A696T; A433T, T688C, and T702C; A433T, T688C, and A709G; A433T, T688C, and A712G; A433T, T688C, and T714G; A433T, T688C, and A790G; A433T, T688C, and A841T; A433T, T688C, and T862A; A433T, A696T, and T702C; A433T, A696T, and A709G; A433T, A696T, and A712G; A433T, A696T, and T714G; A433T, A696T, and A790G; A433T, A696T, and A841T; A433T, A696T, and T862A; A433T, T702C, and A709G; A433T, T702C, and A712G; A433T, T702C, and T714G; A433T, T702C, and A790G; A433T, T702C, and A841T;

A433T, T702C, and T862A; A433T, A709G, and A712G; A433T, A709G, and T714G; A433T, A709G, and A790G; A433T, A709G, and A841T; A433T, A709G, and T862A; A433T, A712G, and T714G; A433T, A712G, and A790G; A433T, A712G, and A841T; A433T, A712G, and T862A; A433T, T714G, and A790G; A433T, T714G, and A841T; A433T, T714G, and T862A; A433T, A790G, and A841T; A433T, A790G, and T862A; A433T, A841T, and T862A; A435G, T530A, and C572T; A435G, T530A, and T596C; A435G, T530A, and T617C; A435G, T530A, and T688C; A435G, T530A, and A696T; A435G, T530A, and T702C; A435G, T530A, and A709G; A435G, T530A, and A712G; A435G, T530A, and T714G; A435G, T530A, and A790G; A435G, T530A, and A841T; A435G, T530A, and T862A; A435G, C572T, and T596C; A435G, C572T, and T617C; A435G, C572T, and T688C; A435G, C572T, and A696T; A435G, C572T, and T702C; A435G, C572T, and A709G; A435G, C572T, and A712G; A435G, C572T, and T714G; A435G, C572T, and A790G; A435G, C572T, and A841T; A435G, C572T, and T862A; A435G, T596C, and T617C; A435G, T596C, and T688C; A435G, T596C, and A696T; A435G, T596C, and T702C; A435G, T596C, and A709G; A435G, T596C, and A712G; A435G, T596C, and T714G; A435G, T596C, and A790G; A435G, T596C, and A841T; A435G, T596C, and T862A; A435G, T617C, and T688C; A435G, T617C, and A696T; A435G, T617C, and T702C; A435G, T617C, and A709G; A435G, T617C, and A712G; A435G, T617C, and T714G; A435G, T617C, and A790G; A435G, T617C, and A841T; A435G, T617C, and T862A; A435G, T688C, and A696T; A435G, T688C, and T702C; A435G, T688C, and A709G; A435G, T688C, and A712G; A435G, T688C, and T714G; A435G, T688C, and A790G; A435G, T688C, and A841T; A435G, T688C, and T862A; A435G, A696T, and T702C; A435G, A696T, and A709G; A435G, A696T, and A712G; A435G, A696T, and T714G; A435G, A696T, and A790G; A435G, A696T, and A841T; A435G, A696T, and T862A; A435G, T702C, and A709G; A435G, T702C, and A712G; A435G, T702C, and T714G; A435G, T702C, and A790G; A435G, T702C, and A841T; A435G, T702C, and T862A; A435G, A709G, and A712G; A435G, A709G, and T714G; A435G, A709G, and A790G; A435G, A709G, and A841T; A435G, A709G, and T862A; A435G, A712G, and T714G; A435G, A712G, and A790G; A435G, A712G, and A841T; A435G, A712G, and T862A; A435G, T714G, and A790G; A435G, T714G, and A841T; A435G, T714G, and T862A; A435G, A790G, and A841T; A435G, A790G, and T862A; A435G, A841T, and T862A; T530A, C572T, and T596C; T530A, C572T, and T617C; T530A, C572T, and T688C;

T530A, C572T, and A696T; T530A, C572T, and T702C; T530A, C572T, and A709G; T530A, C572T, and A712G; T530A, C572T, and T714G; T530A, C572T, and A790G; T530A, C572T, and A841T; T530A, C572T, and T862A; T530A, T596C, and T617C; T530A, T596C, and T688C; T530A, T596C, and A696T; T530A, T596C, and T702C; T530A, T596C, and A709G; T530A, T596C, and A712G; T530A, T596C, and T714G; T530A, T596C, and A790G; T530A, T596C, and A841T; T530A, T596C, and T862A; T530A, T617C, and T688C; T530A, T617C, and A696T; T530A, T617C, and T702C; T530A, T617C, and A709G; T530A, T617C, and A712G; T530A, T617C, and T714G; T530A, T617C, and A790G; T530A, T617C, and A841T; T530A, T617C, and T862A; T530A, T688C, and A696T; T530A, T688C, and T702C; T530A, T688C, and A709G; T530A, T688C, and A712G; T530A, T688C, and T714G; T530A, T688C, and A790G; T530A, T688C, and A841T; T530A, T688C, and T862A; T530A, A696T, and T702C; T530A, A696T, and A709G; T530A, A696T, and A712G; T530A, A696T, and T714G; T530A, A696T, and A790G; T530A, A696T, and A841T; T530A, A696T, and T862A; T530A, T702C, and A709G; T530A, T702C, and A712G; T530A, T702C, and T714G; T530A, T702C, and A790G; T530A, T702C, and A841T; T530A, T702C, and T862A; T530A, A709G, and A712G; T530A, A709G, and T714G; T530A, A709G, and A790G; T530A, A709G, and A841T; T530A, A709G, and T862A; T530A, A712G, and T714G; T530A, A712G, and A790G; T530A, A712G, and A841T; T530A, A712G, and T862A; T530A, T714G, and A790G; T530A, T714G, and A841T; T530A, T714G, and T862A; T530A, A790G, and A841T; T530A, A790G, and T862A; T530A, A841T, and T862A; C572T, T596C, and T617C; C572T, T596C, and T688C; C572T, T596C, and A696T; C572T, T596C, and T702C; C572T, T596C, and A709G; C572T, T596C, and A712G; C572T, T596C, and T714G; C572T, T596C, and A790G; C572T, T596C, and A841T; C572T, T596C, and T862A; C572T, T617C, and T688C; C572T, T617C, and A696T; C572T, T617C, and T702C; C572T, T617C, and A709G; C572T, T617C, and A712G; C572T, T617C, and T714G; C572T, T617C, and A790G; C572T, T617C, and A841T; C572T, T617C, and T862A; C572T, T688C, and A696T; C572T, T688C, and T702C; C572T, T688C, and A709G; C572T, T688C, and A712G; C572T, T688C, and T714G; C572T, T688C, and A790G; C572T, T688C, and A841T; C572T, T688C, and T862A; C572T, A696T, and T702C; C572T, A696T, and A709G; C572T, A696T, and A712G; C572T, A696T, and T714G; C572T, A696T, and A790G; C572T, A696T, and A841T; C572T, A696T, and T862A; C572T, T702C,

and A709G; C572T, T702C, and A712G; C572T, T702C, and T714G; C572T, T702C, and A790G; C572T, T702C, and A841T; C572T, T702C, and T862A; C572T, A709G, and A712G; C572T, A709G, and T714G; C572T, A709G, and A790G; C572T, A709G, and A841T; C572T, A709G, and T862A; C572T, A712G, and T714G; C572T, A712G, and A790G; C572T, A712G, and A841T; C572T, A712G, and T862A; C572T, T714G, and A790G; C572T, T714G, and A841T; C572T, T714G, and T862A; C572T, A790G, and A841T; C572T, A790G, and T862A; C572T, A841T, and T862A; T596C, T617C, and T688C; T596C, T617C, and A696T; T596C, T617C, and T702C; T596C, T617C, and A709G; T596C, T617C, and A712G; T596C, T617C, and T714G; T596C, T617C, and A790G; T596C, T617C, and A841T; T596C, T617C, and T862A; T596C, T688C, and A696T; T596C, T688C, and T702C; T596C, T688C, and A709G; T596C, T688C, and A712G; T596C, T688C, and T714G; T596C, T688C, and A790G; T596C, T688C, and A841T; T596C, T688C, and T862A; T596C, A696T, and T702C; T596C, A696T, and A709G; T596C, A696T, and A712G; T596C, A696T, and T714G; T596C, A696T, and A790G; T596C, A696T, and A841T; T596C, A696T, and T862A; T596C, T702C, and A709G; T596C, T702C, and A712G; T596C, T702C, and T714G; T596C, T702C, and A790G; T596C, T702C, and A841T; T596C, T702C, and T862A; T596C, A709G, and A712G; T596C, A709G, and T714G; T596C, A709G, and A790G; T596C, A709G, and A841T; T596C, A709G, and T862A; T596C, A712G, and T714G; T596C, A712G, and A790G; T596C, A712G, and A841T; T596C, A712G, and T862A; T596C, T714G, and A790G; T596C, T714G, and A841T; T596C, T714G, and T862A; T596C, A790G, and A841T; T596C, A790G, and T862A; T596C, A841T, and T862A; T617C, T688C, and A696T; T617C, T688C, and T702C; T617C, T688C, and A709G; T617C, T688C, and A712G; T617C, T688C, and T714G; T617C, T688C, and A790G; T617C, T688C, and A841T; T617C, T688C, and T862A; T617C, A696T, and T702C; T617C, A696T, and A709G; T617C, A696T, and A712G; T617C, A696T, and T714G; T617C, A696T, and A790G; T617C, A696T, and A841T; T617C, A696T, and T862A; T617C, T702C, and A709G; T617C, T702C, and A712G; T617C, T702C, and T714G; T617C, T702C, and A790G; T617C, T702C, and A841T; T617C, T702C, and T862A; T617C, A709G, and A712G; T617C, A709G, and T714G; T617C, A709G, and A790G; T617C, A709G, and A841T; T617C, A709G, and T862A; T617C, A712G, and T714G; T617C, A712G, and A790G; T617C, A712G, and A841T; T617C, A712G, and T862A; T617C, T714G, and A790G; T617C, T714G, and A841T;

T617C, T714G, and T862A; T617C, A790G, and A841T; T617C, A790G, and T862A; T617C, A841T, and T862A; T688C, A696T, and T702C; T688C, A696T, and A709G; T688C, A696T, and A712G; T688C, A696T, and T714G; T688C, A696T, and A790G; T688C, A696T, and A841T; T688C, A696T, and T862A; T688C, T702C, and A709G; T688C, T702C, and A712G; T688C, T702C, and T714G; T688C, T702C, and A790G; T688C, T702C, and A841T; T688C, T702C, and T862A; T688C, A709G, and A712G; T688C, A709G, and T714G; T688C, A709G, and A790G; T688C, A709G, and A841T; T688C, A709G, and T862A; T688C, A712G, and T714G; T688C, A712G, and A790G; T688C, A712G, and A841T; T688C, A712G, and T862A; T688C, T714G, and A790G; T688C, T714G, and A841T; T688C, T714G, and T862A; T688C, A790G, and A841T; T688C, A790G, and T862A; T688C, A841T, and T862A; A696T, T702C, and A709G; A696T, T702C, and A712G; A696T, T702C, and T714G; A696T, T702C, and A790G; A696T, T702C, and A841T; A696T, T702C, and T862A; A696T, A709G, and A712G; A696T, A709G, and T714G; A696T, A709G, and A790G; A696T, A709G, and A841T; A696T, A709G, and T862A; A696T, A712G, and T714G; A696T, A712G, and A790G; A696T, A712G, and A841T; A696T, A712G, and T862A; A696T, T714G, and A790G; A696T, T714G, and A841T; A696T, T714G, and T862A; A696T, A790G, and A841T; A696T, A790G, and T862A; A696T, A841T, and T862A; T702C, A709G, and A712G; T702C, A709G, and T714G; T702C, A709G, and A790G; T702C, A709G, and A841T; T702C, A709G, and T862A; T702C, A712G, and T714G; T702C, A712G, and A790G; T702C, A712G, and A841T; T702C, A712G, and T862A; T702C, T714G, and A790G; T702C, T714G, and A841T; T702C, T714G, and T862A; T702C, A790G, and A841T; T702C, A790G, and T862A; T702C, A841T, and T862A; A709G, A712G, and T714G; A709G, A712G, and A790G; A709G, A712G, and A841T; A709G, A712G, and T862A; A709G, T714G, and A790G; A709G, T714G, and A841T; A709G, T714G, and T862A; A709G, A790G, and A841T; A709G, A790G, and T862A; A709G, A841T, and T862A; A712G, T714G, and A790G; A712G, T714G, and A841T; A712G, T714G, and T862A; A712G, A790G, and A841T; A712G, A790G, and T862A; A712G, A841T, and T862A; T714G, A790G, and A841T; T714G, A790G, and T862A; T714G, A841T, and T862A; or A790G, A841T, and T862A.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include two mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter

element. For example, in some embodiments, two mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T688C and A696T; T688C and T702C; T688C and A712G; T688C and T714G; A696T and T702C; A696T and A712G; A696T and T714G; T702C and A712G; T702C and T714G; or A712G and T714G.

5 In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include three mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, three mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T688C, A696T, and T702C; T688C, A696T, and A712G; T688C, A696T, and T714G; T688C, T702C, and A712G; 10 T688C, T702C, and T714G; T688C, A712G, and T714G; A696T, T702C, and A712G; A696T, T702C, and T714G; A696T, A712G, and T714G; or T702C, A712G, and T714G.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include four mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, four mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T688C, A696T, 15 T702C, and A712G; T688C, A696T, T702C, and T714G; T688C, A696T, A712G, and T714G; T688C, T702C, A712G, and T714G; or A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include five mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter 20 element. For example, in some embodiments, five mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include two mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter 25 element. For example, in some embodiments, two mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 146C and 154T; 146C and 303C; 146C and 426A; 146C and 433T; 146C and 435G; 146C and 530A; 146C and 572T; 146C and 596C; 146C and 617C; 146C and 688C; 146C and 696T; 146C and 702C; 146C and 709G; 146C and 712G; 146C and 714G; 146C and 790G; 146C and A841T; 146C and 862A; 154T and 303C; 154T and 426A; 154T and 433T; 154T and 435G; 154T and 530A; 154T 30

and 572T; 154T and 596C; 154T and 617C; 154T and 688C; 154T and 696T; 154T and 702C;
154T and 709G; 154T and 712G; 154T and 714G; 154T and 790G; 154T and A841T; 154T and
862A; 303C and 426A; 303C and 433T; 303C and 435G; 303C and 530A; 303C and 572T; 303C
and 596C; 303C and 617C; 303C and 688C; 303C and 696T; 303C and 702C; 303C and 709G;
5 303C and 712G; 303C and 714G; 303C and 790G; 303C and A841T; 303C and 862A; 426A and
433T; 426A and 435G; 426A and 530A; 426A and 572T; 426A and 596C; 426A and 617C;
426A and 688C; 426A and 696T; 426A and 702C; 426A and 709G; 426A and 712G; 426A and
714G; 426A and 790G; 426A and A841T; 426A and 862A; 433T and 435G; 433T and 530A;
433T and 572T; 433T and 596C; 433T and 617C; 433T and 688C; 433T and 696T; 433T and
10 702C; 433T and 709G; 433T and 712G; 433T and 714G; 433T and 790G; 433T and A841T;
433T and 862A; 435G and 530A; 435G and 572T; 435G and 596C; 435G and 617C; 435G and
688C; 435G and 696T; 435G and 702C; 435G and 709G; 435G and 712G; 435G and 714G;
435G and 790G; 435G and A841T; 435G and 862A; 530A and 572T; 530A and 596C; 530A and
617C; 530A and 688C; 530A and 696T; 530A and 702C; 530A and 709G; 530A and 712G;
15 530A and 714G; 530A and 790G; 530A and A841T; 530A and 862A; 572T and 596C; 572T and
617C; 572T and 688C; 572T and 696T; 572T and 702C; 572T and 709G; 572T and 712G; 572T
and 714G; 572T and 790G; 572T and A841T; 572T and 862A; 596C and 617C; 596C and 688C;
596C and 696T; 596C and 702C; 596C and 709G; 596C and 712G; 596C and 714G; 596C and
790G; 596C and A841T; 596C and 862A; 617C and 688C; 617C and 696T; 617C and 702C;
20 617C and 709G; 617C and 712G; 617C and 714G; 617C and 790G; 617C and A841T; 617C and
862A; 688C and 696T; 688C and 702C; 688C and 709G; 688C and 712G; 688C and 714G;
688C and 790G; 688C and A841T; 688C and 862A; 696T and 702C; 696T and 709G; 696T and
712G; 696T and 714G; 696T and 790G; 696T and A841T; 696T and 862A; 702C and 709G;
702C and 712G; 702C and 714G; 702C and 790G; 702C and A841T; 702C and 862A; 709G and
25 712G; 709G and 714G; 709G and 790G; 709G and A841T; 709G and 862A; 712G and 714G;
712G and 790G; 712G and A841T; 712G and 862A; 714G and 790G; 714G and A841T; 714G
and 862A; 790G and A841T; 790G and 862A; or A841T and 862A, as long as the indicated
nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein
30 can include three mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter

element. For example, in some embodiments, three mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 146C, 154T, and 303C; 146C, 154T, and 426A; 146C, 154T, and 433T; 146C, 154T, and 435G; 146C, 154T, and 530A; 146C, 154T, and 572T; 146C, 154T, and 596C; 146C, 154T, and 617C; 146C, 154T, and 688C; 146C, 154T, and 696T; 146C, 154T, and 702C; 146C, 154T, and 709G; 146C, 154T, and 712G; 146C, 154T, and 714G; 146C, 154T, and 790G; 146C, 154T, and A841T; 146C, 154T, and 862A; 146C, 303C, and 426A; 146C, 303C, and 433T; 146C, 303C, and 435G; 146C, 303C, and 530A; 146C, 303C, and 572T; 146C, 303C, and 596C; 146C, 303C, and 617C; 146C, 303C, and 688C; 146C, 303C, and 696T; 146C, 303C, and 702C; 146C, 303C, and 709G; 146C, 303C, and 712G; 146C, 303C, and 714G; 146C, 303C, and 790G; 146C, 303C, and A841T; 146C, 303C, and 862A; 146C, 426A, and 433T; 146C, 426A, and 435G; 146C, 426A, and 530A; 146C, 426A, and 572T; 146C, 426A, and 596C; 146C, 426A, and 617C; 146C, 426A, and 688C; 146C, 426A, and 696T; 146C, 426A, and 702C; 146C, 426A, and 709G; 146C, 426A, and 712G; 146C, 426A, and 714G; 146C, 426A, and 790G; 146C, 426A, and A841T; 146C, 426A, and 862A; 146C, 433T, and 435G; 146C, 433T, and 530A; 146C, 433T, and 572T; 146C, 433T, and 596C; 146C, 433T, and 617C; 146C, 433T, and 688C; 146C, 433T, and 696T; 146C, 433T, and 702C; 146C, 433T, and 709G; 146C, 433T, and 712G; 146C, 433T, and 714G; 146C, 433T, and 790G; 146C, 433T, and A841T; 146C, 433T, and 862A; 146C, 435G, and 530A; 146C, 435G, and 572T; 146C, 435G, and 596C; 146C, 435G, and 617C; 146C, 435G, and 688C; 146C, 435G, and 696T; 146C, 435G, and 702C; 146C, 435G, and 709G; 146C, 435G, and 712G; 146C, 435G, and 714G; 146C, 435G, and 790G; 146C, 435G, and A841T; 146C, 435G, and 862A; 146C, 530A, and 572T; 146C, 530A, and 596C; 146C, 530A, and 617C; 146C, 530A, and 688C; 146C, 530A, and 696T; 146C, 530A, and 702C; 146C, 530A, and 709G; 146C, 530A, and 712G; 146C, 530A, and 714G; 146C, 530A, and 790G; 146C, 530A, and A841T; 146C, 530A, and 862A; 146C, 572T, and 596C; 146C, 572T, and 617C; 146C, 572T, and 688C; 146C, 572T, and 696T; 146C, 572T, and 702C; 146C, 572T, and 709G; 146C, 572T, and 712G; 146C, 572T, and 714G; 146C, 572T, and 790G; 146C, 572T, and A841T; 146C, 572T, and 862A; 146C, 596C, and 617C; 146C, 596C, and 688C; 146C, 596C, and 696T; 146C, 596C, and 702C; 146C, 596C, and 709G; 146C, 596C, and 712G; 146C, 596C, and 714G; 146C, 596C, and 790G; 146C, 596C, and A841T; 146C, 596C, and 862A; 146C, 617C, and 688C; 146C, 617C, and 696T; 146C, 617C,

and 702C; 146C, 617C, and 709G; 146C, 617C, and 712G; 146C, 617C, and 714G; 146C, 617C,
and 790G; 146C, 617C, and A841T; 146C, 617C, and 862A; 146C, 688C, and 696T; 146C,
688C, and 702C; 146C, 688C, and 709G; 146C, 688C, and 712G; 146C, 688C, and 714G; 146C,
688C, and 790G; 146C, 688C, and A841T; 146C, 688C, and 862A; 146C, 696T, and 702C;
5 146C, 696T, and 709G; 146C, 696T, and 712G; 146C, 696T, and 714G; 146C, 696T, and 790G;
146C, 696T, and A841T; 146C, 696T, and 862A; 146C, 702C, and 709G; 146C, 702C, and
712G; 146C, 702C, and 714G; 146C, 702C, and 790G; 146C, 702C, and A841T; 146C, 702C,
and 862A; 146C, 709G, and 712G; 146C, 709G, and 714G; 146C, 709G, and 790G; 146C,
709G, and A841T; 146C, 709G, and 862A; 146C, 712G, and 714G; 146C, 712G, and 790G;
10 146C, 712G, and A841T; 146C, 712G, and 862A; 146C, 714G, and 790G; 146C, 714G, and
A841T; 146C, 714G, and 862A; 146C, 790G, and A841T; 146C, 790G, and 862A; 146C,
A841T, and 862A; 154T, 303C, and 426A; 154T, 303C, and 433T; 154T, 303C, and 435G;
154T, 303C, and 530A; 154T, 303C, and 572T; 154T, 303C, and 596C; 154T, 303C, and 617C;
154T, 303C, and 688C; 154T, 303C, and 696T; 154T, 303C, and 702C; 154T, 303C, and 709G;
15 154T, 303C, and 712G; 154T, 303C, and 714G; 154T, 303C, and 790G; 154T, 303C, and
A841T; 154T, 303C, and 862A; 154T, 426A, and 433T; 154T, 426A, and 435G; 154T, 426A,
and 530A; 154T, 426A, and 572T; 154T, 426A, and 596C; 154T, 426A, and 617C; 154T, 426A,
and 688C; 154T, 426A, and 696T; 154T, 426A, and 702C; 154T, 426A, and 709G; 154T, 426A,
and 712G; 154T, 426A, and 714G; 154T, 426A, and 790G; 154T, 426A, and A841T; 154T,
20 426A, and 862A; 154T, 433T, and 435G; 154T, 433T, and 530A; 154T, 433T, and 572T; 154T,
433T, and 596C; 154T, 433T, and 617C; 154T, 433T, and 688C; 154T, 433T, and 696T; 154T,
433T, and 702C; 154T, 433T, and 709G; 154T, 433T, and 712G; 154T, 433T, and 714G; 154T,
433T, and 790G; 154T, 433T, and A841T; 154T, 433T, and 862A; 154T, 435G, and 530A;
154T, 435G, and 572T; 154T, 435G, and 596C; 154T, 435G, and 617C; 154T, 435G, and 688C;
25 154T, 435G, and 696T; 154T, 435G, and 702C; 154T, 435G, and 709G; 154T, 435G, and 712G;
154T, 435G, and 714G; 154T, 435G, and 790G; 154T, 435G, and A841T; 154T, 435G, and
862A; 154T, 530A, and 572T; 154T, 530A, and 596C; 154T, 530A, and 617C; 154T, 530A, and
688C; 154T, 530A, and 696T; 154T, 530A, and 702C; 154T, 530A, and 709G; 154T, 530A, and
712G; 154T, 530A, and 714G; 154T, 530A, and 790G; 154T, 530A, and A841T; 154T, 530A,
30 and 862A; 154T, 572T, and 596C; 154T, 572T, and 617C; 154T, 572T, and 688C; 154T, 572T,

and 696T; 154T, 572T, and 702C; 154T, 572T, and 709G; 154T, 572T, and 712G; 154T, 572T, and 714G; 154T, 572T, and 790G; 154T, 572T, and A841T; 154T, 572T, and 862A; 154T, 596C, and 617C; 154T, 596C, and 688C; 154T, 596C, and 696T; 154T, 596C, and 702C; 154T, 596C, and 709G; 154T, 596C, and 712G; 154T, 596C, and 714G; 154T, 596C, and 790G; 154T, 596C, and A841T; 154T, 596C, and 862A; 154T, 617C, and 688C; 154T, 617C, and 696T; 154T, 617C, and 702C; 154T, 617C, and 709G; 154T, 617C, and 712G; 154T, 617C, and 714G; 154T, 617C, and 790G; 154T, 617C, and A841T; 154T, 617C, and 862A; 154T, 688C, and 696T; 154T, 688C, and 702C; 154T, 688C, and 709G; 154T, 688C, and 712G; 154T, 688C, and 714G; 154T, 688C, and 790G; 154T, 688C, and A841T; 154T, 688C, and 862A; 154T, 696T, and 702C; 154T, 696T, and 709G; 154T, 696T, and 712G; 154T, 696T, and 714G; 154T, 696T, and 790G; 154T, 696T, and A841T; 154T, 696T, and 862A; 154T, 702C, and 709G; 154T, 702C, and 712G; 154T, 702C, and 714G; 154T, 702C, and 790G; 154T, 702C, and A841T; 154T, 702C, and 862A; 154T, 709G, and 712G; 154T, 709G, and 714G; 154T, 709G, and 790G; 154T, 709G, and A841T; 154T, 709G, and 862A; 154T, 712G, and 714G; 154T, 712G, and 790G; 154T, 712G, and A841T; 154T, 712G, and 862A; 154T, 714G, and 790G; 154T, 714G, and A841T; 154T, 714G, and 862A; 154T, 790G, and A841T; 154T, 790G, and 862A; 154T, A841T, and 862A; 303C, 426A, and 433T; 303C, 426A, and 435G; 303C, 426A, and 530A; 303C, 426A, and 572T; 303C, 426A, and 596C; 303C, 426A, and 617C; 303C, 426A, and 688C; 303C, 426A, and 696T; 303C, 426A, and 702C; 303C, 426A, and 709G; 303C, 426A, and 712G; 303C, 426A, and 714G; 303C, 426A, and 790G; 303C, 426A, and A841T; 303C, 426A, and 862A; 303C, 433T, and 435G; 303C, 433T, and 530A; 303C, 433T, and 572T; 303C, 433T, and 596C; 303C, 433T, and 617C; 303C, 433T, and 688C; 303C, 433T, and 696T; 303C, 433T, and 702C; 303C, 433T, and 709G; 303C, 433T, and 712G; 303C, 433T, and 714G; 303C, 433T, and 790G; 303C, 433T, and A841T; 303C, 433T, and 862A; 303C, 435G, and 530A; 303C, 435G, and 572T; 303C, 435G, and 596C; 303C, 435G, and 617C; 303C, 435G, and 688C; 303C, 435G, and 696T; 303C, 435G, and 702C; 303C, 435G, and 709G; 303C, 435G, and 712G; 303C, 435G, and 714G; 303C, 435G, and 790G; 303C, 435G, and A841T; 303C, 435G, and 862A; 303C, 530A, and 572T; 303C, 530A, and 596C; 303C, 530A, and 617C; 303C, 530A, and 688C; 303C, 530A, and 696T; 303C, 530A, and 702C; 303C, 530A, and 709G; 303C, 530A, and 712G; 303C, 530A, and 714G; 303C, 530A, and 790G; 303C, 530A, and A841T; 303C, 530A, and 862A;

303C, 572T, and 596C; 303C, 572T, and 617C; 303C, 572T, and 688C; 303C, 572T, and 696T;
303C, 572T, and 702C; 303C, 572T, and 709G; 303C, 572T, and 712G; 303C, 572T, and 714G;
303C, 572T, and 790G; 303C, 572T, and A841T; 303C, 572T, and 862A; 303C, 596C, and
617C; 303C, 596C, and 688C; 303C, 596C, and 696T; 303C, 596C, and 702C; 303C, 596C, and
5 709G; 303C, 596C, and 712G; 303C, 596C, and 714G; 303C, 596C, and 790G; 303C, 596C, and
A841T; 303C, 596C, and 862A; 303C, 617C, and 688C; 303C, 617C, and 696T; 303C, 617C,
and 702C; 303C, 617C, and 709G; 303C, 617C, and 712G; 303C, 617C, and 714G; 303C, 617C,
and 790G; 303C, 617C, and A841T; 303C, 617C, and 862A; 303C, 688C, and 696T; 303C,
688C, and 702C; 303C, 688C, and 709G; 303C, 688C, and 712G; 303C, 688C, and 714G; 303C,
10 688C, and 790G; 303C, 688C, and A841T; 303C, 688C, and 862A; 303C, 696T, and 702C;
303C, 696T, and 709G; 303C, 696T, and 712G; 303C, 696T, and 714G; 303C, 696T, and 790G;
303C, 696T, and A841T; 303C, 696T, and 862A; 303C, 702C, and 709G; 303C, 702C, and
712G; 303C, 702C, and 714G; 303C, 702C, and 790G; 303C, 702C, and A841T; 303C, 702C,
and 862A; 303C, 709G, and 712G; 303C, 709G, and 714G; 303C, 709G, and 790G; 303C,
15 709G, and A841T; 303C, 709G, and 862A; 303C, 712G, and 714G; 303C, 712G, and 790G;
303C, 712G, and A841T; 303C, 712G, and 862A; 303C, 714G, and 790G; 303C, 714G, and
A841T; 303C, 714G, and 862A; 303C, 790G, and A841T; 303C, 790G, and 862A; 303C,
A841T, and 862A; 426A, 433T, and 435G; 426A, 433T, and 530A; 426A, 433T, and 572T;
426A, 433T, and 596C; 426A, 433T, and 617C; 426A, 433T, and 688C; 426A, 433T, and 696T;
20 426A, 433T, and 702C; 426A, 433T, and 709G; 426A, 433T, and 712G; 426A, 433T, and 714G;
426A, 433T, and 790G; 426A, 433T, and A841T; 426A, 433T, and 862A; 426A, 435G, and
530A; 426A, 435G, and 572T; 426A, 435G, and 596C; 426A, 435G, and 617C; 426A, 435G,
and 688C; 426A, 435G, and 696T; 426A, 435G, and 702C; 426A, 435G, and 709G; 426A,
435G, and 712G; 426A, 435G, and 714G; 426A, 435G, and 790G; 426A, 435G, and A841T;
25 426A, 435G, and 862A; 426A, 530A, and 572T; 426A, 530A, and 596C; 426A, 530A, and
617C; 426A, 530A, and 688C; 426A, 530A, and 696T; 426A, 530A, and 702C; 426A, 530A,
and 709G; 426A, 530A, and 712G; 426A, 530A, and 714G; 426A, 530A, and 790G; 426A,
530A, and A841T; 426A, 530A, and 862A; 426A, 572T, and 596C; 426A, 572T, and 617C;
426A, 572T, and 688C; 426A, 572T, and 696T; 426A, 572T, and 702C; 426A, 572T, and 709G;
30 426A, 572T, and 712G; 426A, 572T, and 714G; 426A, 572T, and 790G; 426A, 572T, and

A841T; 426A, 572T, and 862A; 426A, 596C, and 617C; 426A, 596C, and 688C; 426A, 596C, and 696T; 426A, 596C, and 702C; 426A, 596C, and 709G; 426A, 596C, and 712G; 426A, 596C, and 714G; 426A, 596C, and 790G; 426A, 596C, and A841T; 426A, 596C, and 862A; 426A, 617C, and 688C; 426A, 617C, and 696T; 426A, 617C, and 702C; 426A, 617C, and 709G; 426A, 617C, and 712G; 426A, 617C, and 714G; 426A, 617C, and 790G; 426A, 617C, and A841T; 426A, 617C, and 862A; 426A, 688C, and 696T; 426A, 688C, and 702C; 426A, 688C, and 709G; 426A, 688C, and 712G; 426A, 688C, and 714G; 426A, 688C, and 790G; 426A, 688C, and A841T; 426A, 688C, and 862A; 426A, 696T, and 702C; 426A, 696T, and 709G; 426A, 696T, and 712G; 426A, 696T, and 714G; 426A, 696T, and 790G; 426A, 696T, and A841T; 426A, 696T, and 862A; 426A, 702C, and 709G; 426A, 702C, and 712G; 426A, 702C, and 714G; 426A, 702C, and 790G; 426A, 702C, and A841T; 426A, 702C, and 862A; 426A, 709G, and 712G; 426A, 709G, and 714G; 426A, 709G, and 790G; 426A, 709G, and A841T; 426A, 709G, and 862A; 426A, 712G, and 714G; 426A, 712G, and 790G; 426A, 712G, and A841T; 426A, 712G, and 862A; 426A, 714G, and 790G; 426A, 714G, and A841T; 426A, 714G, and 862A; 426A, 790G, and A841T; 426A, 790G, and 862A; 426A, A841T, and 862A; 433T, 435G, and 530A; 433T, 435G, and 572T; 433T, 435G, and 596C; 433T, 435G, and 617C; 433T, 435G, and 688C; 433T, 435G, and 696T; 433T, 435G, and 702C; 433T, 435G, and 709G; 433T, 435G, and 712G; 433T, 435G, and 714G; 433T, 435G, and 790G; 433T, 435G, and A841T; 433T, 435G, and 862A; 433T, 530A, and 572T; 433T, 530A, and 596C; 433T, 530A, and 617C; 433T, 530A, and 688C; 433T, 530A, and 696T; 433T, 530A, and 702C; 433T, 530A, and 709G; 433T, 530A, and 712G; 433T, 530A, and 714G; 433T, 530A, and 790G; 433T, 530A, and A841T; 433T, 530A, and 862A; 433T, 572T, and 596C; 433T, 572T, and 617C; 433T, 572T, and 688C; 433T, 572T, and 696T; 433T, 572T, and 702C; 433T, 572T, and 709G; 433T, 572T, and 712G; 433T, 572T, and 714G; 433T, 572T, and 790G; 433T, 572T, and A841T; 433T, 572T, and 862A; 433T, 596C, and 617C; 433T, 596C, and 688C; 433T, 596C, and 696T; 433T, 596C, and 702C; 433T, 596C, and 709G; 433T, 596C, and 712G; 433T, 596C, and 714G; 433T, 596C, and 790G; 433T, 596C, and A841T; 433T, 596C, and 862A; 433T, 617C, and 688C; 433T, 617C, and 696T; 433T, 617C, and 702C; 433T, 617C, and 709G; 433T, 617C, and 712G; 433T, 617C, and 714G; 433T, 617C, and 790G; 433T, 617C, and A841T; 433T, 617C, and 862A; 433T, 688C, and 696T; 433T, 688C, and 702C; 433T, 688C, and 709G; 433T, 688C, and 712G; 433T, 688C,

and 714G; 433T, 688C, and 790G; 433T, 688C, and A841T; 433T, 688C, and 862A; 433T, 696T, and 702C; 433T, 696T, and 709G; 433T, 696T, and 712G; 433T, 696T, and 714G; 433T, 696T, and 790G; 433T, 696T, and A841T; 433T, 696T, and 862A; 433T, 702C, and 709G; 433T, 702C, and 712G; 433T, 702C, and 714G; 433T, 702C, and 790G; 433T, 702C, and A841T; 433T, 702C, and 862A; 433T, 709G, and 712G; 433T, 709G, and 714G; 433T, 709G, and 790G; 433T, 709G, and A841T; 433T, 709G, and 862A; 433T, 712G, and 714G; 433T, 712G, and 790G; 433T, 712G, and A841T; 433T, 712G, and 862A; 433T, 714G, and 790G; 433T, 714G, and A841T; 433T, 714G, and 862A; 433T, 790G, and A841T; 433T, 790G, and 862A; 433T, A841T, and 862A; 435G, 530A, and 572T; 435G, 530A, and 596C; 435G, 530A, and 617C; 435G, 530A, and 688C; 435G, 530A, and 696T; 435G, 530A, and 702C; 435G, 530A, and 709G; 435G, 530A, and 712G; 435G, 530A, and 714G; 435G, 530A, and 790G; 435G, 530A, and A841T; 435G, 530A, and 862A; 435G, 572T, and 596C; 435G, 572T, and 617C; 435G, 572T, and 688C; 435G, 572T, and 696T; 435G, 572T, and 702C; 435G, 572T, and 709G; 435G, 572T, and 712G; 435G, 572T, and 714G; 435G, 572T, and 790G; 435G, 572T, and A841T; 435G, 572T, and 862A; 435G, 596C, and 617C; 435G, 596C, and 688C; 435G, 596C, and 696T; 435G, 596C, and 702C; 435G, 596C, and 709G; 435G, 596C, and 712G; 435G, 596C, and 714G; 435G, 596C, and 790G; 435G, 596C, and A841T; 435G, 596C, and 862A; 435G, 617C, and 688C; 435G, 617C, and 696T; 435G, 617C, and 702C; 435G, 617C, and 709G; 435G, 617C, and 712G; 435G, 617C, and 714G; 435G, 617C, and 790G; 435G, 617C, and A841T; 435G, 617C, and 862A; 435G, 688C, and 696T; 435G, 688C, and 702C; 435G, 688C, and 709G; 435G, 688C, and 712G; 435G, 688C, and 714G; 435G, 688C, and 790G; 435G, 688C, and A841T; 435G, 688C, and 862A; 435G, 696T, and 702C; 435G, 696T, and 709G; 435G, 696T, and 712G; 435G, 696T, and 714G; 435G, 696T, and 790G; 435G, 696T, and A841T; 435G, 696T, and 862A; 435G, 702C, and 709G; 435G, 702C, and 712G; 435G, 702C, and 714G; 435G, 702C, and 790G; 435G, 702C, and A841T; 435G, 702C, and 862A; 435G, 709G, and 712G; 435G, 709G, and 714G; 435G, 709G, and 790G; 435G, 709G, and A841T; 435G, 709G, and 862A; 435G, 712G, and 714G; 435G, 712G, and 790G; 435G, 712G, and A841T; 435G, 712G, and 862A; 435G, 714G, and 790G; 435G, 714G, and A841T; 435G, 714G, and 862A; 435G, 790G, and A841T; 435G, 790G, and 862A; 435G, A841T, and 862A; 530A, 572T, and 596C; 530A, 572T, and 617C; 530A, 572T, and 688C; 530A, 572T, and 696T; 530A, 572T, and

702C; 530A, 572T, and 709G; 530A, 572T, and 712G; 530A, 572T, and 714G; 530A, 572T, and 790G; 530A, 572T, and A841T; 530A, 572T, and 862A; 530A, 596C, and 617C; 530A, 596C, and 688C; 530A, 596C, and 696T; 530A, 596C, and 702C; 530A, 596C, and 709G; 530A, 596C, and 712G; 530A, 596C, and 714G; 530A, 596C, and 790G; 530A, 596C, and A841T; 530A, 596C, and 862A; 530A, 617C, and 688C; 530A, 617C, and 696T; 530A, 617C, and 702C; 530A, 617C, and 709G; 530A, 617C, and 712G; 530A, 617C, and 714G; 530A, 617C, and 790G; 530A, 617C, and A841T; 530A, 617C, and 862A; 530A, 688C, and 696T; 530A, 688C, and 702C; 530A, 688C, and 709G; 530A, 688C, and 712G; 530A, 688C, and 714G; 530A, 688C, and 790G; 530A, 688C, and A841T; 530A, 688C, and 862A; 530A, 696T, and 702C; 530A, 696T, and 709G; 530A, 696T, and 712G; 530A, 696T, and 714G; 530A, 696T, and 790G; 530A, 696T, and A841T; 530A, 696T, and 862A; 530A, 702C, and 709G; 530A, 702C, and 712G; 530A, 702C, and 714G; 530A, 702C, and 790G; 530A, 702C, and A841T; 530A, 702C, and 862A; 530A, 709G, and 712G; 530A, 709G, and 714G; 530A, 709G, and 790G; 530A, 709G, and A841T; 530A, 709G, and 862A; 530A, 712G, and 714G; 530A, 712G, and 790G; 530A, 712G, and A841T; 530A, 712G, and 862A; 530A, 714G, and 790G; 530A, 714G, and A841T; 530A, 714G, and 862A; 530A, 790G, and A841T; 530A, 790G, and 862A; 530A, A841T, and 862A; 572T, 596C, and 617C; 572T, 596C, and 688C; 572T, 596C, and 696T; 572T, 596C, and 702C; 572T, 596C, and 709G; 572T, 596C, and 712G; 572T, 596C, and 714G; 572T, 596C, and 790G; 572T, 596C, and A841T; 572T, 596C, and 862A; 572T, 617C, and 688C; 572T, 617C, and 696T; 572T, 617C, and 702C; 572T, 617C, and 709G; 572T, 617C, and 712G; 572T, 617C, and 714G; 572T, 617C, and 790G; 572T, 617C, and A841T; 572T, 617C, and 862A; 572T, 688C, and 696T; 572T, 688C, and 702C; 572T, 688C, and 709G; 572T, 688C, and 712G; 572T, 688C, and 714G; 572T, 688C, and 790G; 572T, 688C, and A841T; 572T, 688C, and 862A; 572T, 696T, and 702C; 572T, 696T, and 709G; 572T, 696T, and 712G; 572T, 696T, and 714G; 572T, 696T, and 790G; 572T, 696T, and A841T; 572T, 696T, and 862A; 572T, 702C, and 709G; 572T, 702C, and 712G; 572T, 702C, and 714G; 572T, 702C, and 790G; 572T, 702C, and A841T; 572T, 702C, and 862A; 572T, 709G, and 712G; 572T, 709G, and 714G; 572T, 709G, and 790G; 572T, 709G, and A841T; 572T, 709G, and 862A; 572T, 712G, and 714G; 572T, 712G, and 790G; 572T, 712G, and A841T; 572T, 712G, and 862A; 572T, 714G, and 790G; 572T, 714G, and A841T; 572T, 714G, and 862A; 572T, 790G, and A841T; 572T, 790G, and

862A; 572T, A841T, and 862A; 596C, 617C, and 688C; 596C, 617C, and 696T; 596C, 617C, and 702C; 596C, 617C, and 709G; 596C, 617C, and 712G; 596C, 617C, and 714G; 596C, 617C, and 790G; 596C, 617C, and A841T; 596C, 617C, and 862A; 596C, 688C, and 696T; 596C, 688C, and 702C; 596C, 688C, and 709G; 596C, 688C, and 712G; 596C, 688C, and 714G; 596C, 688C, and 790G; 596C, 688C, and A841T; 596C, 688C, and 862A; 596C, 696T, and 702C; 596C, 696T, and 709G; 596C, 696T, and 712G; 596C, 696T, and 714G; 596C, 696T, and 790G; 596C, 696T, and A841T; 596C, 696T, and 862A; 596C, 702C, and 709G; 596C, 702C, and 712G; 596C, 702C, and 714G; 596C, 702C, and 790G; 596C, 702C, and A841T; 596C, 702C, and 862A; 596C, 709G, and 712G; 596C, 709G, and 714G; 596C, 709G, and 790G; 596C, 709G, and A841T; 596C, 709G, and 862A; 596C, 712G, and 714G; 596C, 712G, and 790G; 596C, 712G, and A841T; 596C, 712G, and 862A; 596C, 714G, and 790G; 596C, 714G, and A841T; 596C, 714G, and 862A; 596C, 790G, and A841T; 596C, 790G, and 862A; 596C, A841T, and 862A; 617C, 688C, and 696T; 617C, 688C, and 702C; 617C, 688C, and 709G; 617C, 688C, and 712G; 617C, 688C, and 714G; 617C, 688C, and 790G; 617C, 688C, and A841T; 617C, 688C, and 862A; 617C, 696T, and 702C; 617C, 696T, and 709G; 617C, 696T, and 712G; 617C, 696T, and 714G; 617C, 696T, and 790G; 617C, 696T, and A841T; 617C, 696T, and 862A; 617C, 702C, and 709G; 617C, 702C, and 712G; 617C, 702C, and 714G; 617C, 702C, and 790G; 617C, 702C, and A841T; 617C, 702C, and 862A; 617C, 709G, and 712G; 617C, 709G, and 714G; 617C, 709G, and 790G; 617C, 709G, and A841T; 617C, 709G, and 862A; 617C, 712G, and 714G; 617C, 712G, and 790G; 617C, 712G, and A841T; 617C, 712G, and 862A; 617C, 714G, and 790G; 617C, 714G, and A841T; 617C, 714G, and 862A; 617C, 790G, and A841T; 617C, 790G, and 862A; 688C, 696T, and 702C; 688C, 696T, and 709G; 688C, 696T, and 712G; 688C, 696T, and 714G; 688C, 696T, and 790G; 688C, 696T, and A841T; 688C, 696T, and 862A; 688C, 702C, and 709G; 688C, 702C, and 712G; 688C, 702C, and 714G; 688C, 702C, and 790G; 688C, 702C, and A841T; 688C, 702C, and 862A; 688C, 709G, and 712G; 688C, 709G, and 714G; 688C, 709G, and 790G; 688C, 709G, and A841T; 688C, 709G, and 862A; 688C, 712G, and 714G; 688C, 712G, and 790G; 688C, 712G, and A841T; 688C, 712G, and 862A; 688C, 714G, and 790G; 688C, 714G, and A841T; 688C, 714G, and 862A; 688C, 790G, and A841T; 688C, 790G, and 862A; 688C, A841T, and 862A; 696T, 702C, and 709G; 696T, 702C, and 712G; 696T, 702C, and 714G;

696T, 702C, and 790G; 696T, 702C, and A841T; 696T, 702C, and 862A; 696T, 709G, and 712G; 696T, 709G, and 714G; 696T, 709G, and 790G; 696T, 709G, and A841T; 696T, 709G, and 862A; 696T, 712G, and 714G; 696T, 712G, and 790G; 696T, 712G, and A841T; 696T, 712G, and 862A; 696T, 714G, and 790G; 696T, 714G, and A841T; 696T, 714G, and 862A; 5 696T, 790G, and A841T; 696T, 790G, and 862A; 696T, A841T, and 862A; 702C, 709G, and 712G; 702C, 709G, and 714G; 702C, 709G, and 790G; 702C, 709G, and A841T; 702C, 709G, and 862A; 702C, 712G, and 714G; 702C, 712G, and 790G; 702C, 712G, and A841T; 702C, 712G, and 862A; 702C, 714G, and 790G; 702C, 714G, and A841T; 702C, 714G, and 862A; 702C, 790G, and A841T; 702C, 790G, and 862A; 702C, A841T, and 862A; 709G, 712G, and 10 714G; 709G, 712G, and 790G; 709G, 712G, and A841T; 709G, 712G, and 862A; 709G, 714G, and 790G; 709G, 714G, and A841T; 709G, 714G, and 862A; 709G, 790G, and A841T; 709G, 790G, and 862A; 709G, A841T, and 862A; 712G, 714G, and 790G; 712G, 714G, and A841T; 712G, 714G, and 862A; 712G, 790G, and A841T; 712G, 790G, and 862A; 712G, A841T, and 862A; 714G, 790G, and A841T; 714G, 790G, and 862A; 714G, A841T, and 862A; or 790G, 15 A841T, and 862A, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include two mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, two mutations corresponding to the following 20 mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 688C and 696T; 688C and 702C; 688C and 712G; 688C and 714G; 696T and 702C; 696T and 712G; 696T and 714G; 702C and 712G; 702C and 714G; or 712G and 714G, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein 25 can include three mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, three mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 688C, 696T, and 702C; 688C, 696T, and 712G; 688C, 696T, and 714G; 688C, 702C, and 712G; 688C, 702C, and 714G; 688C, 712G, and 714G; 696T, 702C, and 712G; 696T, 702C, and 714G; 696T, 712G, and

714G; or 702C, 712G, and 714G, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include four mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, four mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 688C, 696T, 702C, and 712G; 688C, 696T, 702C, and 714G; 688C, 696T, 712G, and 714G; 688C, 702C, 712G, and 714G; or 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include five mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, five mutations corresponding to the following mutations relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include two mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, two mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T146 and C154; T146 and T303; T146 and T426; T146 and A433; T146 and A435; T146 and T530; T146 and C572; T146 and T596; T146 and T617; T146 and T688; T146 and A696; T146 and T702; T146 and A709; T146 and A712; T146 and T714; T146 and A790; T146 and A841; T146 and T862; C154 and T303; C154 and T426; C154 and A433; C154 and A435; C154 and T530; C154 and C572; C154 and T596; C154 and T617; C154 and T688; C154 and A696; C154 and T702; C154 and A709; C154 and A712; C154 and T714; C154 and A790; C154 and A841; C154 and T862; T303 and T426; T303 and A433; T303 and A435; T303 and T530; T303 and C572; T303 and T596; T303 and T617; T303 and T688; T303 and A696; T303 and T702; T303 and A709; T303 and A712; T303 and T714; T303 and A790; T303 and A841; T303 and T862; T426 and A433; T426 and A435; T426 and T530; T426 and C572; T426 and T596; T426 and T617; T426 and T688; T426 and A696; T426 and T702; T426 and A709; T426 and A712; T426 and T714;

T426 and A790; T426 and A841; T426 and T862; A433 and A435; A433 and T530; A433 and
 C572; A433 and T596; A433 and T617; A433 and T688; A433 and A696; A433 and T702;
 A433 and A709; A433 and A712; A433 and T714; A433 and A790; A433 and A841; A433 and
 T862; A435 and T530; A435 and C572; A435 and T596; A435 and T617; A435 and T688; A435
 5 and A696; A435 and T702; A435 and A709; A435 and A712; A435 and T714; A435 and A790;
 A435 and A841; A435 and T862; T530 and C572; T530 and T596; T530 and T617; T530 and
 T688; T530 and A696; T530 and T702; T530 and A709; T530 and A712; T530 and T714; T530
 and A790; T530 and A841; T530 and T862; C572 and T596; C572 and T617; C572 and T688;
 C572 and A696; C572 and T702; C572 and A709; C572 and A712; C572 and T714; C572 and
 10 A790; C572 and A841; C572 and T862; T596 and T617; T596 and T688; T596 and A696; T596
 and T702; T596 and A709; T596 and A712; T596 and T714; T596 and A790; T596 and A841;
 T596 and T862; T617 and T688; T617 and A696; T617 and T702; T617 and A709; T617 and
 A712; T617 and T714; T617 and A790; T617 and A841; T617 and T862; T688 and A696; T688
 and T702; T688 and A709; T688 and A712; T688 and T714; T688 and A790; T688 and A841;
 15 T688 and T862; A696 and T702; A696 and A709; A696 and A712; A696 and T714; A696 and
 A790; A696 and A841; A696 and T862; T702 and A709; T702 and A712; T702 and T714; T702
 and A790; T702 and A841; T702 and T862; A709 and A712; A709 and T714; A709 and A790;
 A709 and A841; A709 and T862; A712 and T714; A712 and A790; A712 and A841; A712 and
 T862; T714 and A790; T714 and A841; T714 and T862; A790 and A841; A790 and T862; or
 20 A841 and T862.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein
 can include three mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter
 element. For example, in some embodiments, three mutations at positions corresponding to the
 following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T146,
 25 C154, and T303; T146, C154, and T426; T146, C154, and A433; T146, C154, and A435; T146,
 C154, and T530; T146, C154, and C572; T146, C154, and T596; T146, C154, and T617; T146,
 C154, and T688; T146, C154, and A696; T146, C154, and T702; T146, C154, and A709; T146,
 C154, and A712; T146, C154, and T714; T146, C154, and A790; T146, C154, and A841; T146,
 C154, and T862; T146, T303, and T426; T146, T303, and A433; T146, T303, and A435; T146,
 30 T303, and T530; T146, T303, and C572; T146, T303, and T596; T146, T303, and T617; T146,

T303, and T688; T146, T303, and A696; T146, T303, and T702; T146, T303, and A709; T146, T303, and A712; T146, T303, and T714; T146, T303, and A790; T146, T303, and A841; T146, T303, and T862; T146, T426, and A433; T146, T426, and A435; T146, T426, and T530; T146, T426, and C572; T146, T426, and T596; T146, T426, and T617; T146, T426, and T688; T146, T426, and A696; T146, T426, and T702; T146, T426, and A709; T146, T426, and A712; T146, T426, and T714; T146, T426, and A790; T146, T426, and A841; T146, T426, and T862; T146, A433, and A435; T146, A433, and T530; T146, A433, and C572; T146, A433, and T596; T146, A433, and T617; T146, A433, and T688; T146, A433, and A696; T146, A433, and T702; T146, A433, and A709; T146, A433, and A712; T146, A433, and T714; T146, A433, and A790; T146, A433, and A841; T146, A433, and T862; T146, A435, and T530; T146, A435, and C572; T146, A435, and T596; T146, A435, and T617; T146, A435, and T688; T146, A435, and A696; T146, A435, and T702; T146, A435, and A709; T146, A435, and A712; T146, A435, and T714; T146, A435, and A790; T146, A435, and A841; T146, A435, and T862; T146, T530, and C572; T146, T530, and T596; T146, T530, and T617; T146, T530, and T688; T146, T530, and A696; T146, T530, and T702; T146, T530, and A709; T146, T530, and A712; T146, T530, and T714; T146, T530, and A790; T146, T530, and A841; T146, T530, and T862; T146, C572, and T596; T146, C572, and T617; T146, C572, and T688; T146, C572, and A696; T146, C572, and T702; T146, C572, and A709; T146, C572, and A712; T146, C572, and T714; T146, C572, and A790; T146, C572, and A841; T146, C572, and T862; T146, T596, and T617; T146, T596, and T688; T146, T596, and A696; T146, T596, and T702; T146, T596, and A709; T146, T596, and A712; T146, T596, and T714; T146, T596, and A790; T146, T596, and A841; T146, T596, and T862; T146, T617, and T688; T146, T617, and A696; T146, T617, and T702; T146, T617, and A709; T146, T617, and A712; T146, T617, and T714; T146, T617, and A790; T146, T617, and A841; T146, T617, and T862; T146, T688, and A696; T146, T688, and T702; T146, T688, and A709; T146, T688, and A712; T146, T688, and T714; T146, T688, and A790; T146, T688, and A841; T146, T688, and T862; T146, A696, and T702; T146, A696, and A709; T146, A696, and A712; T146, A696, and T714; T146, A696, and A790; T146, A696, and A841; T146, A696, and T862; T146, T702, and A709; T146, T702, and A712; T146, T702, and T714; T146, T702, and A790; T146, T702, and A841; T146, T702, and T862; T146, A709, and A712; T146, A709, and T714; T146, A709, and A790; T146, A709, and A841; T146, A709, and T862; T146, A712, and T714; T146,

A712, and A790; T146, A712, and A841; T146, A712, and T862; T146, T714, and A790; T146, T714, and A841; T146, T714, and T862; T146, A790, and A841; T146, A790, and T862; T146, A841, and T862; C154, T303, and T426; C154, T303, and A433; C154, T303, and A435; C154, T303, and T530; C154, T303, and C572; C154, T303, and T596; C154, T303, and T617; C154, T303, and T688; C154, T303, and A696; C154, T303, and T702; C154, T303, and A709; C154, T303, and A712; C154, T303, and T714; C154, T303, and A790; C154, T303, and A841; C154, T303, and T862; C154, T426, and A433; C154, T426, and A435; C154, T426, and T530; C154, T426, and C572; C154, T426, and T596; C154, T426, and T617; C154, T426, and T688; C154, T426, and A696; C154, T426, and T702; C154, T426, and A709; C154, T426, and A712; C154, T426, and T714; C154, T426, and A790; C154, T426, and A841; C154, T426, and T862; C154, A433, and A435; C154, A433, and T530; C154, A433, and C572; C154, A433, and T596; C154, A433, and T617; C154, A433, and T688; C154, A433, and A696; C154, A433, and T702; C154, A433, and A709; C154, A433, and A712; C154, A433, and T714; C154, A433, and A790; C154, A433, and A841; C154, A433, and T862; C154, A435, and T530; C154, A435, and C572; C154, A435, and T596; C154, A435, and T617; C154, A435, and T688; C154, A435, and A696; C154, A435, and T702; C154, A435, and A709; C154, A435, and A712; C154, A435, and T714; C154, A435, and A790; C154, A435, and A841; C154, A435, and T862; C154, T530, and C572; C154, T530, and T596; C154, T530, and T617; C154, T530, and T688; C154, T530, and A696; C154, T530, and T702; C154, T530, and A709; C154, T530, and A712; C154, T530, and T714; C154, T530, and A790; C154, T530, and A841; C154, T530, and T862; C154, C572, and T596; C154, C572, and T617; C154, C572, and T688; C154, C572, and A696; C154, C572, and T702; C154, C572, and A709; C154, C572, and A712; C154, C572, and T714; C154, C572, and A790; C154, C572, and A841; C154, C572, and T862; C154, T596, and T617; C154, T596, and T688; C154, T596, and A696; C154, T596, and T702; C154, T596, and A709; C154, T596, and A712; C154, T596, and T714; C154, T596, and A790; C154, T596, and A841; C154, T596, and T862; C154, T617, and T688; C154, T617, and A696; C154, T617, and T702; C154, T617, and A709; C154, T617, and A712; C154, T617, and T714; C154, T617, and A790; C154, T617, and A841; C154, T617, and T862; C154, T688, and A696; C154, T688, and T702; C154, T688, and A709; C154, T688, and A712; C154, T688, and T714; C154, T688, and A790; C154, T688, and A841; C154, T688, and T862; C154, A696, and T702; C154, A696, and A709; C154, A696, and A712; C154,

A696, and T714; C154, A696, and A790; C154, A696, and A841; C154, A696, and T862; C154, T702, and A709; C154, T702, and A712; C154, T702, and T714; C154, T702, and A790; C154, T702, and A841; C154, T702, and T862; C154, A709, and A712; C154, A709, and T714; C154, A709, and A790; C154, A709, and A841; C154, A709, and T862; C154, A712, and T714; C154, A712, and A790; C154, A712, and A841; C154, A712, and T862; C154, T714, and A790; C154, T714, and A841; C154, T714, and T862; C154, A790, and A841; C154, A790, and T862; C154, A841, and T862; T303, T426, and A433; T303, T426, and A435; T303, T426, and T530; T303, T426, and C572; T303, T426, and T596; T303, T426, and T617; T303, T426, and T688; T303, T426, and A696; T303, T426, and T702; T303, T426, and A709; T303, T426, and A712; T303, T426, and T714; T303, T426, and A790; T303, T426, and A841; T303, T426, and T862; T303, A433, and A435; T303, A433, and T530; T303, A433, and C572; T303, A433, and T596; T303, A433, and T617; T303, A433, and T688; T303, A433, and A696; T303, A433, and T702; T303, A433, and A709; T303, A433, and A712; T303, A433, and T714; T303, A433, and A790; T303, A433, and A841; T303, A433, and T862; T303, A435, and T530; T303, A435, and C572; T303, A435, and T596; T303, A435, and T617; T303, A435, and T688; T303, A435, and A696; T303, A435, and T702; T303, A435, and A709; T303, A435, and A712; T303, A435, and T714; T303, A435, and A790; T303, A435, and A841; T303, A435, and T862; T303, T530, and C572; T303, T530, and T596; T303, T530, and T617; T303, T530, and T688; T303, T530, and A696; T303, T530, and T702; T303, T530, and A709; T303, T530, and A712; T303, T530, and T714; T303, T530, and A790; T303, T530, and A841; T303, T530, and T862; T303, C572, and T596; T303, C572, and T617; T303, C572, and T688; T303, C572, and A696; T303, C572, and T702; T303, C572, and A709; T303, C572, and A712; T303, C572, and T714; T303, C572, and A790; T303, C572, and A841; T303, C572, and T862; T303, T596, and T617; T303, T596, and T688; T303, T596, and A696; T303, T596, and T702; T303, T596, and A709; T303, T596, and A712; T303, T596, and T714; T303, T596, and A790; T303, T596, and A841; T303, T596, and T862; T303, T617, and T688; T303, T617, and A696; T303, T617, and T702; T303, T617, and A709; T303, T617, and A712; T303, T617, and T714; T303, T617, and A790; T303, T617, and A841; T303, T617, and T862; T303, T688, and A696; T303, T688, and T702; T303, T688, and A709; T303, T688, and A712; T303, T688, and T714; T303, T688, and A790; T303, T688, and A841; T303, T688, and T862; T303, A696, and T702; T303, A696, and A709; T303, A696, and A712; T303,

A696, and T714; T303, A696, and A790; T303, A696, and A841; T303, A696, and T862; T303, T702, and A709; T303, T702, and A712; T303, T702, and T714; T303, T702, and A790; T303, T702, and A841; T303, T702, and T862; T303, A709, and A712; T303, A709, and T714; T303, A709, and A790; T303, A709, and A841; T303, A709, and T862; T303, A712, and T714; T303, A712, and A790; T303, A712, and A841; T303, A712, and T862; T303, T714, and A790; T303, T714, and A841; T303, T714, and T862; T303, A790, and A841; T303, A790, and T862; T303, A841, and T862; T426, A433, and A435; T426, A433, and T530; T426, A433, and C572; T426, A433, and T596; T426, A433, and T617; T426, A433, and T688; T426, A433, and A696; T426, A433, and T702; T426, A433, and A709; T426, A433, and A712; T426, A433, and T714; T426, A433, and A790; T426, A433, and A841; T426, A433, and T862; T426, A435, and T530; T426, A435, and C572; T426, A435, and T596; T426, A435, and T617; T426, A435, and T688; T426, A435, and A696; T426, A435, and T702; T426, A435, and A709; T426, A435, and A712; T426, A435, and T714; T426, A435, and A790; T426, A435, and A841; T426, A435, and T862; T426, T530, and C572; T426, T530, and T596; T426, T530, and T617; T426, T530, and T688; T426, T530, and A696; T426, T530, and T702; T426, T530, and A709; T426, T530, and A712; T426, T530, and T714; T426, T530, and A790; T426, T530, and A841; T426, T530, and T862; T426, C572, and T596; T426, C572, and T617; T426, C572, and T688; T426, C572, and A696; T426, C572, and T702; T426, C572, and A709; T426, C572, and A712; T426, C572, and T714; T426, C572, and A790; T426, C572, and A841; T426, C572, and T862; T426, T596, and T617; T426, T596, and T688; T426, T596, and A696; T426, T596, and T702; T426, T596, and A709; T426, T596, and A712; T426, T596, and T714; T426, T596, and A790; T426, T596, and A841; T426, T596, and T862; T426, T617, and T688; T426, T617, and A696; T426, T617, and T702; T426, T617, and A709; T426, T617, and A712; T426, T617, and T714; T426, T617, and A790; T426, T617, and A841; T426, T617, and T862; T426, T688, and A696; T426, T688, and T702; T426, T688, and A709; T426, T688, and A712; T426, T688, and T714; T426, T688, and A790; T426, T688, and A841; T426, T688, and T862; T426, A696, and T702; T426, A696, and A709; T426, A696, and A712; T426, A696, and T714; T426, A696, and A790; T426, A696, and A841; T426, A696, and T862; T426, T702, and A709; T426, T702, and A712; T426, T702, and T714; T426, T702, and A790; T426, T702, and A841; T426, T702, and T862; T426, A709, and A712; T426, A709, and T714; T426, A709, and A790; T426, A709, and A841; T426, A709, and T862; T426,

A712, and T714; T426, A712, and A790; T426, A712, and A841; T426, A712, and T862; T426, T714, and A790; T426, T714, and A841; T426, T714, and T862; T426, A790, and A841; T426, A790, and T862; T426, A841, and T862; A433, A435, and T530; A433, A435, and C572; A433, A435, and T596; A433, A435, and T617; A433, A435, and T688; A433, A435, and A696; A433, A435, and T702; A433, A435, and A709; A433, A435, and A712; A433, A435, and T714; A433, A435, and A790; A433, A435, and A841; A433, A435, and T862; A433, T530, and C572; A433, T530, and T596; A433, T530, and T617; A433, T530, and T688; A433, T530, and A696; A433, T530, and T702; A433, T530, and A709; A433, T530, and A712; A433, T530, and T714; A433, T530, and A790; A433, T530, and A841; A433, T530, and T862; A433, C572, and T596; A433, C572, and T617; A433, C572, and T688; A433, C572, and A696; A433, C572, and T702; A433, C572, and A709; A433, C572, and A712; A433, C572, and T714; A433, C572, and A790; A433, C572, and A841; A433, C572, and T862; A433, T596, and T617; A433, T596, and T688; A433, T596, and A696; A433, T596, and T702; A433, T596, and A709; A433, T596, and A712; A433, T596, and T714; A433, T596, and A790; A433, T596, and A841; A433, T596, and T862; A433, T617, and T688; A433, T617, and A696; A433, T617, and T702; A433, T617, and A709; A433, T617, and A712; A433, T617, and T714; A433, T617, and A790; A433, T617, and A841; A433, T617, and T862; A433, T688, and A696; A433, T688, and T702; A433, T688, and A709; A433, T688, and A712; A433, T688, and T714; A433, T688, and A790; A433, T688, and A841; A433, T688, and T862; A433, A696, and T702; A433, A696, and A709; A433, A696, and A712; A433, A696, and T714; A433, A696, and A790; A433, A696, and A841; A433, A696, and T862; A433, T702, and A709; A433, T702, and A712; A433, T702, and T714; A433, T702, and A790; A433, T702, and A841; A433, T702, and T862; A433, A709, and A712; A433, A709, and T714; A433, A709, and A790; A433, A709, and A841; A433, A709, and T862; A433, A712, and T714; A433, A712, and A790; A433, A712, and A841; A433, A712, and T862; A433, T714, and A790; A433, T714, and A841; A433, T714, and T862; A433, A790, and A841; A433, A790, and T862; A433, A841, and T862; A435, T530, and C572; A435, T530, and T596; A435, T530, and T617; A435, T530, and T688; A435, T530, and A696; A435, T530, and T702; A435, T530, and A709; A435, T530, and A712; A435, T530, and T714; A435, T530, and A790; A435, T530, and A841; A435, T530, and T862; A435, C572, and T596; A435, C572, and T617; A435, C572, and T688; A435, C572, and A696; A435, C572, and T702; A435, C572, and A709;

A435, C572, and A712; A435, C572, and T714; A435, C572, and A790; A435, C572, and A841;
A435, C572, and T862; A435, T596, and T617; A435, T596, and T688; A435, T596, and A696;
A435, T596, and T702; A435, T596, and A709; A435, T596, and A712; A435, T596, and T714;
A435, T596, and A790; A435, T596, and A841; A435, T596, and T862; A435, T617, and T688;
5 A435, T617, and A696; A435, T617, and T702; A435, T617, and A709; A435, T617, and A712;
A435, T617, and T714; A435, T617, and A790; A435, T617, and A841; A435, T617, and T862;
A435, T688, and A696; A435, T688, and T702; A435, T688, and A709; A435, T688, and A712;
A435, T688, and T714; A435, T688, and A790; A435, T688, and A841; A435, T688, and T862;
A435, A696, and T702; A435, A696, and A709; A435, A696, and A712; A435, A696, and
10 T714; A435, A696, and A790; A435, A696, and A841; A435, A696, and T862; A435, T702, and
A709; A435, T702, and A712; A435, T702, and T714; A435, T702, and A790; A435, T702, and
A841; A435, T702, and T862; A435, A709, and A712; A435, A709, and T714; A435, A709, and
A790; A435, A709, and A841; A435, A709, and T862; A435, A712, and T714; A435, A712,
and A790; A435, A712, and A841; A435, A712, and T862; A435, T714, and A790; A435, T714,
15 and A841; A435, T714, and T862; A435, A790, and A841; A435, A790, and T862; A435, A841,
and T862; T530, C572, and T596; T530, C572, and T617; T530, C572, and T688; T530, C572,
and A696; T530, C572, and T702; T530, C572, and A709; T530, C572, and A712; T530, C572,
and T714; T530, C572, and A790; T530, C572, and A841; T530, C572, and T862; T530, T596,
and T617; T530, T596, and T688; T530, T596, and A696; T530, T596, and T702; T530, T596,
20 and A709; T530, T596, and A712; T530, T596, and T714; T530, T596, and A790; T530, T596,
and A841; T530, T596, and T862; T530, T617, and T688; T530, T617, and A696; T530, T617,
and T702; T530, T617, and A709; T530, T617, and A712; T530, T617, and T714; T530, T617,
and A790; T530, T617, and A841; T530, T617, and T862; T530, T688, and A696; T530, T688,
and T702; T530, T688, and A709; T530, T688, and A712; T530, T688, and T714; T530, T688,
25 and A790; T530, T688, and A841; T530, T688, and T862; T530, A696, and T702; T530, A696,
and A709; T530, A696, and A712; T530, A696, and T714; T530, A696, and A790; T530, A696,
and A841; T530, A696, and T862; T530, T702, and A709; T530, T702, and A712; T530, T702,
and T714; T530, T702, and A790; T530, T702, and A841; T530, T702, and T862; T530, A709,
and A712; T530, A709, and T714; T530, A709, and A790; T530, A709, and A841; T530, A709,
30 and T862; T530, A712, and T714; T530, A712, and A790; T530, A712, and A841; T530, A712,

and T862; T530, T714, and A790; T530, T714, and A841; T530, T714, and T862; T530, A790,
and A841; T530, A790, and T862; T530, A841, and T862; C572, T596, and T617; C572, T596,
and T688; C572, T596, and A696; C572, T596, and T702; C572, T596, and A709; C572, T596,
and A712; C572, T596, and T714; C572, T596, and A790; C572, T596, and A841; C572, T596,
5 and T862; C572, T617, and T688; C572, T617, and A696; C572, T617, and T702; C572, T617,
and A709; C572, T617, and A712; C572, T617, and T714; C572, T617, and A790; C572, T617,
and A841; C572, T617, and T862; C572, T688, and A696; C572, T688, and T702; C572, T688,
and A709; C572, T688, and A712; C572, T688, and T714; C572, T688, and A790; C572, T688,
and A841; C572, T688, and T862; C572, A696, and T702; C572, A696, and A709; C572, A696,
10 and A712; C572, A696, and T714; C572, A696, and A790; C572, A696, and A841; C572, A696,
and T862; C572, T702, and A709; C572, T702, and A712; C572, T702, and T714; C572, T702,
and A790; C572, T702, and A841; C572, T702, and T862; C572, A709, and A712; C572, A709,
and T714; C572, A709, and A790; C572, A709, and A841; C572, A709, and T862; C572, A712,
and T714; C572, A712, and A790; C572, A712, and A841; C572, A712, and T862; C572, T714,
15 and A790; C572, T714, and A841; C572, T714, and T862; C572, A790, and A841; C572, A790,
and T862; C572, A841, and T862; T596, T617, and T688; T596, T617, and A696; T596, T617,
and T702; T596, T617, and A709; T596, T617, and A712; T596, T617, and T714; T596, T617,
and A790; T596, T617, and A841; T596, T617, and T862; T596, T688, and A696; T596, T688,
and T702; T596, T688, and A709; T596, T688, and A712; T596, T688, and T714; T596, T688,
20 and A790; T596, T688, and A841; T596, T688, and T862; T596, A696, and T702; T596, A696,
and A709; T596, A696, and A712; T596, A696, and T714; T596, A696, and A790; T596, A696,
and A841; T596, A696, and T862; T596, T702, and A709; T596, T702, and A712; T596, T702,
and T714; T596, T702, and A790; T596, T702, and A841; T596, T702, and T862; T596, A709,
and A712; T596, A709, and T714; T596, A709, and A790; T596, A709, and A841; T596, A709,
25 and T862; T596, A712, and T714; T596, A712, and A790; T596, A712, and A841; T596, A712,
and T862; T596, T714, and A790; T596, T714, and A841; T596, T714, and T862; T596, A790,
and A841; T596, A790, and T862; T596, A841, and T862; T617, T688, and A696; T617, T688,
and T702; T617, T688, and A709; T617, T688, and A712; T617, T688, and T714; T617, T688,
and A790; T617, T688, and A841; T617, T688, and T862; T617, A696, and T702; T617, A696,
30 and A709; T617, A696, and A712; T617, A696, and T714; T617, A696, and A790; T617, A696,

and A841; T617, A696, and T862; T617, T702, and A709; T617, T702, and A712; T617, T702, and T714; T617, T702, and A790; T617, T702, and A841; T617, T702, and T862; T617, A709, and A712; T617, A709, and T714; T617, A709, and A790; T617, A709, and A841; T617, A709, and T862; T617, A712, and T714; T617, A712, and A790; T617, A712, and A841; T617, A712, and T862; T617, T714, and A790; T617, T714, and A841; T617, T714, and T862; T617, A790, and A841; T617, A790, and T862; T617, A841, and T862; T688, A696, and T702; T688, A696, and A709; T688, A696, and A712; T688, A696, and T714; T688, A696, and A790; T688, A696, and A841; T688, A696, and T862; T688, T702, and A709; T688, T702, and A712; T688, T702, and T714; T688, T702, and A790; T688, T702, and A841; T688, T702, and T862; T688, A709, and A712; T688, A709, and T714; T688, A709, and A790; T688, A709, and A841; T688, A709, and T862; T688, A712, and T714; T688, A712, and A790; T688, A712, and A841; T688, A712, and T862; T688, T714, and A790; T688, T714, and A841; T688, T714, and T862; T688, A790, and A841; T688, A790, and T862; T688, A841, and T862; A696, T702, and A709; A696, T702, and A712; A696, T702, and T714; A696, T702, and A790; A696, T702, and A841; A696, T702, and T862; A696, A709, and A712; A696, A709, and T714; A696, A709, and A790; A696, A709, and A841; A696, A709, and T862; A696, A712, and T714; A696, A712, and A790; A696, A712, and A841; A696, A712, and T862; A696, T714, and A790; A696, T714, and A841; A696, T714, and T862; A696, A790, and A841; A696, A790, and T862; A696, A841, and T862; T702, A709, and A712; T702, A709, and T714; T702, A709, and A790; T702, A709, and A841; T702, A709, and T862; T702, A712, and T714; T702, A712, and A790; T702, A712, and A841; T702, A712, and T862; T702, T714, and A790; T702, T714, and A841; T702, T714, and T862; T702, A790, and A841; T702, A790, and T862; T702, A841, and T862; A709, A712, and T714; A709, A712, and A790; A709, A712, and A841; A709, A712, and T862; A709, T714, and A790; A709, T714, and A841; A709, T714, and T862; A709, A790, and A841; A709, A790, and T862; A709, A841, and T862; A712, T714, and A790; A712, T714, and A841; A712, T714, and T862; A712, A790, and A841; A712, A790, and T862; A712, A841, and T862; T714, A790, and A841; T714, A790, and T862; T714, A841, and T862; or A790, A841, and T862.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include two mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, two mutations at positions corresponding to the

following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T688 and A696; T688 and T702; T688 and A712; T688 and T714; A696 and T702; A696 and A712; A696 and T714; T702 and A712; T702 and T714; or A712 and T714.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein
5 can include three mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, three mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T688, A696, and T702; T688, A696, and A712; T688, A696, and T714; T688, T702, and A712; T688, T702, and T714; T688, A712, and T714; A696, T702, and A712; A696, T702, and T714; A696,
10 A712, and T714; or T702, A712, and T714.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include four mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, four mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T688,
15 A696, T702, and A712; T688, A696, T702, and T714; T688, A696, A712, and T714; T688, T702, A712, and T714; or A696, T702, A712, and T714.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include five mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, five mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: T688,
20 A696, T702, A712, and T714.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include two mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, two mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 146 and
25 154; 146 and 303; 146 and 426; 146 and 433; 146 and 435; 146 and 530; 146 and 572; 146 and 596; 146 and 617; 146 and 688; 146 and 696; 146 and 702; 146 and 709; 146 and A712; 146 and 714; 146 and 790; 146 and 841; 146 and 862; 154 and 303; 154 and 426; 154 and 433; 154 and 435; 154 and 530; 154 and 572; 154 and 596; 154 and 617; 154 and 688; 154 and 696; 154 and
30 702; 154 and 709; 154 and A712; 154 and 714; 154 and 790; 154 and 841; 154 and 862; 303 and

426; 303 and 433; 303 and 435; 303 and 530; 303 and 572; 303 and 596; 303 and 617; 303 and 688; 303 and 696; 303 and 702; 303 and 709; 303 and A712; 303 and 714; 303 and 790; 303 and 841; 303 and 862; 426 and 433; 426 and 435; 426 and 530; 426 and 572; 426 and 596; 426 and 617; 426 and 688; 426 and 696; 426 and 702; 426 and 709; 426 and A712; 426 and 714; 426 and 790; 426 and 841; 426 and 862; 433 and 435; 433 and 530; 433 and 572; 433 and 596; 433 and 617; 433 and 688; 433 and 696; 433 and 702; 433 and 709; 433 and A712; 433 and 714; 433 and 790; 433 and 841; 433 and 862; 435 and 530; 435 and 572; 435 and 596; 435 and 617; 435 and 688; 435 and 696; 435 and 702; 435 and 709; 435 and A712; 435 and 714; 435 and 790; 435 and 841; 435 and 862; 530 and 572; 530 and 596; 530 and 617; 530 and 688; 530 and 696; 530 and 702; 530 and 709; 530 and A712; 530 and 714; 530 and 790; 530 and 841; 530 and 862; 572 and 596; 572 and 617; 572 and 688; 572 and 696; 572 and 702; 572 and 709; 572 and A712; 572 and 714; 572 and 790; 572 and 841; 572 and 862; 596 and 617; 596 and 688; 596 and 696; 596 and 702; 596 and 709; 596 and A712; 596 and 714; 596 and 790; 596 and 841; 596 and 862; 617 and 688; 617 and 696; 617 and 702; 617 and 709; 617 and A712; 617 and 714; 617 and 790; 617 and 841; 617 and 862; 688 and 696; 688 and 702; 688 and 709; 688 and A712; 688 and 714; 688 and 790; 688 and 841; 688 and 862; 696 and 702; 696 and 709; 696 and A712; 696 and 714; 696 and 790; 696 and 841; 696 and 862; 702 and 709; 702 and A712; 702 and 714; 702 and 790; 702 and 841; 702 and 862; 709 and A712; 709 and 714; 709 and 790; 709 and 841; 709 and 862; A712 and 714; A712 and 790; A712 and 841; A712 and 862; 714 and 790; 714 and 841; 714 and 862; 790 and 841; 790 and 862; or 841 and 862.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include three mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, three mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 146, 154, and 303; 146, 154, and 426; 146, 154, and 433; 146, 154, and 435; 146, 154, and 530; 146, 154, and 572; 146, 154, and 596; 146, 154, and 617; 146, 154, and 688; 146, 154, and 696; 146, 154, and 702; 146, 154, and 709; 146, 154, and A712; 146, 154, and 714; 146, 154, and 790; 146, 154, and 841; 146, 154, and 862; 146, 303, and 426; 146, 303, and 433; 146, 303, and 435; 146, 303, and 530; 146, 303, and 572; 146, 303, and 596; 146, 303, and 617; 146, 303, and 688; 146, 303, and 696; 146, 303, and 702; 146, 303, and 709; 146, 303, and A712; 146, 303, and 714;

146, 303, and 790; 146, 303, and 841; 146, 303, and 862; 146, 426, and 433; 146, 426, and 435;
146, 426, and 530; 146, 426, and 572; 146, 426, and 596; 146, 426, and 617; 146, 426, and 688;
146, 426, and 696; 146, 426, and 702; 146, 426, and 709; 146, 426, and A712; 146, 426, and
714; 146, 426, and 790; 146, 426, and 841; 146, 426, and 862; 146, 433, and 435; 146, 433, and
5 530; 146, 433, and 572; 146, 433, and 596; 146, 433, and 617; 146, 433, and 688; 146, 433, and
696; 146, 433, and 702; 146, 433, and 709; 146, 433, and A712; 146, 433, and 714; 146, 433,
and 790; 146, 433, and 841; 146, 433, and 862; 146, 435, and 530; 146, 435, and 572; 146, 435,
and 596; 146, 435, and 617; 146, 435, and 688; 146, 435, and 696; 146, 435, and 702; 146, 435,
and 709; 146, 435, and A712; 146, 435, and 714; 146, 435, and 790; 146, 435, and 841; 146,
10 435, and 862; 146, 530, and 572; 146, 530, and 596; 146, 530, and 617; 146, 530, and 688; 146,
530, and 696; 146, 530, and 702; 146, 530, and 709; 146, 530, and A712; 146, 530, and 714;
146, 530, and 790; 146, 530, and 841; 146, 530, and 862; 146, 572, and 596; 146, 572, and 617;
146, 572, and 688; 146, 572, and 696; 146, 572, and 702; 146, 572, and 709; 146, 572, and
A712; 146, 572, and 714; 146, 572, and 790; 146, 572, and 841; 146, 572, and 862; 146, 596,
15 and 617; 146, 596, and 688; 146, 596, and 696; 146, 596, and 702; 146, 596, and 709; 146, 596,
and A712; 146, 596, and 714; 146, 596, and 790; 146, 596, and 841; 146, 596, and 862; 146,
617, and 688; 146, 617, and 696; 146, 617, and 702; 146, 617, and 709; 146, 617, and A712;
146, 617, and 714; 146, 617, and 790; 146, 617, and 841; 146, 617, and 862; 146, 688, and 696;
146, 688, and 702; 146, 688, and 709; 146, 688, and A712; 146, 688, and 714; 146, 688, and
20 790; 146, 688, and 841; 146, 688, and 862; 146, 696, and 702; 146, 696, and 709; 146, 696, and
A712; 146, 696, and 714; 146, 696, and 790; 146, 696, and 841; 146, 696, and 862; 146, 702,
and 709; 146, 702, and A712; 146, 702, and 714; 146, 702, and 790; 146, 702, and 841; 146,
702, and 862; 146, 709, and A712; 146, 709, and 714; 146, 709, and 790; 146, 709, and 841;
146, 709, and 862; 146, A712, and 714; 146, A712, and 790; 146, A712, and 841; 146, A712,
25 and 862; 146, 714, and 790; 146, 714, and 841; 146, 714, and 862; 146, 790, and 841; 146, 790,
and 862; 146, 841, and 862; 154, 303, and 426; 154, 303, and 433; 154, 303, and 435; 154, 303,
and 530; 154, 303, and 572; 154, 303, and 596; 154, 303, and 617; 154, 303, and 688; 154, 303,
and 696; 154, 303, and 702; 154, 303, and 709; 154, 303, and A712; 154, 303, and 714; 154,
303, and 790; 154, 303, and 841; 154, 303, and 862; 154, 426, and 433; 154, 426, and 435; 154,
30 426, and 530; 154, 426, and 572; 154, 426, and 596; 154, 426, and 617; 154, 426, and 688; 154,

426, and 696; 154, 426, and 702; 154, 426, and 709; 154, 426, and A712; 154, 426, and 714;
154, 426, and 790; 154, 426, and 841; 154, 426, and 862; 154, 433, and 435; 154, 433, and 530;
154, 433, and 572; 154, 433, and 596; 154, 433, and 617; 154, 433, and 688; 154, 433, and 696;
154, 433, and 702; 154, 433, and 709; 154, 433, and A712; 154, 433, and 714; 154, 433, and
5 790; 154, 433, and 841; 154, 433, and 862; 154, 435, and 530; 154, 435, and 572; 154, 435, and
596; 154, 435, and 617; 154, 435, and 688; 154, 435, and 696; 154, 435, and 702; 154, 435, and
709; 154, 435, and A712; 154, 435, and 714; 154, 435, and 790; 154, 435, and 841; 154, 435,
and 862; 154, 530, and 572; 154, 530, and 596; 154, 530, and 617; 154, 530, and 688; 154, 530,
and 696; 154, 530, and 702; 154, 530, and 709; 154, 530, and A712; 154, 530, and 714; 154,
10 530, and 790; 154, 530, and 841; 154, 530, and 862; 154, 572, and 596; 154, 572, and 617; 154,
572, and 688; 154, 572, and 696; 154, 572, and 702; 154, 572, and 709; 154, 572, and A712;
154, 572, and 714; 154, 572, and 790; 154, 572, and 841; 154, 572, and 862; 154, 596, and 617;
154, 596, and 688; 154, 596, and 696; 154, 596, and 702; 154, 596, and 709; 154, 596, and
A712; 154, 596, and 714; 154, 596, and 790; 154, 596, and 841; 154, 596, and 862; 154, 617,
15 and 688; 154, 617, and 696; 154, 617, and 702; 154, 617, and 709; 154, 617, and A712; 154,
617, and 714; 154, 617, and 790; 154, 617, and 841; 154, 617, and 862; 154, 688, and 696; 154,
688, and 702; 154, 688, and 709; 154, 688, and A712; 154, 688, and 714; 154, 688, and 790;
154, 688, and 841; 154, 688, and 862; 154, 696, and 702; 154, 696, and 709; 154, 696, and
A712; 154, 696, and 714; 154, 696, and 790; 154, 696, and 841; 154, 696, and 862; 154, 702,
20 and 709; 154, 702, and A712; 154, 702, and 714; 154, 702, and 790; 154, 702, and 841; 154,
702, and 862; 154, 709, and A712; 154, 709, and 714; 154, 709, and 790; 154, 709, and 841;
154, 709, and 862; 154, A712, and 714; 154, A712, and 790; 154, A712, and 841; 154, A712,
and 862; 154, 714, and 790; 154, 714, and 841; 154, 714, and 862; 154, 790, and 841; 154, 790,
and 862; 154, 841, and 862; 303, 426, and 433; 303, 426, and 435; 303, 426, and 530; 303, 426,
25 and 572; 303, 426, and 596; 303, 426, and 617; 303, 426, and 688; 303, 426, and 696; 303, 426,
and 702; 303, 426, and 709; 303, 426, and A712; 303, 426, and 714; 303, 426, and 790; 303,
426, and 841; 303, 426, and 862; 303, 433, and 435; 303, 433, and 530; 303, 433, and 572; 303,
433, and 596; 303, 433, and 617; 303, 433, and 688; 303, 433, and 696; 303, 433, and 702; 303,
433, and 709; 303, 433, and A712; 303, 433, and 714; 303, 433, and 790; 303, 433, and 841;
30 303, 433, and 862; 303, 435, and 530; 303, 435, and 572; 303, 435, and 596; 303, 435, and 617;

303, 435, and 688; 303, 435, and 696; 303, 435, and 702; 303, 435, and 709; 303, 435, and
A712; 303, 435, and 714; 303, 435, and 790; 303, 435, and 841; 303, 435, and 862; 303, 530,
and 572; 303, 530, and 596; 303, 530, and 617; 303, 530, and 688; 303, 530, and 696; 303, 530,
and 702; 303, 530, and 709; 303, 530, and A712; 303, 530, and 714; 303, 530, and 790; 303,
530, and 841; 303, 530, and 862; 303, 572, and 596; 303, 572, and 617; 303, 572, and 688; 303,
572, and 696; 303, 572, and 702; 303, 572, and 709; 303, 572, and A712; 303, 572, and 714;
303, 572, and 790; 303, 572, and 841; 303, 572, and 862; 303, 596, and 617; 303, 596, and 688;
303, 596, and 696; 303, 596, and 702; 303, 596, and 709; 303, 596, and A712; 303, 596, and
714; 303, 596, and 790; 303, 596, and 841; 303, 596, and 862; 303, 617, and 688; 303, 617, and
696; 303, 617, and 702; 303, 617, and 709; 303, 617, and A712; 303, 617, and 714; 303, 617,
and 790; 303, 617, and 841; 303, 617, and 862; 303, 688, and 696; 303, 688, and 702; 303, 688,
and 709; 303, 688, and A712; 303, 688, and 714; 303, 688, and 790; 303, 688, and 841; 303,
688, and 862; 303, 696, and 702; 303, 696, and 709; 303, 696, and A712; 303, 696, and 714;
303, 696, and 790; 303, 696, and 841; 303, 696, and 862; 303, 702, and 709; 303, 702, and
A712; 303, 702, and 714; 303, 702, and 790; 303, 702, and 841; 303, 702, and 862; 303, 709,
and A712; 303, 709, and 714; 303, 709, and 790; 303, 709, and 841; 303, 709, and 862; 303,
A712, and 714; 303, A712, and 790; 303, A712, and 841; 303, A712, and 862; 303, 714, and
790; 303, 714, and 841; 303, 714, and 862; 303, 790, and 841; 303, 790, and 862; 303, 841, and
862; 426, 433, and 435; 426, 433, and 530; 426, 433, and 572; 426, 433, and 596; 426, 433, and
617; 426, 433, and 688; 426, 433, and 696; 426, 433, and 702; 426, 433, and 709; 426, 433, and
A712; 426, 433, and 714; 426, 433, and 790; 426, 433, and 841; 426, 433, and 862; 426, 435,
and 530; 426, 435, and 572; 426, 435, and 596; 426, 435, and 617; 426, 435, and 688; 426, 435,
and 696; 426, 435, and 702; 426, 435, and 709; 426, 435, and A712; 426, 435, and 714; 426,
435, and 790; 426, 435, and 841; 426, 435, and 862; 426, 530, and 572; 426, 530, and 596; 426,
530, and 617; 426, 530, and 688; 426, 530, and 696; 426, 530, and 702; 426, 530, and 709; 426,
530, and A712; 426, 530, and 714; 426, 530, and 790; 426, 530, and 841; 426, 530, and 862;
426, 572, and 596; 426, 572, and 617; 426, 572, and 688; 426, 572, and 696; 426, 572, and 702;
426, 572, and 709; 426, 572, and A712; 426, 572, and 714; 426, 572, and 790; 426, 572, and
841; 426, 572, and 862; 426, 596, and 617; 426, 596, and 688; 426, 596, and 696; 426, 596, and
702; 426, 596, and 709; 426, 596, and A712; 426, 596, and 714; 426, 596, and 790; 426, 596,

and 841; 426, 596, and 862; 426, 617, and 688; 426, 617, and 696; 426, 617, and 702; 426, 617,
and 709; 426, 617, and A712; 426, 617, and 714; 426, 617, and 790; 426, 617, and 841; 426,
617, and 862; 426, 688, and 696; 426, 688, and 702; 426, 688, and 709; 426, 688, and A712;
426, 688, and 714; 426, 688, and 790; 426, 688, and 841; 426, 688, and 862; 426, 696, and 702;
5 426, 696, and 709; 426, 696, and A712; 426, 696, and 714; 426, 696, and 790; 426, 696, and
841; 426, 696, and 862; 426, 702, and 709; 426, 702, and A712; 426, 702, and 714; 426, 702,
and 790; 426, 702, and 841; 426, 702, and 862; 426, 709, and A712; 426, 709, and 714; 426,
709, and 790; 426, 709, and 841; 426, 709, and 862; 426, A712, and 714; 426, A712, and 790;
426, A712, and 841; 426, A712, and 862; 426, 714, and 790; 426, 714, and 841; 426, 714, and
10 862; 426, 790, and 841; 426, 790, and 862; 426, 841, and 862; 433, 435, and 530; 433, 435, and
572; 433, 435, and 596; 433, 435, and 617; 433, 435, and 688; 433, 435, and 696; 433, 435, and
702; 433, 435, and 709; 433, 435, and A712; 433, 435, and 714; 433, 435, and 790; 433, 435,
and 841; 433, 435, and 862; 433, 530, and 572; 433, 530, and 596; 433, 530, and 617; 433, 530,
and 688; 433, 530, and 696; 433, 530, and 702; 433, 530, and 709; 433, 530, and A712; 433,
15 530, and 714; 433, 530, and 790; 433, 530, and 841; 433, 530, and 862; 433, 572, and 596; 433,
572, and 617; 433, 572, and 688; 433, 572, and 696; 433, 572, and 702; 433, 572, and 709; 433,
572, and A712; 433, 572, and 714; 433, 572, and 790; 433, 572, and 841; 433, 572, and 862;
433, 596, and 617; 433, 596, and 688; 433, 596, and 696; 433, 596, and 702; 433, 596, and 709;
433, 596, and A712; 433, 596, and 714; 433, 596, and 790; 433, 596, and 841; 433, 596, and
20 862; 433, 617, and 688; 433, 617, and 696; 433, 617, and 702; 433, 617, and 709; 433, 617, and
A712; 433, 617, and 714; 433, 617, and 790; 433, 617, and 841; 433, 617, and 862; 433, 688,
and 696; 433, 688, and 702; 433, 688, and 709; 433, 688, and A712; 433, 688, and 714; 433,
688, and 790; 433, 688, and 841; 433, 688, and 862; 433, 696, and 702; 433, 696, and 709; 433,
696, and A712; 433, 696, and 714; 433, 696, and 790; 433, 696, and 841; 433, 696, and 862;
25 433, 702, and 709; 433, 702, and A712; 433, 702, and 714; 433, 702, and 790; 433, 702, and
841; 433, 702, and 862; 433, 709, and A712; 433, 709, and 714; 433, 709, and 790; 433, 709,
and 841; 433, 709, and 862; 433, A712, and 714; 433, A712, and 790; 433, A712, and 841; 433,
A712, and 862; 433, 714, and 790; 433, 714, and 841; 433, 714, and 862; 433, 790, and 841;
433, 790, and 862; 433, 841, and 862; 435, 530, and 572; 435, 530, and 596; 435, 530, and 617;
30 435, 530, and 688; 435, 530, and 696; 435, 530, and 702; 435, 530, and 709; 435, 530, and

A712; 435, 530, and 714; 435, 530, and 790; 435, 530, and 841; 435, 530, and 862; 435, 572, and 596; 435, 572, and 617; 435, 572, and 688; 435, 572, and 696; 435, 572, and 702; 435, 572, and 709; 435, 572, and A712; 435, 572, and 714; 435, 572, and 790; 435, 572, and 841; 435, 572, and 862; 435, 596, and 617; 435, 596, and 688; 435, 596, and 696; 435, 596, and 702; 435, 596, and 709; 435, 596, and A712; 435, 596, and 714; 435, 596, and 790; 435, 596, and 841; 435, 596, and 862; 435, 617, and 688; 435, 617, and 696; 435, 617, and 702; 435, 617, and 709; 435, 617, and A712; 435, 617, and 714; 435, 617, and 790; 435, 617, and 841; 435, 617, and 862; 435, 688, and 696; 435, 688, and 702; 435, 688, and 709; 435, 688, and A712; 435, 688, and 714; 435, 688, and 790; 435, 688, and 841; 435, 688, and 862; 435, 696, and 702; 435, 696, and 709; 435, 696, and A712; 435, 696, and 714; 435, 696, and 790; 435, 696, and 841; 435, 696, and 862; 435, 702, and 709; 435, 702, and A712; 435, 702, and 714; 435, 702, and 790; 435, 702, and 841; 435, 702, and 862; 435, 709, and A712; 435, 709, and 714; 435, 709, and 790; 435, 709, and 841; 435, 709, and 862; 435, A712, and 714; 435, A712, and 790; 435, A712, and 841; 435, A712, and 862; 435, 714, and 790; 435, 714, and 841; 435, 714, and 862; 435, 790, and 841; 435, 790, and 862; 435, 841, and 862; 530, 572, and 596; 530, 572, and 617; 530, 572, and 688; 530, 572, and 696; 530, 572, and 702; 530, 572, and 709; 530, 572, and A712; 530, 572, and 714; 530, 572, and 790; 530, 572, and 841; 530, 572, and 862; 530, 596, and 617; 530, 596, and 688; 530, 596, and 696; 530, 596, and 702; 530, 596, and 709; 530, 596, and A712; 530, 596, and 714; 530, 596, and 790; 530, 596, and 841; 530, 596, and 862; 530, 617, and 688; 530, 617, and 696; 530, 617, and 702; 530, 617, and 709; 530, 617, and A712; 530, 617, and 714; 530, 617, and 790; 530, 617, and 841; 530, 617, and 862; 530, 688, and 696; 530, 688, and 702; 530, 688, and 709; 530, 688, and A712; 530, 688, and 714; 530, 688, and 790; 530, 688, and 841; 530, 688, and 862; 530, 696, and 702; 530, 696, and 709; 530, 696, and A712; 530, 696, and 714; 530, 696, and 790; 530, 696, and 841; 530, 696, and 862; 530, 702, and 709; 530, 702, and A712; 530, 702, and 714; 530, 702, and 790; 530, 702, and 841; 530, 702, and 862; 530, 709, and A712; 530, 709, and 714; 530, 709, and 790; 530, 709, and 841; 530, 709, and 862; 530, A712, and 714; 530, A712, and 790; 530, A712, and 841; 530, A712, and 862; 530, 714, and 790; 530, 714, and 841; 530, 714, and 862; 530, 790, and 841; 530, 790, and 862; 530, 841, and 862; 572, 596, and 617; 572, 596, and 688; 572, 596, and 696; 572, 596, and 702; 572, 596, and 709; 572, 596, and A712; 572, 596, and 714; 572, 596, and 790; 572,

596, and 841; 572, 596, and 862; 572, 617, and 688; 572, 617, and 696; 572, 617, and 702; 572, 617, and 709; 572, 617, and A712; 572, 617, and 714; 572, 617, and 790; 572, 617, and 841; 572, 617, and 862; 572, 688, and 696; 572, 688, and 702; 572, 688, and 709; 572, 688, and A712; 572, 688, and 714; 572, 688, and 790; 572, 688, and 841; 572, 688, and 862; 572, 696, and 702; 572, 696, and 709; 572, 696, and A712; 572, 696, and 714; 572, 696, and 790; 572, 696, and 841; 572, 696, and 862; 572, 702, and 709; 572, 702, and A712; 572, 702, and 714; 572, 702, and 790; 572, 702, and 841; 572, 702, and 862; 572, 709, and A712; 572, 709, and 714; 572, 709, and 790; 572, 709, and 841; 572, 709, and 862; 572, A712, and 714; 572, A712, and 790; 572, A712, and 841; 572, A712, and 862; 572, 714, and 790; 572, 714, and 841; 572, 714, and 862; 572, 790, and 841; 572, 790, and 862; 572, 841, and 862; 596, 617, and 688; 596, 617, and 696; 596, 617, and 702; 596, 617, and 709; 596, 617, and A712; 596, 617, and 714; 596, 617, and 790; 596, 617, and 841; 596, 617, and 862; 596, 688, and 696; 596, 688, and 702; 596, 688, and 709; 596, 688, and A712; 596, 688, and 714; 596, 688, and 790; 596, 688, and 841; 596, 688, and 862; 596, 696, and 702; 596, 696, and 709; 596, 696, and A712; 596, 696, and 714; 596, 696, and 790; 596, 696, and 841; 596, 696, and 862; 596, 702, and 709; 596, 702, and A712; 596, 702, and 714; 596, 702, and 790; 596, 702, and 841; 596, 702, and 862; 596, 709, and A712; 596, 709, and 714; 596, 709, and 862; 596, A712, and 714; 596, A712, and 790; 596, A712, and 841; 596, A712, and 862; 596, 714, and 790; 596, 714, and 841; 596, 714, and 862; 596, 790, and 841; 596, 790, and 862; 596, 841, and 862; 617, 688, and 696; 617, 688, and 702; 617, 688, and 709; 617, 688, and A712; 617, 688, and 714; 617, 688, and 790; 617, 688, and 841; 617, 688, and 862; 617, 696, and 702; 617, 696, and 709; 617, 696, and A712; 617, 696, and 714; 617, 696, and 790; 617, 696, and 841; 617, 696, and 862; 617, 702, and 709; 617, 702, and A712; 617, 702, and 714; 617, 702, and 790; 617, 702, and 841; 617, 702, and 862; 617, 709, and A712; 617, 709, and 714; 617, 709, and 790; 617, 709, and 841; 617, 709, and 862; 617, A712, and 714; 617, A712, and 790; 617, A712, and 841; 617, A712, and 862; 617, 714, and 790; 617, 714, and 841; 617, 714, and 862; 617, 790, and 841; 617, 790, and 862; 617, 841, and 862; 688, 696, and 702; 688, 696, and 709; 688, 696, and A712; 688, 696, and 714; 688, 696, and 790; 688, 696, and 841; 688, 696, and 862; 688, 702, and 709; 688, 702, and A712; 688, 702, and 714; 688, 702, and 790; 688, 702, and 841; 688, 702, and 862; 688, 709, and A712; 688, 709, and 714; 688, 709, and 790; 688,

709, and 841; 688, 709, and 862; 688, A712, and 714; 688, A712, and 790; 688, A712, and 841;
688, A712, and 862; 688, 714, and 790; 688, 714, and 841; 688, 714, and 862; 688, 790, and
841; 688, 790, and 862; 688, 841, and 862; 696, 702, and 709; 696, 702, and A712; 696, 702,
and 714; 696, 702, and 790; 696, 702, and 841; 696, 702, and 862; 696, 709, and A712; 696,
5 709, and 714; 696, 709, and 790; 696, 709, and 841; 696, 709, and 862; 696, A712, and 714;
696, A712, and 790; 696, A712, and 841; 696, A712, and 862; 696, 714, and 790; 696, 714, and
841; 696, 714, and 862; 696, 790, and 841; 696, 790, and 862; 696, 841, and 862; 702, 709, and
A712; 702, 709, and 714; 702, 709, and 790; 702, 709, and 841; 702, 709, and 862; 702, A712,
and 714; 702, A712, and 790; 702, A712, and 841; 702, A712, and 862; 702, 714, and 790; 702,
10 714, and 841; 702, 714, and 862; 702, 790, and 841; 702, 790, and 862; 702, 841, and 862; 709,
A712, and 714; 709, A712, and 790; 709, A712, and 841; 709, A712, and 862; 709, 714, and
790; 709, 714, and 841; 709, 714, and 862; 709, 790, and 841; 709, 790, and 862; 709, 841, and
862; A712, 714, and 790; A712, 714, and 841; A712, 714, and 862; A712, 790, and 841; A712,
790, and 862; A712, 841, and 862; 714, 790, and 841; 714, 790, and 862; 714, 841, and 862; or
15 790, 841, and 862.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein
can include two mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter
element. For example, in some embodiments, two mutations at positions corresponding to the
following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 688 and
20 696; 688 and 702; 688 and A712; 688 and 714; 696 and 702; 696 and A712; 696 and 714; 702
and A712; 702 and 714; or A712 and 714.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein
can include three mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter
element. For example, in some embodiments, three mutations at positions corresponding to the
25 following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 688, 696,
and 702; 688, 696, and A712; 688, 696, and 714; 688, 702, and A712; 688, 702, and 714; 688,
A712, and 714; 696, 702, and A712; 696, 702, and 714; 696, A712, and 714; or 702, A712, and
714.

In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein
30 can include four mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter

element. For example, in some embodiments, four mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 688, 696, 702, and A712; 688, 696, 702, and 714; 688, 696, A712, and 714; 688, 702, A712, and 714; or 696, 702, A712, and 714.

5 In some embodiments, the nucleotide sequence of a promoter element as provided herein can include five mutations as compared to the nucleotide sequence of a reference promoter element. For example, in some embodiments, five mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a promoter sequence: 688, 696, 702, A712, and 714.

10 Nucleic acid molecules used in the methods described herein are typically DNA, but RNA molecules can be used under the appropriate circumstances. As used herein, “exogenous” refers to any nucleic acid sequence that is introduced into a cell from, for example, the same or a different organism or a nucleic acid generated synthetically (e.g., a codon-optimized nucleic acid sequence). For example, an exogenous nucleic acid can be a nucleic acid from one
15 microorganism (e.g., one genus or species of methylotrophic yeast) that is introduced into a different genus or species of methylotrophic yeast; however, an exogenous nucleic acid also can be a nucleic acid from a methylotrophic yeast that is introduced recombinantly into a methylotrophic yeast as an additional copy despite the presence of a corresponding native nucleic acid sequence, or a nucleic acid from a methylotrophic yeast that is introduced
20 recombinantly into a methylotrophic yeast containing one or more mutations, insertions, or deletions compared to the sequence native to the methylotrophic yeast. For example, *P. pastoris* contains an endogenous nucleic acid encoding an ALAS; an additional copy of the *P. pastoris* ALAS nucleic acid (e.g., introduced recombinantly into *P. pastoris*) is considered to be exogenous. Similarly, an “exogenous” protein is a protein encoded by an exogenous nucleic acid.

25 In some instances, an exogenous nucleic acid can be a heterologous nucleic acid. As used herein, a “heterologous” nucleic acid refers to any nucleic acid sequence that is not native to an organism (e.g., a heterologous nucleic acid can be a nucleic acid from one microorganism (e.g., one genus or species of methylotrophic yeast, whether or not it has been codon-optimized) that is introduced into a different genus or species of methylotrophic yeast)). Similarly, a
30 “heterologous” protein is a protein encoded by a heterologous nucleic acid.

A nucleic acid molecule is considered to be exogenous to a host organism when any portion thereof (e.g., a promoter sequence or a sequence of an encoded protein) is exogenous to the host organism. A nucleic acid molecule is considered to be heterologous to a host organism when any portion thereof (e.g., a promoter sequence or a sequence of an encoded protein) is
5 heterologous to the host organism.

Nucleic acid constructs are provided herein that allow for genetically engineering a cell (e.g., a yeast cell (e.g., a methylotrophic yeast cell)). In some embodiments, nucleic acid constructs are provided herein that allow for genetically engineering a cell (e.g., a yeast cell (e.g., a methylotrophic yeast cell)) to produce an RNA. Recombinantly produced RNAs can be used
10 to modify a function of the cell, for example by RNA interference or as a guide for DNA editing. In some embodiments, nucleic acid constructs are provided herein that allow for genetically engineering a cell (e.g., a yeast cell (e.g., a methylotrophic yeast cell)) to produce a product (e.g., a protein). In some embodiments, nucleic acid constructs are provided herein that allow for genetically engineering a cell (e.g., a yeast cell (e.g., a methylotrophic yeast cell)) to produce an
15 exogenous product (e.g., a protein). In some embodiments, nucleic acid constructs are provided herein that allow for genetically engineering a cell (e.g., a yeast cell (e.g., a methylotrophic yeast cell)) to produce a heterologous product (e.g., a protein). In some embodiments, a nucleic acid constructs are provided herein that allow for genetically engineering a cell (e.g., a yeast cell (e.g., a methylotrophic yeast cell)) to produce a product (e.g., a protein) in the absence of methanol. In
20 addition, nucleic acid constructs are provided herein that allow for genetically engineering a cell (e.g., a yeast cell (e.g., a methylotrophic yeast cell)) to increase the expression of a heme-binding protein.

Also provided herein is a cell including any of the promoter elements described herein. A cell can be any appropriate cell. For example, a cell can be a bacterial cell (e.g., an *E. coli* cell, a
25 *B. subtilis* cell, or a *Lactococcus lactis* cell), a fungal cell, an algal cell, a plant cell, an insect cell, or a mammalian cell. In some embodiments, a cell can be a yeast cell. Non-limiting examples of yeast cells include *Pichia* (e.g., *Pichia methanolica*, *Pichia pastoris*), *Candida* (e.g., *Candida boidinii*) cells, *Hansenula* (e.g., *Hansenula polymorpha*) cells, *Torulopsis* cells, and *Sacharomyces* (e.g., *Sacharomyces cerevisiae*) cells. In some embodiments, a cell can be a
30 methylotrophic yeast cell. Non-limiting examples of methylotrophic yeast cells include *Pichia*

cells, *Candida* cells, *Hansenula* cells, and *Torulopsis* cells. In some embodiments, a cell can be a *Pichia* cell or a *Sacharomyces* cell.

In some embodiments, this document provides a cell containing a nucleic acid construct (e.g., a first nucleic acid construct, a second nucleic acid construct, and so forth) including a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a promoter element as described herein. A nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence can include any appropriate nucleotide sequence.

As used herein, “operably linked” means that a promoter or other expression element(s) are positioned relative to a coding sequence in such a way as to direct or regulate expression of the coding sequence (e.g., in-frame).

It will be appreciated that a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence operably linked to any of the promoter elements as described herein can include nucleotide sequence of interest. In some embodiments, transcription and/or translation of a nucleotide sequence can result in the production of a product (e.g., protein, DNA, RNA, or a small molecule) of interest. For example, in some embodiments, a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence can be a nucleic acid construct encoding a protein. For example, in some embodiments, a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence can be a nucleic acid construct encoding an RNA (e.g., an mRNA, a tRNA, a ribozyme, a siRNA, miRNA, or a shRNA). For example, in some embodiments, a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence can be a nucleic acid construct encoding a DNA. For example, in some embodiments, a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence can be a nucleic acid construct whose transcription results in or contributes to the production of a small molecule (e.g., heme, ethanol, or a pharmaceutically active agent).

In some embodiments, a nucleic acid construct (e.g., a first nucleic acid construct, a second nucleic acid construct, and so forth) including a nucleotide sequence can be a nucleic acid construct encoding a protein (e.g., a first protein, a second protein, and so forth).

Recombinantly expressed proteins can be widely used in many applications, such as for food, research, and medicine. In some embodiments, a protein encoded by a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence operably linked to any of the promoter elements as described herein can be a dehydrin, a phytase, a protease, a catalase, a lipase, a peroxidase, an amylase, a transglutaminase, an oxidoreductase, a transferase, a hydrolase, a lyase, an isomerase,

or a ligase. In some embodiments, a protein encoded by a nucleic acid operably linked to any of the promoter elements as described herein can be an antibody or fragment thereof (e.g., adalimumab, rituximab, trastuzumab, bevacizumab, infliximab, or ranibizumab), an enzyme (e.g., a therapeutic enzyme such as alpha-galactosidase A, alpha-L-iduronidase, N-acetylgalactosamine-4-sulfatase, dornase alfa, glucocerebrosidase, tissue plasminogen activator, rasburicase, an industrial enzyme (e.g., a catalase, a cellulase, a laccase, a glutaminase, or a glycosidase), or a biocatalyst (e.g., a transaminase, a cytochrome P450, a kinase, a phosphorylase, or an isomerase)), a regulatory protein (e.g., a transcription factor (e.g. Mxr1, Adr1)), a peptide hormone (e.g., insulin, insulin-like growth factor 1, granulocyte colony-stimulating factor, follicle-stimulating hormone, or a growth hormone such as human growth hormone), a blood clotting protein (e.g., Factor VII), a cytokine (e.g., an interferon or erythropoietin), or a cytokine inhibitor (e.g., etanercept).

In some embodiments, a protein can be a heme-binding protein (e.g., an exogenous or heterologous heme binding protein). In some embodiments, a heme-binding protein can be selected from the group consisting of a globin (PF00042 in the Pfam database), a cytochrome (e.g., a cytochrome P450, a cytochrome a, a cytochrome b, a cytochrome c), a cytochrome c oxidase, a ligninase, a catalase, and a peroxidase. In some embodiments, a globin can be selected from the group consisting of an androglobin, a chlorocruorin, a cytoglobin, an erythrocruorin, a flavohemoglobin, a globin E, a globin X, a globin Y, a hemoglobin (e.g., a beta hemoglobin, an alpha hemoglobin), a histoglobin, a leghemoglobin, a myoglobin, a neuroglobin, a non-symbiotic hemoglobin, a protoglobin, and a truncated hemoglobin (e.g., a HbN, a HbO, a Glb3, a cyanoglobin). In some embodiments, the heme-binding protein can be a non-symbiotic hemoglobin. In some embodiments, the heme-binding protein can be a leghemoglobin. In some embodiments, the heme-binding protein can be soybean leghemoglobin (LegH). A reference amino acid sequence for LegH is provided in Figure 1 as SEQ ID NO: 4. LegH is a protein that binds to heme, which results in a characteristic absorption at 415 nm and a distinct red color. The LegH protein (also known as LGB2) is naturally found in root nodules of soybean (see, for example, UniprotKB Accession No. P02236). See, also, WO 2014/110539 and WO 2014/110532, each of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety. In some embodiments, a heme-binding protein can have an amino acid sequence that is at least 70% (e.g.,

at least 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99%) identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in any of SEQ ID NOs: 1-27 (Figure 1). In some embodiments, a heme-binding protein is the amino acid sequence set forth in any of SEQ ID NOs: 1-27 (Figure 1).

5 While the materials and methods are exemplified herein using an alcohol oxidase promoter element from a *Pichia* species (*P. pastoris*), other organisms can be used. For example, an alcohol oxidase promoter element from a different methylotrophic yeast can be used, such as other species of the *Pichia* genus or species from any of the *Candida*, *Hansenula*, *Pichia*, and *Torulopsis* genera. Non-limiting examples of methylotrophic yeast species include *Pichia*
10 *methanolica*, *Pichia pastoris*, *Candida boidinii*, and *Hansenula polymorpha* (also called *Pichia angusta*). In some embodiments, a promoter element can be an alcohol oxidase promoter element from any of the *Candida*, *Hansenula*, *Pichia*, and *Torulopsis* genera. In some embodiments, a promoter element can have at least 70% (e.g., at least 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%) sequence identity to an alcohol oxidase promoter element from any of the *Candida*,
15 *Hansenula*, *Pichia*, and *Torulopsis* genera. In some embodiments, a promoter element can be an alcohol oxidase promoter element from any of the *Candida*, *Hansenula*, *Pichia*, and *Torulopsis* genera. In some embodiments, a promoter element can be an alcohol oxidase promoter element from *Pichia methanolica*, *Pichia pastoris*, *Candida boidinii*, or *Hansenula polymorpha*. In some embodiments, a promoter element can have at least 70% (e.g., at least 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%,
20 95%, 97%, 98%, or 99%) sequence identity to an alcohol oxidase promoter element from *Pichia methanolica*, *Pichia pastoris*, *Candida boidinii*, or *Hansenula polymorpha*. In some embodiments, a promoter element can be an alcohol oxidase promoter element from *Pichia methanolica*, *Pichia pastoris*, *Candida boidinii*, or *Hansenula polymorpha*. Non-limiting examples of other alcohol oxidase promoters include the AOX2 promoter from *Pichia pastoris*
25 (see, e.g., Ohi, Hideyuki, et al. Molecular and General Genetics MGG 243.5 (1994): 489-499, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety), the alcohol oxidase (AOD1) promoter from *Candida boidinii* (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. YSAAOD1A), the alcohol oxidase (MOX) promoter from *Hansenula polymorpha* (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. X02425), or the MOD1 or MOD2 promoter from *Pichia methanolica* (see, for example,
30 Raymond et al., 1998, Yeast, 14:11-23; and Nakagawa et al., 1999, Yeast, 15:1223-30). In some

embodiments, an alcohol oxidase promoter element can be selected from the group consisting of a promoter element from AOX1, AOX2, AOD1, MOX, MOD1, and MOD2. In some embodiments, an alcohol oxidase promoter element can be a promoter element from AOX1. In some embodiments, an alcohol oxidase promoter element can be a promoter element from AOX2. In some embodiments, an alcohol oxidase promoter element can be a promoter element from AOD1. In some embodiments, an alcohol oxidase promoter element can be a promoter element from MOX. In some embodiments, an alcohol oxidase promoter element can be a promoter element from MOD1. In some embodiments, an alcohol oxidase promoter element can be a promoter element from MOD2.

In some embodiments, any of the cells (e.g., yeast cells (e.g., methylotrophic yeast cells)) described herein can include a second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence, transcription and/or translation of which can result in the production of a product a second product (e.g., a protein, an RNA, a DNA, or a small molecule) operably linked to a promoter element. In some embodiments, the promoter element to which the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid construct is operably linked is the same as the promoter element to which the nucleotide sequence of the first nucleic acid construct is operably linked. In some embodiments, the promoter element to which the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid construct is operably linked is a second promoter element. In some embodiments, a second promoter element can be any of the promoter elements described herein. In some embodiments, the second promoter element can have the same sequence as the first promoter element. In some embodiments, the second promoter element can include one or more mutations corresponding to nucleotide positions 668-734 (e.g., nucleotide positions 673-729, nucleotide positions 678-724, nucleotide positions 683-719, or nucleotide positions 688-714) relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the second promoter element can include one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the second promoter element can include one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G,

530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. In some embodiments, one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a second promoter element: T146; C154; T303; T426; A433; A435; T530; C572; T596; T617; T688; A696; T702; A709; A712; T714; A790; A841; or T862. In some embodiments, one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a second promoter element: 146; 154; 303; 426; 433; 435; 530; 572; 596; 617; 688; 696; 702; 709; 712; 714; 790; 841; or 862. In some embodiments, the second promoter element can include one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, or T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the second promoter element can include one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, or 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. In some embodiments, one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations corresponding to one of the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a second promoter element: T688; A696; T702; A712; or T714. In some embodiments, one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations corresponding to one of the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 can be present in a second promoter element: 688; 696; 702; 712; or 714. In some embodiments, the second promoter element can be an inducible promoter element (e.g., a methanol-inducible promoter element) or a constitutive promoter element.

Any of a number of inducible promoters can generally be used when genetically engineering cells (e.g., yeast (e.g., methylotrophic yeast). For example, a methanol-inducible promoter, or a promoter element therefrom, can be used. Suitable methanol inducible promoters include pAOX1, as described herein, as well as other methanol-inducible promoters, or promoter elements therefrom. These include, without limitation, the pAOX2 promoter from *Pichia pastoris*, the alcohol oxidase (AOD1) promoter from *Candida boidinii* (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. YSAAOD1A), the alcohol oxidase (MOX) promoter from *Hansenula*

polymorpha (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. X02425), the MOD1 or MOD2 promoter from *Pichia methanolica* (see, for example, Raymond et al., 1998, *Yeast*, 14:11-23; and Nakagawa et al., 1999, *Yeast*, 15:1223-30), the DHAS promoter from *P. pastoris* (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. FJ752551) or a promoter element therefrom, the
5 formaldehyde dehydrogenase (FLD1) promoter from *P. pastoris* (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. AF066054), or the PEX8 promoter from *P. pastoris* (see, for example, Kranthi et al., 2010, *Yeast*, 27:705-11). All of these promoters are known to be induced by methanol. Suitable constitutive promoters and constitutive promoter elements include, without limitation, the *P. pastoris* promoter (or a portion thereof) from the transcriptional elongation factor EF-1 α
10 gene (TEF1), which is strongly transcribed in a constitutive manner. Other suitable constitutive promoters (or promoter elements therefrom) also can be used, including, without limitation, the glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) promoter from *P. pastoris* (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. U62648.1), the promoter from the potential glycosyl phosphatidyl inositol (GPI)-anchored protein, GCW14p (PAS_chr1-4_0586) from *P. pastoris*
15 (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. XM_002490678), and the promoter from the 3-phosphoglycerate kinase gene (PGK1) from *P. pastoris* (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. AY288296). Further, it is noted that a combination of inducible (e.g., methanol-inducible) and constitutive promoters (or promoter elements therefrom) can be combined to further increase the expression of any of the nucleic acids operably linked thereto.

20 In some embodiments, a second protein can be any of the proteins as described above. In some embodiments, the second protein can be a transcription factor (e.g., Mxr1). In some embodiments, any of the promoter elements herein (e.g., a first promoter element or a second promoter element) can contain one or more recognition sequences for a transcription factor. Therefore, in some embodiments, a feedback loop may be constructed such that the transcription
25 factor drives the expression of a protein of interest and also expression of additional copies of the transcription factor. In some embodiments, the transcription factor can be Mxr1. In some embodiments, the second protein can be a protein involved in heme biosynthesis (e.g., a protein selected from the group consisting of aminolevulinic acid synthase (ALAS), δ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase (ALAD), porphobilinogen deaminase (PBGD), uroporphyrinogen III synthase

(UPG3S), uroporphyrinogen III decarboxylase (UPG3D), coprotoporphyrinogen oxidase (COPROX), protoporphyrinogen IX oxidase (PROTOX), and/or ferrochelatase (FC)).

Nucleic acids encoding one or more of the eight different enzymes involved in heme biosynthesis (as determined and annotated from the sequence of the *Pichia pastoris* genome) can be expressed as described herein. For example, a heterologous nucleic acid molecule encoding
5 ALA synthase, ALA dehydratase, porphobilinogen deaminase, UPG III synthase, UPG III decarboxylase, CPG oxidase, PPG oxidase, and ferrochelatase can be expressed in the strains (e.g., yeast strains (e.g., methylotrophic yeast strains)) described herein. For genetically engineering cells (e.g., yeast (e.g., methylotrophic yeast)) to contain more than one heterologous
10 nucleic acids (e.g., transgenes), a combination of methanol-inducible and constitutive promoters, or elements therefrom, can be combined to further increase the expression of such nucleic acids.

It will be understood that any of the cells (e.g., yeast cells (e.g., methylotrophic yeast cells)) described herein can include additional nucleic acid constructs as a third, fourth, fifth, and so on, nucleic acid construct, and such constructs can, in some embodiments, be as described
15 above for a second nucleic acid construct.

Previous studies in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* identified ALAD and porphobilinogen deaminase as rate limiting enzymes in heme biosynthesis (see, for example, Hoffman et al., 2003, *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.*, 310(4):1247-53). However, heterologous expression of individual heme enzymes in *P. pastoris* from the glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase
20 (GAP) promoter failed to overcome limitations associated with the expression of a recombinant protein containing a heme (see, Krainer et al., 2015, *Microb. Cell Fact.*, 13;14:4). Expression of a recombinant heme containing protein in *P. pastoris* can be achieved by co-expressing the entire heme biosynthetic pathway from methanol-inducible promoters, although it would be appreciated that one or more of the genes involved in the heme biosynthetic pathway could be
25 expressed from one or more constitutive promoters (see, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 9,938,327, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety).

Also provided herein are methods of producing a product (e.g., a protein) using any of the nucleic acid constructs and/or cells described herein. In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence
30 (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element. In some embodiments,

a first promoter element can be any promoter element described herein. In some embodiments, the first promoter element includes one or more mutations corresponding to nucleotide positions 668-734 (e.g., nucleotide positions 673-729, nucleotide positions 678-724, nucleotide positions 683-719, or nucleotide positions 688-714) relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element includes one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. . In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element includes one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, wherein the promoter element includes one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28: T146; C154; T303; T426; A433; A435; T530; C572; T596; T617; T688; A696; T702; A709; A712; T714; A790; A841; or T862. In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, wherein the promoter element includes one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, or 19) mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28: 146; 154; 303; 426; 433; 435; 530; 572; 596; 617; 688; 696; 702; 709; 712; 714; 790; 841; or 862. In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably

linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element includes one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element includes one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, wherein the promoter element includes one or more one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28: T688; A696; T702; A712; or T714. In some embodiments, the methods provided herein can include expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, wherein the promoter element includes one or more one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, or 5) mutations at positions corresponding to the following positions relative to SEQ ID NO: 28: 688; 696; 702; 712; or 714. In some embodiments of any of the methods described herein, the method can be performed in the absence of added methanol. In some embodiments, the primary carbon source for methylotrophic yeast cells can be dextrose, sucrose, xylose, lactose, maltose, isomaltose, arabinose, sugar alcohols, ethanol, acetate, or glycerol. In some embodiments, the primary carbon source can be selected from the group consisting of glucose, sucrose, sorbitol, methanol, and glycerol. In some embodiments, the primary carbon source can be selected from the group consisting of glucose, sucrose, sorbitol, and glycerol. In some embodiments the primary carbon source can be an oligosaccharide or a polysaccharide (e.g., a starch, a pectin, cellulose, or hemicellulose). In some embodiments, the primary carbon source for a methylotrophic yeast cell can be a mixture of sugars (e.g., derived from cellulosic biomass or starch).

In some embodiments, the methods provided herein allow for an increase in the titer of a product (e.g., a protein). In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%,

70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000%, or more) compared to a corresponding method lacking a nucleic acid construct as described herein. In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000% or more) compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid encoding a first product (e.g., a protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation in a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions 668-734 (e.g., nucleotide positions 673-729, nucleotide positions 678-724, nucleotide positions 683-719, or nucleotide positions 688-714) relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000% or more) compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000% or more) compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28, as long as the indicated nucleobase is not the same as the corresponding naturally-occurring nucleobase. In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%,

900%, 1000% or more) compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation in a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000% or more) compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation in a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000% or more) compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000% or more) compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000% or more)

compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation in a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID

5 NO: 28. In some embodiments, the titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be increased by at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, 400%, 500%, 600%, 700%, 800%, 900%, 1000% or more) compared to a corresponding method that includes expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter
10 element, where the first promoter element lacks any mutation in a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Generally, a “titer” is the measurement of the amount of a substance in solution. As used herein, the “titer” of a heme-binding protein refers to the overall amount of the polypeptide,
15 whether or not it is bound to heme, unless otherwise specified. The titer of a product (e.g., a protein) can be measured by any suitable method, such as high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), high-performance liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (HPLC-MS), enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), or ultraviolet and/or visible light spectroscopy.

20 As used herein, a “corresponding method” is a method that is essentially identical to a reference method in all ways except for the identified difference. For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations corresponding to a mutation in a nucleotide position corresponding to
25 nucleotide positions 668-734 (e.g., nucleotide positions 673-729, nucleotide positions 678-724, nucleotide positions 683-719, or nucleotide positions 688-714) relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein)
30 operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any mutations corresponding to a mutation

in a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions 668-734 (e.g., nucleotide positions 673-729, nucleotide positions 678-724, nucleotide positions 683-719, or nucleotide positions 688-714) relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably
5 linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of
10 culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any of the mutations included in the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to
15 SEQ ID NO: 28. For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations at a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28
20 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any of the mutations at a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to
25 SEQ ID NO: 28. For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID
30

NO: 28 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any of the mutations included in the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations at a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any of the mutations at a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any of the mutations included in the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and

714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any of the mutations included in the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations at a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any of the mutations included in the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28. For example, a corresponding method for expressing a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element, where the first promoter element lacks one or more mutations at a nucleotide position corresponding to nucleotide positions 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 would essentially be the same as the reference method in all aspects (e.g., genetic makeup of cell, temperature and time of culture, and so forth), except that the corresponding method would express a nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a first promoter element that lacks any of the mutations included in the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Genetically engineering a cell (e.g., a yeast cell (e.g., a methylotrophic yeast cell)) typically includes introducing a recombinant nucleic acid molecule (also called a nucleic acid construct) into the cell. As described herein, a recombinant nucleic acid molecule typically includes an exogenous nucleic acid that encodes a product (e.g., a protein (e.g., a protein involved in heme biosynthesis, a heme-binding protein, or a transcription factor)) operably linked to at least one promoter element (e.g., an inducible or constitutive promoter element). In

some embodiments, a recombinant nucleic acid molecule can include a linear sequence of two or more protein-coding sequences operably linked to the same or separate promoter elements (e.g., a first promoter operably linked to a first nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) and a second promoter operably linked to a second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a second protein), or a promoter operably linked to a first nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) and a second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a second protein)). In some cases, a recombinant nucleic acid molecule including at least one promoter operably linked to a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a protein) can be called a cassette.

A recombinant nucleic acid can include expression elements. Expression elements include nucleic acid sequences that direct and regulate expression of nucleic acid coding sequences. One example of an expression element is a promoter sequence. Expression elements also can include introns, enhancer sequences, response elements, or inducible elements that modulate expression of a nucleic acid. Expression elements can be of bacterial, yeast, insect, mammalian, or viral origin, and vectors can contain a combination of elements from different origins.

Nucleic acids can be detected using any number of amplification techniques (see, e.g., PCR Primer: A Laboratory Manual, 1995, Dieffenbach & Dveksler, Eds., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY; and U.S. Patent Nos. 4,683,195; 4,683,202; 4,800,159; and 4,965,188) with an appropriate pair of oligonucleotides (e.g., primers). A number of modifications to the original PCR method have been developed and can be used to detect selected nucleic acids.

Suitable transcription factors, and nucleic acids encoding transcription factors (e.g., exogenous nucleic acids encoding transcription factors) include, for example, Mxr1 from *Pichia pastoris*. A representative *P. pastoris* Mxr1 nucleic acid sequence can be found, for example, in GenBank Accession No. DQ395124, while a representative *P. pastoris* Mxr1 polypeptide sequence can be found, for example, in GenBank Accession No. ABD57365.). In some embodiments, the transcription factor can be a Mit1 sequence from *P. pastoris* (see, for example, GenBank Accession No. CAY70887). Suitable transcription factors also can be found in

Hansenula polymorpha (e.g., Adr1; see, for example, GenBank Accession No. AEOI02000005, bases 858873 to 862352, for the nucleic acid sequence and GenBank Accession No. ESX01253 for the amino acid sequence) and *Candida boidinii* (e.g., Trm1; see, for example, GenBank Accession No. AB365355 for the nucleic acid sequence and GenBank Accession No. BAF99700 for the amino acid sequence; and Trm2; see, for example, GenBank Accession No. AB548760 for the nucleic acid sequence and GenBank Accession No. BAJ07608 for the amino acid sequence).

Transcription factors such as Mxr1 may be normally expressed at low levels. In some embodiments, it is desirable to place the exogenous nucleic acid (e.g., the transcription factor) under control of a promoter that is inducible.

In some embodiments, a transcription factor can bind to a promoter element as described herein and activate transcription from the promoter element. In some embodiments, when a nucleic acid sequence encoding the transcription factor is operably linked to a promoter element to which it binds, a positive feedback loop can be created to help drive expression of other nucleic acid sequences (e.g., protein-encoding nucleic acid sequences) operably linked to the promoter. Non-limiting examples of transcription factors that can be used with an AOX1 promoter (e.g., a mutated AOX1 promoter) include Mxr1, Mit1, Adr1, Trm1, Trm2, and combinations thereof. In some embodiments, a transcription factor that can be used with an AOX1 promoter can include Mxr1. A non-limiting example of a transcription factor that can be used with an MOX promoter (e.g., a mutated MOX promoter) is Adr1. Non-limiting examples of transcription factors that can be used with an AOD1 promoter (e.g., a mutated AOD1 promoter) include Trm1, Trm2, or a combination thereof. In some embodiments, two methanol-regulated transcription factors (e.g., Mxr1 and Mit1) can be operably linked to a methanol inducible promoter element (e.g., pAOX1).

The recombinant nucleic acid molecules described herein can be stably integrated into the genome of the cell (e.g., yeast cell (e.g., methylotrophic yeast cell), or can be extrachromosomally expressed from a replication-competent plasmid. Methods of achieving both are well known and routinely used in the art.

In addition, it is noted that a first nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein (e.g., a heme-binding protein)) operably linked to a promoter

element (e.g., a promoter element as described herein) can be physically separate from a second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a second protein (e.g., a transcription factor)) operably linked to a promoter element (e.g., a promoter element as described herein) (that is, the first and second nucleic acid constructs can be completely separate molecules). Alternatively, a first nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a promoter element (e.g., a promoter element as described herein) and a second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a second protein) operably linked to a promoter element (e.g., a promoter element as described herein) can be included in the same nucleic acid construct. In some embodiments, a first nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a first protein) operably linked to a promoter element can be contiguous with a second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a second protein) operably linked to a promoter element. It would be appreciated by a skilled artisan that, if the second nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a second protein) is contiguous with the first nucleic acid construct including a nucleotide sequence (e.g., encoding a protein of interest), a single promoter, or promoter element therefrom, can be used to drive transcription of both or all of the nucleotide sequences (e.g., a nucleic acid encoding the first protein as well as a second protein).

Methods of introducing nucleic acids into cells (e.g., yeast cells (e.g., methylotrophic yeast cells)) are known in the art, and include, without limitation, transduction, electroporation, biolistic particle delivery, and chemical transformation. Methods of culturing cells (e.g., yeast cells (e.g., methylotrophic yeast cells)) also are known in the art. See, for example, Pichia Protocols, *Methods In Molecular Biology*, 389, Cregg, Ed., 2007, 2nd Ed., Humana Press, Inc. Under some circumstances, it may be desirable to introduce or add methanol to the culture media, although, as demonstrated herein, methanol is not required to obtain efficient expression at high levels of one or more products (e.g., proteins) of interest. Under some circumstances (e.g., when one or more nucleic acids encoding enzyme(s) involved in heme biosynthesis are expressed), it may be desirable to supplement the culture media with iron or a pharmaceutically or metabolically acceptable (or GRAS) salt thereof.

The methods provided herein also can include purifying an expressed protein. As used herein, an “enriched” protein is a protein that accounts for at least 5% (e.g., at least 6%, 7%, 8%, 9%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 30%, 35%, 40%, 45%, 50%, 55%, 60%, or more) by dry weight, of the mass of the production cell, or at least 10% (e.g., at least 15%, 20%, 25%, 30%, 35%, 40%, 45%, 50%, 55%, 60%, 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 90%, 95%, or 99%) by dry weight, the mass of the production cell lysate (e.g., excluding cell wall or membrane material). As used herein, a “purified” protein is a protein that has been separated from cellular components that naturally accompany it. Typically, the protein is considered “purified” when it is at least 70% (e.g., at least 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, or 99%) by dry weight, free from other proteins and naturally occurring molecules with which it is naturally associated.

As used herein, nucleic acids can include DNA and RNA, and includes nucleic acids that contain one or more nucleotide analogs or backbone modifications. A nucleic acid can be single stranded or double stranded, which usually depends upon its intended use. Also provided are nucleic acids and polypeptides that differ from a given sequence. Nucleic acids and polypeptides can have at least 50% sequence identity (e.g., at least 55%, 60%, 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 81%, 82%, 83%, 84%, 85%, 86%, 87%, 88%, 89%, 90%, 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, or 99% sequence identity) to a given nucleic acid or polypeptide sequence. In some embodiments, a nucleic acid or polypeptide can have 100% sequence identity to a given nucleic acid or polypeptide sequence.

In calculating percent sequence identity, two sequences are aligned and the number of identical matches of nucleotides or amino acid residues between the two sequences is determined. The number of identical matches is divided by the length of the aligned region (i.e., the number of aligned nucleotides or amino acid residues) and multiplied by 100 to arrive at a percent sequence identity value. It will be appreciated that the length of the aligned region can be a portion of one or both sequences up to the full-length size of the shortest sequence. It also will be appreciated that a single sequence can align with more than one other sequence and hence, can have different percent sequence identity values over each aligned region.

The alignment of two or more sequences to determine percent sequence identity can be performed using the computer program ClustalW and default parameters, which allows alignments of nucleic acid or polypeptide sequences to be carried out across their entire length

(global alignment). Chenna et al., 2003, *Nucleic Acids Res.*, 31(13):3497-500. ClustalW calculates the best match between a query and one or more subject sequences, and aligns them so that identities, similarities and differences can be determined. Gaps of one or more residues can be inserted into a query sequence, a subject sequence, or both, to maximize sequence alignments.

5 For fast pairwise alignment of nucleic acid sequences, the default parameters can be used (i.e., word size: 2; window size: 4; scoring method: percentage; number of top diagonals: 4; and gap penalty: 5); for an alignment of multiple nucleic acid sequences, the following parameters can be used: gap opening penalty: 10.0; gap extension penalty: 5.0; and weight transitions: yes. For fast pairwise alignment of polypeptide sequences, the following parameters can be used: word size:

10 1; window size: 5; scoring method: percentage; number of top diagonals: 5; and gap penalty: 3. For multiple alignment of polypeptide sequences, the following parameters can be used: weight matrix: blosum; gap opening penalty: 10.0; gap extension penalty: 0.05; hydrophilic gaps: on; hydrophilic residues: Gly, Pro, Ser, Asn, Asp, Gln, Glu, Arg, and Lys; and residue-specific gap penalties: on. ClustalW can be run, for example, at the Baylor College of Medicine Search

15 Launcher website or at the European Bioinformatics Institute website on the World Wide Web.

Changes can be introduced into a nucleic acid molecule, thereby leading to changes in the amino acid sequence of the encoded polypeptide. For example, changes can be introduced into nucleic acid coding sequences using mutagenesis (e.g., site-directed mutagenesis, PCR-mediated mutagenesis, transposon mutagenesis, chemical mutagenesis, UV mutagenesis or radiation

20 induced mutagenesis) or by chemically synthesizing a nucleic acid molecule having such changes. Such nucleic acid changes can lead to conservative and/or non-conservative amino acid substitutions at one or more amino acid residues. A "conservative amino acid substitution" is one in which one amino acid residue is replaced with a different amino acid residue having a similar side chain (see, for example, Dayhoff et al., 1978, *Atlas of Protein Sequence and*

25 *Structure*, 5(Suppl. 3):345-352, which provides frequency tables for amino acid substitutions), and a non-conservative substitution is one in which an amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue that does not have a similar side chain. Nucleic acid and/or polypeptide sequences may be modified as described herein to improve one or more properties such as, without limitation, increased expression (e.g., transcription and/or translation), tighter regulation,

deregulation, loss of catabolite repression, modified specificity, secretion, thermostability, solvent stability, oxidative stability, protease resistance, catalytic activity, and/or color.

As used herein, an “isolated” nucleic acid molecule is a nucleic acid molecule that is free of sequences that naturally flank one or both ends of the nucleic acid in the genome of the organism from which the isolated nucleic acid molecule is derived (e.g., a cDNA or genomic DNA fragment produced by PCR or restriction endonuclease digestion). Such an isolated nucleic acid molecule is generally introduced into a vector (e.g., a cloning vector, or an expression vector) for convenience of manipulation or to generate a fusion nucleic acid molecule, discussed in more detail below. In addition, an isolated nucleic acid molecule can include an engineered nucleic acid molecule such as a recombinant or a synthetic nucleic acid molecule.

Vectors as described herein can be introduced into a host cell. As used herein, “host cell” refers to the particular cell into which the nucleic acid is introduced and also includes the progeny of such a cell that carry the vector. A host cell can be any prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell. For example, nucleic acids can be expressed in bacterial cells such as *E. coli*, or in insect cells, yeast or mammalian cells (such as Chinese hamster ovary cells (CHO) or COS cells). Other suitable host cells are known to those skilled in the art. Many methods for introducing nucleic acids into host cells, both *in vivo* and *in vitro*, are well known to those skilled in the art and include, without limitation, electroporation, calcium phosphate precipitation, polyethylene glycol (PEG) transformation, heat shock, lipofection, microinjection, and viral-mediated nucleic acid transfer.

Nucleic acids can be isolated using techniques routine in the art. For example, nucleic acids can be isolated using any method including, without limitation, recombinant nucleic acid technology, and/or the polymerase chain reaction (PCR). General PCR techniques are described, for example in PCR Primer: A Laboratory Manual, Dieffenbach & Dveksler, Eds., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 1995. Recombinant nucleic acid techniques include, for example, restriction enzyme digestion and ligation, which can be used to isolate a nucleic acid. Isolated nucleic acids also can be chemically synthesized, either as a single nucleic acid molecule or as a series of oligonucleotides.

Polypeptides can be purified from natural sources (e.g., a biological sample) by known methods such as DEAE ion exchange, gel filtration, and hydroxyapatite chromatography. A polypeptide also can be purified, for example, by expressing a nucleic acid in an expression vector. In addition, a purified polypeptide can be obtained by chemical synthesis. The extent of
5 purity of a polypeptide can be measured using any appropriate method, e.g., column chromatography, polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, or HPLC analysis.

A construct or vector containing a nucleic acid construct as described herein (e.g., a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide operably linked to a promoter element as described herein) also is provided. Constructs or vectors, including expression constructs or
10 vectors, are commercially available or can be produced by recombinant DNA techniques routine in the art. A construct or vector containing a nucleic acid can have expression elements operably linked to such a nucleic acid, and further can include sequences such as those encoding a selectable marker (e.g., an antibiotic resistance gene). A construct or vector containing a nucleic acid can encode a chimeric or fusion polypeptide (i.e., a polypeptide operatively linked to a
15 heterologous polypeptide, which can be at either the N-terminus or C-terminus of the polypeptide). Representative heterologous polypeptides are those that can be used in purification of the encoded polypeptide (e.g., 6xHis tag, glutathione S-transferase (GST)).

Nucleic acids also can be detected using hybridization. Hybridization between nucleic acids is discussed in detail in Sambrook et al. (1989, Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual,
20 2nd Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY; Sections 7.37-7.57, 9.47-9.57, 11.7-11.8, and 11.45-11.57). Sambrook et al. discloses suitable Southern blot conditions for oligonucleotide probes less than about 100 nucleotides (Sections 11.45-11.46). The T_m between a sequence that is less than 100 nucleotides in length and a second sequence can be calculated using the formula provided in Section 11.46. Sambrook et al. additionally
25 discloses Southern blot conditions for oligonucleotide probes greater than about 100 nucleotides (see Sections 9.47-9.54). The T_m between a sequence greater than 100 nucleotides in length and a second sequence can be calculated using the formula provided in Sections 9.50-9.51 of Sambrook et al.

The conditions under which membranes containing nucleic acids are prehybridized and
30 hybridized, as well as the conditions under which membranes containing nucleic acids are

washed to remove excess and non-specifically bound probe, can play a significant role in the stringency of the hybridization. Such hybridizations and washes can be performed, where appropriate, under moderate or high stringency conditions. For example, washing conditions can be made more stringent by decreasing the salt concentration in the wash solutions and/or by increasing the temperature at which the washes are performed. Simply by way of example, high stringency conditions typically include a wash of the membranes in 0.2X SSC at 65°C.

In addition, interpreting the amount of hybridization can be affected, for example, by the specific activity of the labeled oligonucleotide probe, by the number of probe-binding sites on the template nucleic acid to which the probe has hybridized, and by the amount of exposure of an autoradiograph or other detection medium. It will be readily appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art that although any number of hybridization and washing conditions can be used to examine hybridization of a probe nucleic acid molecule to immobilized target nucleic acids, it is more important to examine hybridization of a probe to target nucleic acids under identical hybridization, washing, and exposure conditions. Preferably, the target nucleic acids are on the same membrane.

A nucleic acid molecule is deemed to hybridize to a nucleic acid but not to another nucleic acid if hybridization to a nucleic acid is at least 5-fold (e.g., at least 6-fold, 7-fold, 8-fold, 9-fold, 10-fold, 20-fold, 50-fold, or 100-fold) greater than hybridization to another nucleic acid. The amount of hybridization can be quantitated directly on a membrane or from an autoradiograph using, for example, a PhosphorImager or a Densitometer (Molecular Dynamics, Sunnyvale, CA).

Polypeptides can be detected using antibodies. Techniques for detecting polypeptides using antibodies include enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs), Western blots, immunoprecipitations and immunofluorescence. An antibody can be polyclonal or monoclonal. An antibody having specific binding affinity for a polypeptide can be generated using methods well known in the art. The antibody can be attached to a solid support such as a microtiter plate using methods known in the art. In the presence of a polypeptide, an antibody-polypeptide complex is formed.

Detection (e.g., of an amplification product, a hybridization complex, or a polypeptide) is usually accomplished using detectable labels. The term "label" is intended to encompass the use

of direct labels as well as indirect labels. Detectable labels include enzymes, prosthetic groups, fluorescent materials, luminescent materials, bioluminescent materials, and radioactive materials.

Methods are described herein that can be used to generate a strain that lacks sequences for selection (i.e., that lacks a selectable marker). These methods include using a circular
5 plasmid DNA vector and a linear DNA sequence; the circular plasmid DNA vector contains a selection marker and an origin of DNA replication (also known as an autonomously replicating sequence (ARS)), and the linear DNA sequence contains sequences for integration into the *Pichia* genome by homologous recombination. A linear DNA molecule additionally can include
10 nucleic acid sequences encoding one or more proteins of interest such as, without limitation, heme-bound LegH, a dehydrin, a phytase, a protease, a catalase, a lipase, a peroxidase, an amylase, a transglutaminase, an oxidoreductase, a transferase, a hydrolase, a lyase, an isomerase, a ligase, one or more enzymes involved in the pathway for production of small molecules, such as ethanol, lactic acid, butanol, adipic acid or succinic acid, or an antibody against any such proteins.

15 Cells (e.g., yeast cells (e.g., methylotrophic yeast cells (e.g., *Pichia*))) can be transformed with both DNA molecules and the transformants selected by the presence of the selectable marker on the circular plasmid. Transformants then can be screened for integration of the linear DNA molecule into the genome using, for example, PCR. Once transformants with the correct integration of the marker-free linear DNA molecule are identified, the cells can be grown in the
20 absence of selection for the circular plasmid. Because the marker-bearing plasmid is not stably maintained in the absence of selection, the plasmid is lost, often very quickly, after selection is relaxed. The resulting strain carries the integrated linear DNA in the absence of heterologous sequences for selection. Therefore, this approach can be used to construct strains (e.g., *Pichia* strains) that lack a selectable marker (e.g., a heterologous selection marker) with little to no
25 impact on recombinant product (e.g., protein) yield.

In accordance with the present disclosure, there may be employed conventional molecular biology, microbiology, biochemical, and recombinant DNA techniques within the skill of the art. Such techniques are explained fully in the literature. The materials and methods of the disclosure will be further described in the following examples, which do not limit the scope
30 of the methods and compositions of matter described in the claims.

Exemplary Embodiments

Embodiment 1 is a nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 2 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 673-729 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 3 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 678-724 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 4 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 683-719 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 5 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 688-714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 6 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 7 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 8 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 9 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises five or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 10 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 1, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter has the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29.

Embodiment 11 is a nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 12 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 11, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 13 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 11, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 14 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 11, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 15 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 11, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises five or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 16 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 11-15, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide

position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 17 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 11-15, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations at nucleotide
5 positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 18 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 11-15, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations at nucleotide
10 positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 19 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 11-15, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations at nucleotide
positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

15 Embodiment 20 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 11-15, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 21 is a nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at
20 a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 22 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 21, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from
25 the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 23 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 21, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected
30 from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 24 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 21, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

5 Embodiment 25 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 21, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises five or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

10 Embodiment 26 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 21-25, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

15 Embodiment 27 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 21-25, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

20 Embodiment 28 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 21-25, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

 Embodiment 29 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 21-25, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

25 Embodiment 30 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 21-25, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

30 Embodiment 31 is a nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C,

T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 32 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 31, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations selected from the group consisting
5 of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 33 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 31, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations selected from the group consisting
10 of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 34 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 31, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations selected from the group consisting
15 of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 35 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 31, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises five or more mutations selected from the group consisting
20 of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 36 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-35, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations selected from the
25 group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 37 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-35, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 38 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-35, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

5 Embodiment 39 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-35, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 40 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-35, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises the mutations T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

10 Embodiment 41 is a nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

15 Embodiment 42 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 41, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

20 Embodiment 43 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 41, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

25 Embodiment 44 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 41, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

30 Embodiment 45 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 41, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises five or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 46 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-45, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

5 Embodiment 47 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-45, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 48 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-45, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

10 Embodiment 49 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-45, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 50 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-45, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises the mutations 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

15 Embodiment 51 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-50, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element is an alcohol oxidase promoter element from a promoter selected from the group consisting of AOX1, AOX2, AOD1, MOX, MOD1, and MOD2.

20 Embodiment 52 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-51, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element is an alcohol oxidase 1 (AOX1) promoter element.

Embodiment 53 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-52, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28.

25 Embodiment 54 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-52, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element has at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 55 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-54, further comprising a nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence is operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element.

30 Embodiment 56 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 55, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a first protein.

Embodiment 57 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 56, wherein the first protein is exogenous to a methylotrophic yeast cell.

Embodiment 58 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 56 or embodiment 57, wherein the first protein is heterologous to a methylotrophic yeast cell.

5 Embodiment 59 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 56-58, wherein the first protein is selected from the group consisting of an antibody or fragment thereof, an enzyme, a regulatory protein, a peptide hormone, a blood clotting protein, a cytokine, a cytokine inhibitor, and a heme-binding protein.

10 Embodiment 60 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 56-59, wherein the first protein is a heme-binding protein.

Embodiment 61 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 60, wherein the heme-binding protein is selected from the group consisting of a globin, a cytochrome, a cytochrome c oxidase, a ligninase, a catalase, and a peroxidase.

15 Embodiment 62 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 60, wherein the heme-binding protein is selected from the group consisting of an androglobin, a chlorocruorin, a cytoglobin, an erythrocruorin, a flavohemoglobin, a globin E, a globin X, a globin Y, a hemoglobin, a histoglobin, a leghemoglobin, a myoglobin, a neuroglobin, a non-symbiotic hemoglobin, a protoglobin, and a truncated hemoglobin.

20 Embodiment 63 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 60, wherein the heme-binding protein is a non-symbiotic hemoglobin.

Embodiment 64 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 60, wherein the heme-binding protein is a leghemoglobin.

25 Embodiment 65 is the nucleic acid construct of embodiment 60, wherein the heme-binding protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1-27.

Embodiment 66 is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-65, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a recognition sequence for a transcription factor.

30 Embodiment 67 is a cell comprising a first nucleic acid construct, wherein the first nucleic acid construct is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-66.

Embodiment 68 is the cell of embodiment 67, wherein the cell is a yeast cell.

Embodiment 69 is the cell of embodiment 68, wherein the yeast cell is a methylotrophic yeast cell.

Embodiment 70 is the cell of embodiment 69, wherein the methylotrophic yeast cell is a
5 *Pichia* cell, a *Candida* cell, a *Hansenula* cell, or a *Torulopsis* cell.

Embodiment 71 is the cell of embodiment 69 or embodiment 70, wherein the methylotrophic yeast cell is a *Pichia methanolica* cell, a *Pichia pastoris* cell, a *Candida boidinii* cell, or a *Hansenula polymorpha* cell.

Embodiment 72 is the cell of any one of embodiments 69-71, wherein the methylotrophic
10 yeast cell is a *Pichia pastoris* cell.

Embodiment 73 is the cell of any one of embodiments 67-72, further comprising a second nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence is operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element or to a second promoter element.

Embodiment 74 is the cell of embodiment 73, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the
15 second nucleic acid construct is operably linked to a second promoter element that has the same sequence as the first alcohol oxidase promoter element.

Embodiment 75 is the cell of any one of embodiments 73-74, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid construct encodes a second protein.

Embodiment 76 is the cell of embodiment 75, wherein the second protein is a
20 transcription factor.

Embodiment 77 is the cell of embodiment 76, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the second protein is operably linked to a second promoter element that comprises a recognition sequence for the transcription factor.

Embodiment 78 is the cell of embodiment 76 or embodiment 77, wherein the first alcohol
25 oxidase promoter element comprises a recognition sequence for the transcription factor.

Embodiment 79 is the cell of any one of embodiments 75-78, wherein the second protein is a protein involved in heme biosynthesis.

Embodiment 80 is the cell of embodiment 79, wherein the protein involved in heme biosynthesis is selected from the group consisting of aminolevulinic acid synthase (ALAS), δ -aminolevulinic acid dehydratase (ALAD), porphobilinogen deaminase (PBGD),
30

uroporphyrinogen III synthase (UPG3S), uroporphyrinogen III decarboxylase (UPG3D), coprotoporphyrinogen oxidase (COPROX), protoporphyrinogen IX oxidase (PROTOX), and ferrochelatase (FC).

Embodiment 81 is a method of producing a product in a cell comprising:

5 expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

10 Embodiment 82 is the method of embodiment 81, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 673-729 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 83 is the method of embodiment 81, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 678-724 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

15 Embodiment 84 is the method of embodiment 81, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 683-719 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

20 Embodiment 85 is the method of embodiment 81, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 688-714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 86 is the method of embodiment 81, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

25 Embodiment 87 is the method of embodiment 81, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 88 is the method of embodiment 81, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 89 is the method of embodiment 81, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises five or more mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 90 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-89, wherein a titer of the product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 is greater than a titer of the product produced expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element lacks any mutation at nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 91 is a method of producing a product in a cell comprising:

expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 92 is the method of embodiment 91, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 93 is the method of embodiment 91, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 94 is the method of embodiment 91, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 95 is the method of embodiment 91, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes five or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 96 is the method of any one of embodiments 91-95, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 97 is the method of any one of embodiments 91-95, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 98 is the method of any one of embodiments 91-95, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 99 is the method of any one of embodiments 91-95, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 as compared to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 100 is the method of any one of embodiments 91-95, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 as compared to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 101 is the method of any one of embodiments 91-100, wherein a titer of the product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 is greater than a titer of the product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a first protein operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element lacks any mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 102 is a method of producing a product in a cell comprising:

expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 103 is the method of embodiment 102, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 104 is the method of embodiment 102, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 105 is the method of embodiment 102, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 106 is the method of embodiment 102, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes five or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

5 Embodiment 107 is the method of any one of embodiments 102-106, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

10 Embodiment 108 is the method of any one of embodiments 102-106, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes two or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

15 Embodiment 109 is the method of any one of embodiments 102-106, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes three or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

20 Embodiment 110 is the method of any one of embodiments 102-106, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes four or more mutations at nucleotide positions selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 as compared to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 111 is the method of any one of embodiments 102-106, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to 688, 696, 702, 712, and 714 as compared to SEQ ID NO: 28.

25 Embodiment 112 is the method of any one of embodiments 102-111, wherein a titer of the product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 is greater
30 than a titer of the product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a

nucleotide sequence encoding a first protein operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element lacks any mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to 146, 154, 303, 426, 433, 435, 530, 572, 596, 617, 688, 696, 702, 709, 712, 714, 790, 841, and 862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 113 is a method of producing a product in a cell comprising:

expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 114 is the method of embodiment 113, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 115 is the method of embodiment 113, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 116 is the method of embodiment 113, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 117 is the method of embodiment 113, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes five or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T,

T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 118 is the method of any one of embodiments 113-117, wherein the titer of a product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 is greater than the titer of a product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a first protein operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element lacks any mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 119 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-118, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 120 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-118, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 121 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-118, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 122 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-118, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises the mutations T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 123 is a method of producing a product in a cell comprising:

expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to

146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 124 is the method of embodiment 123, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of
5 mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 125 is the method of embodiment 123, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of
10 mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 126 is the method of embodiment 123, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of
15 mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 127 is the method of embodiment 123, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes five or more mutations selected from the group consisting of
20 mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 128 is the method of any one of embodiments 123-127, wherein the titer of
25 a product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28 is
30 greater than the titer of a product produced by expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a first protein operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element lacks any mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to 146C, 154T, 303C, 426A, 433T, 435G, 530A, 572T, 596C, 617C, 688C, 696T, 702C, 709G, 712G, 714G, 790G, 841T, and 862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 129 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-128, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

5 Embodiment 130 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-128, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 131 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-128, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

10 Embodiment 132 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-128, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises the mutations 688C, 696T, 702C, 712G, and 714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 133 is a method of producing a product in a cell comprising:

15 expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element is the nucleic acid construct of any one of embodiments 1-54.

Embodiment 134 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-133, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element is an alcohol oxidase promoter element from a promoter selected from the group consisting of AOX1, AOX2, AOD1, MOX, MOD1, and MOD2.

20 Embodiment 135 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-134, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element is an alcohol oxidase 1 (AOX1) promoter element.

Embodiment 136 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-135, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28.

25 Embodiment 137 is the method of any one of embodiments 55-135, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element has at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28.

Embodiment 138 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-137, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element has the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 29.

Embodiment 139 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-138, wherein the cell is a yeast cell.

Embodiment 140 is the method of embodiment 139, wherein the yeast cell is a methylotrophic yeast cell.

Embodiment 141 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-140, wherein the nucleotide sequence operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element encodes a first protein.

Embodiment 142 is the method of embodiment 141, wherein the first protein is exogenous to the cell.

Embodiment 143 is the method of any one of embodiments 141-142, wherein the first protein is heterologous to the cell.

Embodiment 144 is the method of any one of embodiments 141-143, wherein the first protein is selected from the group consisting of an antibody or fragment thereof, an enzyme, a regulatory protein, a peptide hormone, a blood clotting protein, a cytokine, and a heme-binding protein.

Embodiment 145 is the method of any one of embodiments 141-144, wherein the first protein is a heme-binding protein.

Embodiment 146 is the method of embodiment 145, wherein the heme-binding protein is selected from the group consisting of a globin, a cytochrome, a cytochrome c oxidase, a ligninase, a catalase, and a peroxidase.

Embodiment 147 is the method of embodiment 145, wherein the heme-binding protein is selected from the group consisting of an androglobin, a chlorocruorin, a cytoglobin, an erythrocrurorin, a flavohemoglobin, a globin E, a globin X, a globin Y, a hemoglobin, a histoglobin, a leghemoglobin, a myoglobin, a neuroglobin, a non-symbiotic hemoglobin, a protoglobin, and a truncated hemoglobin.

Embodiment 148 is the method of embodiment 145, wherein the heme-binding protein is a non-symbiotic hemoglobin.

Embodiment 149 is the method of embodiment 145, wherein the heme-binding protein is a leghemoglobin.

Embodiment 150 is the method of embodiment 145, wherein the heme-binding protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to an amino acid sequence in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-27.

Embodiment 151 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-150, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element contains one or more recognition sequences for a transcription factor.

5 Embodiment 152 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-151, further comprising expressing a second nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid construct is operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element or to a second promoter element.

10 Embodiment 153 is the method of embodiment 152, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid construct is operably linked to a second promoter element that has the same sequence as the first alcohol oxidase promoter element.

Embodiment 154 is the method of any one of embodiments 152-153, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the second nucleic acid construct encodes a second protein.

Embodiment 155 is the method of embodiment 154, wherein the second protein is a transcription factor.

15 Embodiment 156 is the method of embodiment 155, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the second protein is operably linked to a second promoter element that comprises a recognition sequence for the transcription factor.

Embodiment 157 is the method of embodiment 155, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a recognition sequence for the transcription factor.

20 Embodiment 158 is the method of 154, wherein the second protein is a protein involved in heme biosynthesis.

Embodiment 159 is the method of embodiment 158, wherein the protein involved in heme biosynthesis is selected from the group consisting of ALAS, ALAD, PBGD, UPG3S, UPG3D, COPROX, PROTOX, and FC.

25 Embodiment 160 is the method of any one of embodiments 81-159, wherein the method is carried out in the absence of added methanol.

30 The materials and methods of the disclosure will be further described in the following Examples, which do not limit the scope the claims.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Polymerase Chain Reaction

Genes of interest were amplified from genomic DNA or plasmid DNA templates using Phusion Hi-fidelity DNA polymerase (New England Biolabs). Briefly, 0.6 μ M each of forward and reverse primers were incubated with 10-50 ng of template DNA and 400 μ M of nucleotide mix in the presence of 1-2 U of Phusion DNA polymerase. The reaction conditions were as follows:

1 cycle	Initial Denaturation	98°C	1min
25 cycles	Denaturation	98°C	10 sec
	Annealing		20 sec
	Extension	72°C	30 sec per kb
1 cycle	Final Extension	72°C	5min
1 cycle	Hold	4°C	Forever

Example 2

Plasmid Construction by Ligation

50-100 ng of restriction enzyme digested plasmid and 3X molar excess of PCR amplified inserts were incubated in the presence of T4 DNA ligase (New England Biolabs). Ligation was carried out at 16°C for greater than 2 hr. 2 μ l of ligation reaction was transformed into DH10B electrocompetent *E. coli* cells.

Example 3

Transformation into *E. coli* ElectroMax DH10B T1 Phage-Resistant Competent Cells

1.5-2 μ l of ligation mixture (Example 2) was transformed into 20 μ l of ElectroMax DH10B T1 Phage-Resistant Competent Cells (Invitrogen, Cat # 12033-015) by electroporation

using MicroPulser (BioRad) set at 1.7 kV using a 1 mm gap cuvette (BioRad, Cat # 165-2089); after a pulse, 1 ml SOC (super optimal broth with catabolite repression) was added to cells and cells were incubated at 37°C for 1 h with shaking at 200 rpm. 10 µl of recovery mixture was plated on LB (lysogeny broth) agar plates containing ampicillin at a concentration of 100 µg/ml. Plates were incubated overnight at 37°C. Plasmids were isolated and purified using a NUCLEOSPIN® plasmid kit from Macherey-Nagel, according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Example 4

Preparation of *P. pastoris* Transformation-Competent Cells

Selected strains of *P. pastoris* were grown to mid-exponential growth phase (about 2 OD) in 25 ml YPD (yeast extract-peptone-dextrose) medium. Cells were collected by centrifugation at 930×g for 15 minutes. The cell pellet was resuspended in 2 ml of a solution of 80% YPD and 200 mM HEPES (4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid), pH 6.8. 75 µl of 1 M DTT (dithiothreitol) was added. The resuspended cell pellet was mixed at 100 rpm at 30° C for 25 minutes. A 40 ml volume of ice cold, sterile water was added to the suspension, and the cells were collected by centrifugation at 1125×g for 15 minutes and placed on ice. The cell pellet was resuspended in 40 ml ice cold water and collected as before for two additional wash steps. The cell pellet was then resuspended in 20 ml of ice cold 1 M sorbitol and collected by centrifugation as before. The final cell pellet was suspended in 0.3 ml ice cold, sterile 1M sorbitol, aliquoted, and frozen at -80° C.

Example 5

Transformation into *P. pastoris*

50-100 ng of plasmid DNA was transformed into 30 µl of electrocompetent *P. pastoris* cells using a 1 mm gap GenePulser cuvette (BioRad) with a GenePulser (BioRad) set at 1.15 kV. 1 ml of YPD/1M sorbitol was added and mixed at a 1:1 ratio to the cells. The cells were allowed

to recover for 3 h at 30° C with shaking at 100 rpm. 100 µl of the recovery mixture was plated on a YPD plate containing the appropriate antibiotic (primary transformation plate), and the rest of the transformed cells were plated on a second YPD plate with the appropriate antibiotic. Plates were incubated at 30° C for 48 hours. Primary transformation plates were streaked onto additional YPD plates with appropriate antibiotic, and plates were incubated for 48 h at 30° C. Individual clones were patched onto YPD plates with antibiotics and the patches were used to grow the strains in shake flasks for further analysis.

Example 6

Construction of AOX1 promoter-Green Fluorescent Protein reporter vectors

Vectors to monitor expression from the AOX1 promoter and mutated variants were constructed using the Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) as a reporter protein. The GFP open reading frame was inserted into the pGAB vector (See, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 9,938,327, incorporated herein by reference in its entirety) with the translation start immediately downstream of the methanol-inducible alcohol oxidase 1 (AOX1) promoter from *Pichia pastoris* and the translation stop signal immediately followed by the transcription terminator sequence from the *P. pastoris* FDH1 gene.

The open reading frame encoding the Dasher GFP variant protein was amplified by PCR from the pJ1214-03c plasmid vector obtained from DNA2.0 Inc. (Newark, Calif.). The Dasher GFP open reading frame was amplified from pJ1214-03c with primers MxO0560 (GAGGGTCTCGGATGACAGCTTTAACTGAAGGGGCC; SEQ ID NO: 30) and MxO0561 (GAGGGTCTCGATTATTGGTAAGTGTCGAGATCAACTGCC; SEQ ID NO: 31), which appended flanking Eco31I/BsaI restriction endonuclease recognition sites. Amplification was accomplished using PCR as described in Example 1.

The amplified Dasher GFP PCR product and the pGAB vector were digested with 10 units of FastDigest Eco31I restriction endonuclease (ThermoFisher Scientific) for 1 hour at 37° C in 1× FastDigest Buffer (ThermoFisher Scientific). The Eco31I-digested amplified Dasher GFP fragment and pGAB vector were separated by electrophoresis on a 1% agarose gel in 1×TBE buffer (89 mM Tris, 89 mM boric acid, 2 mM EDTA (ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid),

pH 8.3) and visualized using SYBR Safe DNA gel stain (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, Calif.). The desired DNA fragments were excised from the agarose gel and the DNA was recovered using the ZYMOCLEAN™ Gel DNA Recovery Kit (Zymo Research, Irvine, Calif.).

5 The Eco31I-digested fragment containing the Dasher GFP open reading frame was introduced into pGAB at an Eco31I site immediately downstream of the AOX1 promoter by ligation. A mixture containing 72 ng of Eco31I-digested DNA encoding the Dasher GFP open reading frame and 35 ng of Eco31I-digested pGAB was incubated with 400 units of T4 DNA ligase (New England Biolabs) in 1× T4 DNA ligase reaction buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, 10 mM
10 MgCl₂, 1 mM ATP, 10 mM DTT, pH 7.5 @ 25° C) at 16° C, for 2 hours in a 20 µl reaction. Electrocompetent *E. coli* DH10B cells were transformed with 2 µl of the ligation reaction and antibiotic resistant transformants were selected on LSB (listeria special broth) agar plates supplemented with 100 µg/µl ampicillin. Plates were incubated overnight at 37° C. Colonies were screened for the presence of the insert by PCR using primers MxO0560 and MxO0561. The
15 sequence of the final vector was confirmed by DNA sequencing.

 The resulting vector, pMx0369, included the *P. pastoris* AOX1 promoter followed consecutively by the Dasher GFP open reading frame and the *P. pastoris* FDH1 terminator. These elements were amplified from pMx0369 DNA with primers MxO0513
(GTGCTAGGATCCAACATCCAAAGACG; SEQ ID NO: 32) and MxO0514
20 (TTTTCTAGAACCTTATCAAGATAGCTAGAAATAGAAATGGTTGC; SEQ ID NO: 33) using the polymerase chain reaction as described in Example 1. The primers introduced BamHI and XbaI restriction sites to the 5' and 3' ends, respectively, of the amplified AOX1 promoter-Dasher GFP-FDH1 terminator DNA fragment. These restriction sites were used to clone the Dasher GFP and the sequences required for its expression into the pIL75 episomal vector. The
25 pIL75 vector carries a panARS autonomous replication sequence (Liachko & Dunham, 2014, FEMS Yeast Res., 14:364-7), which allows for maintenance of the plasmid vector without integration into the genome of the transformed cells, and a kanMX marker for selection of transformants with the antibiotic G418. Both the amplified Dasher GFP expression DNA fragment and the pIL75 vector DNA were digested with 10 units of BamHI and 10 units of XbaI
30 restriction endonucleases (New England Biolabs) in 1x CutSmart buffer (New England Biolabs)

for 1 hour at 37° C. The BamHI-XbaI-digested DNA fragments were separated by electrophoresis on a 1% agarose gel in 1×TBE buffer, visualized using SYBR Safe DNA gel stain and the desired DNA fragments were excised from the agarose gel and the DNA was recovered using the Zymoclean Gel DNA Recovery Kit.

5 The DNA fragment containing the *P. pastoris* AOX1 promoter, the Dasher GFP open reading frame, and the *P. pastoris* FDH1 terminator was introduced into the similarly digested pIL75 vector by ligation. A mixture containing 48 ng of the BamHI-XbaI-digested DNA fragment containing sequences for the expression of Dasher GFP and 15 ng of the BamHI-XbaI-digested pIL75 DNA was incubated with 400 units of T4 DNA ligase (New England Biolabs) in
10 1× T4 DNA ligase reaction buffer in a 20 µl reaction at 16° C, for 2 hours. Electrocompetent *E. coli* DH10B cells were transformed with 2 µl of the ligation reaction and antibiotic resistant transformants were selected on LSB agar plates supplemented with 100 µg/µl ampicillin. Plates were incubated overnight at 37° C. Colonies were screened for the presence of the insert by PCR using primers MxO0513 and MxO0514. The sequence of the final vector was confirmed by
15 DNA sequencing. The resulting episomal vector, containing sequences encoding the Dasher GFP variant whose expression is under the control of the AOX1 promoter was designated pMx0379.

Example 7

Construction of Strain MxY0270

20 The pMx0379 vector, carrying the Dasher GFP reporter under the control of the AOX1 promoter, was introduced into *Pichia pastoris* host strain MxY0051 by transformation. The MxY0051 strain is a MutS strain, but contains no other modification. Transformants were selected, and the plasmid was maintained, by growth on medium containing the antibiotic G418.
25 Plates were incubated at 30° C for 48 hours. Individual clones were patched onto YPD plates with G418 antibiotic and the patches were used to inoculate cultures in subsequent experiments.

Example 8

Error-prone mutagenesis of the AOX1 promoter

The pMx0369 vector was used as a template for error-prone PCR amplification of the AOX1 promoter. Error-prone PCR was carried out as described in McCullum, *et al.* (2010, Methods in Molecular Biology, 634:103-9). The pAOX1 promoter was amplified using primers MxO0569 (TCCTGCAGCCCGGGGGATCCAACATCCAAAGA; SEQ ID NO: 34) and
 5 MxO0570 (CTTCAGTTAAAGCTGTCATCGTTTCGAATAATTAGT; SEQ ID NO: 35) in a reaction containing 1 μ M of each primer, 50 ng of template DNA, 1 mM dCTP and dTTP, 0.2 mM dATP and dGTP, 5.5 mM MgCl₂, and 0.5 mM MnCl₂, and 5U *Taq* DNA polymerase, in 1X reaction buffer (Invitrogen). The reaction conditions for error-prone amplification were as follows:

1 cycle	Initial Denaturation	94°C	2 min
25 cycles	Denaturation	94°C	30 sec
	Annealing	55°C	30 sec
	Extension	72°C	2 min
1 cycle	Final Extension	72°C	5 min

The pMx0379 vector, excluding the pAOX1 promoter sequence, was amplified under standard PCR amplification conditions, as described in Example 1, using primers MxO0571 (AACAACTAATTATTCGAAACGATGACAGCTTTAACT; SEQ ID NO: 36) and MxO0572
 15 (ACCTTTCGTCTTTGGATGTTGGATCCCCCGGG; SEQ ID NO: 37).

The pAOX1 promoter generated by error-prone amplification and the amplified pMx0379 vector DNA were each separated by electrophoresis on a 1% agarose gel in 1×TBE buffer and visualized using SYBR Safe DNA gel stain. The desired DNA fragments were excised from the agarose gel and the DNA was recovered using the ZYMOCLEAN™ Gel DNA
 20 Recovery Kit as described herein. The pAOX1 promoter sequences (600 ng) and vector DNA (200 ng) were assembled using Gibson assembly reactions (New England Biolabs). The assembly reactions were used to transform ElectroMax DH10B competent cells as described in Example 3. After overnight growth on LB agar plates with ampicillin, the transformants were

pooled in 50 ml LB liquid medium containing ampicillin at a concentration of 100 µg/ml and grown for 4 hours at 37°C with shaking at 250 rpm. Following outgrowth, plasmid DNA was recovered using a QIAGEN Plasmid Midi kit (Qiagen Inc.). The resulting DNA consisted of pMx0379 vectors containing a variety of mutated pAOX1 promoter sequences.

5

Example 9

Screening the pAOX1 mutant library

The pAOX1 promoter library, consisting of pAOX1 promoters generated by error-prone PCR driving expression of a GFP reporter, was introduced into strain MxY0051 by transformation. Transformants were selected and maintained by growth on YPD plates containing the antibiotic G418. Plates were incubated at 30°C for 72 hours and colonies were screened for fluorescence using a Li-Cor Odyssey Fc imaging system (Li-Cor Biosciences, Lincoln, NE). A colony that showed significant fluorescence on the YPD was identified. This colony was subcultured onto a fresh YPD plate along with strain MxY0270 as a wild type pAOX1 reference, and confirmed to show increased GFP expression relative to the reference. This strain was designated MxY0279.

10
15

Example 10

Recovery of the mutated plasmid from MxY0279

20

Plasmid DNA was recovered from transformed *P. pastoris* cells by resuspending a MxY0279 colony in a 100 µl volume of lysis buffer (200 mM Li acetate, 1% SDS) and heating the suspension to 70°C for 5 minutes. DNA was precipitated from the lysate by the addition of 300 µl of 100% ethanol, followed by centrifugation at 15,000 x g for 3 minutes. The recovered material was washed with a 1 ml volume of 70% ethanol, followed by centrifugation. The precipitated DNA was dissolved in a 100 µl volume of DNA elution buffer (5 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.5). A 2 µl volume of the recovered DNA solution was used to transform ElectroMax DH10B competent cells as described in Example 3, and bacterial transformants were recovered by plating on LB plates containing ampicillin at a concentration of 100 µg/ml. Plasmid DNA was

25
30

isolated from the bacterial transformants using a QIAprep Spin Miniprep Kit, and the sequence of the mutated promoter was determined by sequencing the plasmid DNA using the MxO0569 and MxO0570 primers. The recovered plasmid vector containing the mutant pAOX1 promoter driving GFP expression was designated pMx0414. The sequence is set forth in SEQ ID NO:29 as shown in Figure 2, where 19 mutation sites are double underlined.

Example 11

Confirmation that the improved GFP expression in MxY0279 results from pMx0414

The recovered pMx0414 plasmid was transformed into the MxY0051 strain of *P. pastoris*, as described in Example 3. The transformants and the MxY0270 control strain were streaked onto YPD agar plates and incubated at 30°C for 3 days. The fluorescence from these cells was measured using a Li-Cor Odyssey Fc imaging system as described in Example 9. The transformants showed significant expression from the mutant pAOX1 promoter on YPD medium, which lacked the inducer methanol, while the MxY0270 control strain bearing a plasmid with GFP driven by the wild type pAOX1 promoter showed greatly reduced or no fluorescence (Figure 3). These results confirm that improved GFP expression observed in the original MxY0279 strain was due to the mutations in the pMx0414 plasmid, and not the genome of the host strain.

Example 12

Shake flask cultivation of transformants and measurement of GFP expression

The MxY0270 and MxY0279 strains carrying the pMx0379 and pMx0414 GFP expression plasmids, as described herein, were inoculated into growth media (1% yeast extract, 2% peptone, supplemented with 1% glycerol) containing the antibiotic G418, to maintain the plasmids, and grown overnight at 30° C with shaking at 200 rpm. The next day the overnight cultures were diluted to an OD600 of 0.5-0.7 with YP media supplemented with 1% dextrose, 1% glycerol, 1% methanol, or both 1% methanol and 1% dextrose. All media contained the

G418 antibiotic.

GFP fluorescence was measured in cultures expressing the reporter protein using a SpectraMax M2 microplate reader and SoftMax Pro 6.1 software (Molecular Devices, San Jose, Calif.) at an excitation wavelength of 485 nm, and an emission wavelength of 525 nm.

5 Fluorescence in shake flask cultures was measured at 48 hours after dilution into the relevant carbon source. GFP fluorescence, in relative fluorescence units (RFU) was normalized to the OD of the culture. (See Figure 4).

Example 13

Evaluation of a set of mutations

10 A combinatorial promoter library containing the mutations present in a plasmid with all 19 mutations in pAOX1 (promoter designated MxG0038; see, e.g., SEQ ID NO: 29), where each of the positions mutated in MxG0038 was either the wild type or mutant nucleotide. A group of five mutations from the MxG0038 mutant that confer the improved expression phenotype was
15 identified. A mutant AOX1 promoter containing mutations T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G was designated MxG0220. A portion of the sequences of MxG0038 and MxG0020 are compared in Figure 5.

The relative expression of GFP using wild-type pAOX1 promoter, a pAOX1 promoter containing all 19 mutations (promoter designated MxG0038 in strain MxY965), a pAOX1
20 promoter containing the selected 5 mutations (promoter designated MxG0220) is shown in Figure 6.

OTHER EMBODIMENTS

25 It is to be understood that while the invention has been described in conjunction with the detailed description thereof, the foregoing description is intended to illustrate and not limit the scope of the invention, which is defined by the scope of the appended claims. Other aspects, advantages, and modifications are within the scope of the following claims.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to
5 SEQ ID NO: 28.
2. A nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions
10 corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426, A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790, A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
3. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-2, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position
15 selected from the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
4. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises mutations at nucleotide positions corresponding to
20 T688, A696, T702, A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
5. A nucleic acid construct comprising a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C,
25 T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A, C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G, A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

6. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
- 5 7. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
8. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the first alcohol
10 oxidase promoter element comprises three or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
9. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations selected from the group
15 consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
10. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises the mutations T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
20
11. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element is an alcohol oxidase 1 (AOX1) promoter element.
12. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-11, wherein the first alcohol
25 oxidase promoter element has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28.
13. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-12, further comprising a nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence is operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element.
30

14. The nucleic acid construct of claim 13, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a first protein.
15. The nucleic acid construct of claim 13, wherein the first protein is selected from the group consisting of an antibody or fragment thereof, an enzyme, a regulatory protein, a peptide hormone, a blood clotting protein, a cytokine, a cytokine inhibitor, and a heme-binding protein.
16. The nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 13-14, wherein the first protein is a heme-binding protein.
17. The nucleic acid construct of claim 16, wherein the heme-binding protein is a leghemoglobin.
18. The nucleic acid construct of claim 17, wherein the heme-binding protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID NOs: 1-27.
19. A cell comprising a first nucleic acid construct, wherein the first nucleic acid construct is the nucleic acid construct of any one of claims 1-18.
20. The cell of claim 19, further comprising a second nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence is operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element or to a second promoter element.
21. A method of producing a product in a cell comprising:
expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises a mutation at one or more nucleotide positions corresponding to any of nucleotide positions 668-734 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

22. A method of producing a product in a cell comprising:

expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably
5 linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase
promoter element comprises one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from
the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to T146, C154, T303, T426,
A433, A435, T530, C572, T596, T617, T688, A696, T702, A709, A712, T714, A790,
A841, and T862 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

10

23. The method of any one of claims 21-22, wherein the first alcohol oxidase
promoter element includes one or more mutations at a nucleotide position selected from
the group consisting of nucleotide positions corresponding to of T688, A696, T702,
A712, and T714 relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

15

24. A method of producing a product in a cell comprising:

expressing a nucleic acid construct comprising a nucleotide sequence operably
linked to a first alcohol oxidase promoter element, wherein the first alcohol oxidase
promoter element includes one or more mutations selected from the group consisting of
20 mutations corresponding to T146C, C154T, T303C, T426A, A433T, A435G, T530A,
C572T, T596C, T617C, T688C, A696T, T702C, A709G, A712G, T714G, A790G,
A841T, and T862A relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

25. The method of any one of claims 21-24, wherein the first alcohol oxidase
25 promoter element comprises two or more mutations selected from the group consisting of
T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

26. The method of any one of claims 21-24, wherein the first alcohol oxidase
promoter element comprises three or more mutations selected from the group consisting
30 of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.

27. The method of any one of claims 21-24, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises four or more mutations selected from the group consisting of T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
- 5
28. The method of any one of claims 21-24, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element comprises the mutations T688C, A696T, T702C, A712G, and T714G relative to SEQ ID NO: 28.
- 10
29. The method of any one of claims 21-28, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element is an alcohol oxidase 1 (AOX1) promoter element.
30. The method of any one of claims 21-29, wherein the first alcohol oxidase promoter element has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 28.
- 15
31. The method of any one of claims 21-30, wherein the nucleotide sequence operably linked to the first alcohol oxidase promoter element encodes a first protein.
32. The method of claim 31, wherein the first protein is selected from the group consisting of an antibody or fragment thereof, an enzyme, a regulatory protein, a peptide hormone, a blood clotting protein, a cytokine, and a heme-binding protein.
- 20
33. The method of any one of claims 31-32, wherein the first protein is a heme-binding protein.
- 25
34. The method of claim 33, wherein the heme-binding protein is a leghemoglobin.
35. The method of claim 33, wherein the heme-binding protein comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to an amino acid sequence in any one of SEQ ID NOs: 1-27.
- 30

36. The method of any one of claims 21-35, wherein the method is carried out in the absence of added methanol.