**A Bacterial Reverse Mutation Test of PROJECT M**

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION**

In order to assess the potential of PROJECT M to induce gene mutation, a bacterial reverse mutation test was performed with 5 test strains of bacteria [*Salmonella typhimurium* (TA100, TA1535, TA98, and TA1537) and *Escherichia coli* (WP2*uvrA*)], using the pre-incubation method with and without metabolic activation. The dose-finding test was performed at 15, 50, 150, 500, 1500, and 5000 µg/plate for all test strains with and without metabolic activation.

Based on the results of the dose-finding test, the main test was performed at 156, 313, 625, 1250, 2500, and 5000 µg/plate for all test strains with and without metabolic activation.

* Test article precipitation was not observed at up to 5000 µg/plate upon addition of the test article formulation or on the plates after incubation for 48 hours with or without metabolic activation.
* Growth inhibition was not observed at up to 5000 µg/plate in any test strain with or without metabolic activation.
* In comparison with the negative control, neither a 2-fold or greater number of revertant colonies per plate nor a dose-dependent increase in the number of revertant colonies was observed in any test strain in the dose-finding test or the main test, with or without metabolic activation.

It was concluded that, under the conditions of this study, PROJECT M did not induce gene mutation in bacteria.