Claims:

1. An isolated polynucleotide comprising no more than 755 nucleotides and comprising at least 500 contiguous nucleotides from the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

2. The isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1, comprising at least 600 contiguous nucleotides from the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

3. The isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1, comprising at least 700 contiguous nucleotides from the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

4. The isolated polynucleotide according to claim 1, comprising at least 750 contiguous nucleotides from the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

5. An expression system for producing recombinant protein in a host cell comprising: a gene for encoding a protein of interest; nucleotide sequences for operation of the expression system; and, an expression enhancer incorporated in *cis* in the expression system for enhancing expression of the gene, the expression enhancer comprising a polynucleotide as defined in any one of claims 1 to 4.

6. The expression system according to claim 5 comprising a plasmid vector containing the gene and the expression enhancer.

7. The expression system according to claim 5 comprising an episomal vector containing the gene and the expression enhancer.

8. The expression system according to any one of claims 5 to 7, wherein the gene encodes a monoclonal antibody, an erythropoietin, an interferon, a vascular endothelial growth factor, a stem cell growth factor, a growth hormone or an insulin-like growth factor binding protein.

9. The expression system according to any one of claims 5 to 8, wherein the nucleotide sequences for operation of the expression system comprise one or more of a promoter, an origin of replication, a leader, a splice donor, an intron, a splice acceptor, a selectable marker, a cloning site, a restriction enzyme consensus site and a polyadenylation signal.

10. A host cell comprising the expression system as defined in any one of claims 5 to 9.

11. The host cell according to claim 10 which is mammalian cell.

12. The host cell according to claim 11, wherein the mammalian cell comprises a Human Embryonic Kidney 293 (HEK293) cell, a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell, a Baby Hamster Kidney (BHK21) cell, a PerC6 cell or a COS7 cell.

13. The host cell according to claim 11, wherein the mammalian cell comprises a Human Embryonic Kidney 293 (HEK293) or a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.

14. A method of producing recombinant protein comprising: transfecting a host cell with an expression system as defined in any one of claims 5 to 9; growing the host cells under conditions suitable for expression of the gene to produce the protein of interest; and, recovering the protein of interest.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the host cell comprises a mammalian cell.

16. The method according to claim 14, wherein the host cell comprises a Human Embryonic Kidney 293 (HEK293) cell, a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell, a Baby Hamster Kidney (BHK21) cell, a PerC6 cell or a COS7 cell.

17. The method according to claim 14, wherein the host cell comprises a Human Embryonic Kidney 293 (HEK293) or a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.

18. Use of a polynucleotide as defined in any one of claims 1 to 4 as an expression enhancer in *cis* in an expression system for producing recombinant protein.

The invention claimed is:

1. An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

2. An expression system for producing recombinant protein in a host cell comprising, operably linked: a gene for encoding a protein of interest; nucleotide sequences for operation of the expression system; and, an expression enhancer incorporated in cis in the expression system for enhancing expression of the gene, the expression enhancer being the polynucleotide of claim 1.

3. The expression system according to claim 2 being a plasmid vector.

4. The expression system according to claim 2 being an episomal vector.

5. The expression system according to claim 2, wherein the gene encodes a monoclonal antibody, an erythropoietin, an interferon, a vascular endothelial growth factor, a stem cell growth factor, a growth hormone or an insulin-like growth factor binding protein.

6. The expression system according to claim 2, wherein the nucleotide sequences for operation of the expression system comprise one or more of a promoter, an origin of replication, a leader, a splice donor, an intron, a splice accepter, a selectable marker, a cloning site, a restriction enzyme consensus site and a polyadenylation signal.

7. An isolated host cell comprising the expression system of claim 2.

8. The isolated host cell according to claim 7 which is a mammalian cell.

9. The host cell according to claim 8, wherein the mammalian cell is a Human Embryonic Kidney 293 (HEK293) cell, a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell, a Baby Hamster Kidney (BHK21) cell, a PerC6 cell or a COS7 cell.

10. The host cell according to claim 8, wherein the mammalian cell is a Human Embryonic Kidney 293 (HEK293) cell or a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.

11. A method of producing a recombinant protein of interest comprising: transfecting a host cell with the expression system of claim 2; growing the host cell; expressing the gene to produce the protein of interest; and, recovering the protein of interest.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the host cell is a mammalian cell.

13. The method according to claim 11, wherein the host cell is a Human Embryonic Kidney 293 (HEK293) cell, a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell, a Baby Hamster Kidney (BHK21) cell, a PerC6 cell or a COS7 cell.

14. The method according to claim 11, wherein the host cell is a Human Embryonic Kidney 293 (HEK293) cell or a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.