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Tularik Strengthens Management Team with Appointments in Clinical Development, Information Technology and Regulatory Affairs

South San Francisco, Calif. – October 8, 2002 – Tularik Inc. (Nasdaq: TLRK) today announced the appointments of Natalie McClure, Ph.D., to Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance, Mary Jean Stempien, M.D., FACP, to Vice President, Clinical Development and Ira Stoler, Vice President and Chief Information Officer.

"As Tularik evolves into a product development organization, it is critical that we assemble the internal expertise necessary to move drug candidates through clinical trials toward market approval," said David V. Goeddel, Ph.D., CEO of Tularik. "The combined regulatory affairs and clinical development expertise of Natalie and Mary Jean will be invaluable to Tularik's development organization as the pipeline progresses. Ira will improve upon our information technology infrastructure, thereby enhancing efficiency and effectiveness across the organization, with particular emphasis on managing clinical and regulatory information."

In her new role as Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Compliance, Dr. McClure will be responsible for setting the strategic direction of both the regulatory affairs and compliance groups at Tularik. She has over 20 years experience in regulatory affairs, including senior positions at Syntex, Matrix Pharmaceutical and Intrabiotics Pharmaceuticals. Dr. McClure was most recently Senior Vice President of Product Development at Intrabiotics, where she was the key regulatory liaison and strategist on three Phase 3 programs. She has shepherded the US and EU New Drug Application (NDA) programs for more than 5 products. Dr. McClure received a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Stanford University.

Dr. Stempien joins Tularik as Vice President, Clinical Development, and will oversee both the clinical research and clinical pharmacology groups. Dr. Stempien was formerly with Roche Global Development, as Director of Medical Research and Palo Alto Site Head for the Clinical Science Group. During her 10 years of drug development work at Syntex, and later Roche, Dr. Stempien directed clinical efforts for several successful NDA programs. Dr. Stempien received her M.D. degree from the University of Massachusetts and this year was elected to Fellowship in the American College of Physicians (FACP).

Mr. Stoler brings more than 25 years experience in information technology to his new position as Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Tularik. He will be responsible for establishing corporate-wide information system strategies that enhance the integration of the Company's research and clinical development programs. Before joining Tularik, he served as Vice President of Clinical and Regulatory Informatics for Pfizer's Global Research and Development organization. Prior to joining Pfizer, Mr. Stoler was Senior Director and general manager of Oracle's Pharmaceutical Industry business unit, where he successfully created and launched the Oracle Clinical Trials data management system. He received a B.S. degree in mathematics and physics from Long Island University and completed extensive coursework in the Biomedical Engineering graduate program at New York University.

About Tularik

Tularik is engaged in the discovery and development of a broad range of novel and superior orally available medicines that act through the regulation of gene expression. Tularik's scientific platform is focused on three therapeutic areas: cancer, immunology and metabolic disease. The Company currently has three drug candidates in clinical trials. T67 is moving into a pivotal Phase 2/3 study for the treatment of Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) and T607 is in four Phase 2 trials for the treatment of HCC, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, ovarian cancer and gastric cancer. T487, for the treatment of inflammatory diseases, is in a Phase 1 trial to evaluate safety. For more information, visit Tularik's Internet website at www.tularik.com.

This press release contains "forward-looking" statements. For this purpose, any statements contained in this press release that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Words such as "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects," "will," "intends" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. There are a number of important factors that could cause the results of Tularik to differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements, including, among others, risks detailed from time to time in Tularik's SEC reports, including the report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2002 and the report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001. Tularik does not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements.