## **Supporting Information**

## Structural Flexibility enhances the Reactivity of the Bioremediator Glycerophosphodiesterase by Fine-Tuning its Mechanism of Hydrolysis

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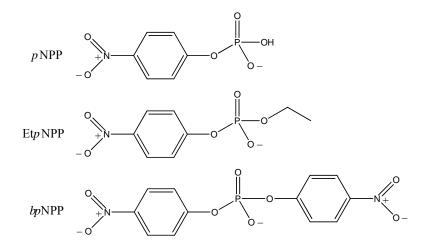
St Lucia, Queensland, 4072

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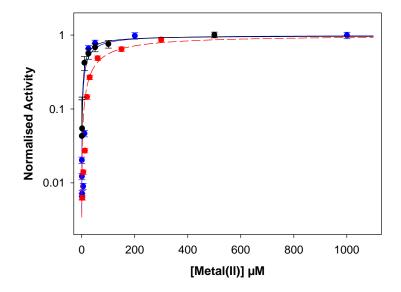
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**Figure S1.** Chemical structures of the substrates *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate (*pNPP*), ethyl *p*-nitrophenyl phosphate (Et*pNPP*), and *bis*(*p*-nitrophenyl) phosphate (*bpNPP*).

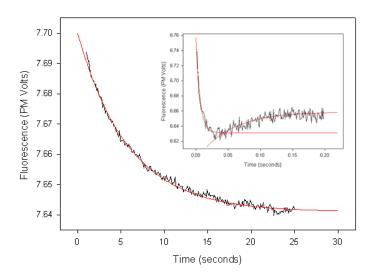


**Figure S2.** Determination of metal binding to GpdQ by measuring activity (using 5 mM bpNPP) as a function of added Co(II), Mn(II), or Cd(II) (blue, red, and black, respectively). The data were fit to the following equations as described elsewhere:<sup>10</sup>

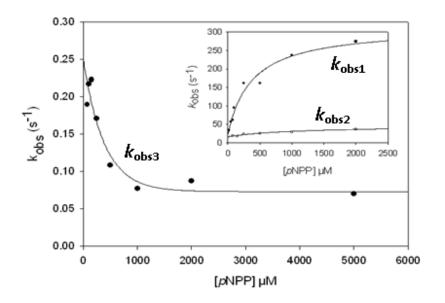
$$r = \frac{n[M]_{free}}{K_d + [M]_{free}}$$
(S1)

where *r* is the binding function, *n* is the number of sites associated with  $K_d$ , and  $[M]_{\text{free}}$  is the free metal ion concentration.  $[M]_{\text{free}}$  was calculated from eq. S2, where  $[M]_{\text{total}}$  is the total concentration of metal ions added, and [E] is the concentration of enzyme.

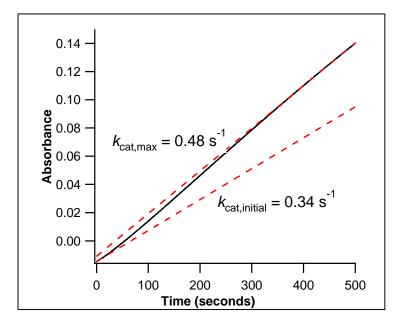
 $[M]_{free} = [M]_{total} - r[E]$ (S2)



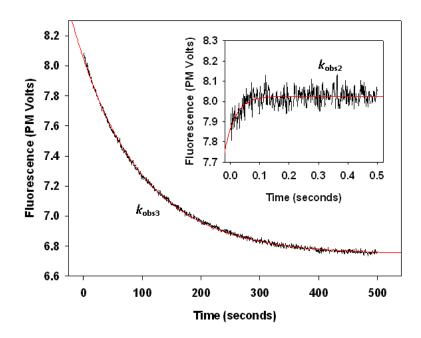
**Figure S3.** Sample progress curves showing the three fluorescence transient phases of the reaction between GpdQ and the substrate *pNPP*. *Main figure*: 5  $\mu$ M GpdQ was reacted with 50.0  $\mu$ M *pNPP*, and the progress was monitored over 25 s. *Inset*: 5  $\mu$ M GpdQ was reacted with 500  $\mu$ M *pNPP*, and fluorescence changes were monitored over 200 ms.



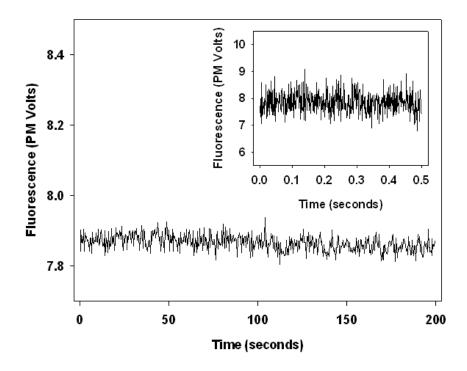
**Figure S4.** Effect of the concentration ([S]) of *p*NPP on the observed rates ( $k_{obs}$ ) associated with the three fluorescence transients. The data were fit to equations described in the text.



**Figure S5.** Example of the absorbance change measured over time for the reaction of GpdQ and *bp*NPP (5 mM). Note that the initial rate ( $k_{cat} = 0.34 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) increases to the maximal rate ( $k_{cat,max} = 0.48 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) after 500 seconds.



**Figure S6.** Reaction progress curves showing the changes in fluorescence during the reaction between N80A-GpdQ and the substrate *bp*NPP. *Main figure*: 1  $\mu$ M N80A-GpdQ was reacted with 1.1 mM *bp*NPP and the progress was monitored over 500 s. The fitted  $k_{obs3}$  value was 0.540  $\pm$  0.001 min<sup>-1</sup> (*c.f.*  $k_{obs3} = 3.9 \pm 0.1$  min<sup>-1</sup> for the wild type enzyme under identical conditions). *Inset*: 1  $\mu$ M N80A-GpdQ was reacted with 120  $\mu$ M *bp*NPP and fluorescence changes were monitored over 500 ms. The fitted  $k_{obs2}$  value was 28  $\pm$  3 s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S7.** Reaction progress curves showing the changes in fluorescence during the reaction between N80D-GpdQ and the substrate *bp*NPP. *Main figure*: 5  $\mu$ M N80D-GpdQ was reacted with 1.1 mM *bp*NPP and the progress was monitored over 200 s. *Inset*: 5  $\mu$ M N80D-GpdQ was reacted with 120  $\mu$ M *bp*NPP and fluorescence changes were monitored over 500 ms.