

Proposal of the SC Bacterial Viruses

2002.B.089.02: Establish species *Bdellovibrio phage MH2K* (MH2K) in the genus *Bdellomicrovirus* in the family *Microviridae*,

It is intended that if the following proposal to collapse genus *Bdellomicrovirus* and two other genera into a single genus in the *Microviridae* is agreed to, then *Bdellovibrio phage MH2K* will become a species within that new genus.

Rationale: Bdellophage fMH2K is a recently isolated but well characterized member of the *Microviridae*. Of the currently established genera within the *Microviridae*, *Bdellomicrovirus* is the most appropriate for the proposed species. However, it was largely the work with fMH2K and its close relatives that prompted a proposed revision in the *Microviridae* genus structure. Therefore it will be more appropriate if the proposed genus revision is accepted, and fMH2K becomes a species within the new genus.

Distinguishing features: Grows on *Bdellovibrio bacteriovorus*. Has ssDNA circular genome of 4594 nt.

Reference: Brentlinger, KL, S Hafenstein, CR Novak, BA Fane, R Borgon, R McKenna & M Agbandje-McKenna (2002) *Microviridae*, a family divided: Isolation, characterization, and genome sequence of fMH2K, a bacteriophage of the obligate intracellular parasitic bacterium *Bdellovibrio bacteriovorus*, *J. Bacteriol.* **184**, 1089-1094.