To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:

Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
   - Nnochiri Nkem Ekwuribe
   - Christopher H. Price
   - Aslam H. Ansari
   - Amy L. Odenbaugh

   Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? Yes X No

3. Nature of conveyance:
   - Assignment X
   - Merger
   - Security Agreement
   - Change of Name
   - Other

   Execution Date: August 22, 2001; August 23, 2001; September 8, 2001

4. Application Serial No. 09/873,757 filed June 4, 2001
   If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:

   Additional numbers attached? Yes X No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
   - J. Michael Strickland, Esq.
   - Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
   - P. O. Box 37428
   - Raleigh NC 27627

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) $ 40.00
   X Enclosed
   X Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number: 50-0220

9. Statement and signature
   To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

   J. Michael Strickland
   Name of Person Signing
   Signature
   Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 7

   October 11, 2001
   Date
ASSIGNMENT

THIS ASSIGNMENT, made by us, Nnochiri Nkem Ekwuribe, citizen of Nigeria, residing at 216 Coltsgate Drive, Cary, North Carolina; Christopher H. Price, citizen of United States, residing at 200 Commons Way, Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Aslam M. Ansari, citizen of United States, residing at 12408 Village Square Terrace, Apartment 101, Rockville, Maryland; Amy L. Odenbaugh, citizen of United States, residing at 4023 Quail High Boulevard, Morrisville, North Carolina;

WITNESSETH: That,

WHEREAS, we are the joint inventors of certain new and useful improvements in MIXTURES OF GROWTH HORMONE DRUG-OLIGOMER CONJUGATES COMPRISING POLYALKYLENE GLYCOL, USES THEREOF, AND METHODS OF MAKING SAME for which an application for United States Letters Patent has been executed by us concurrently herewith, and

WHEREAS, Nobex Corporation, a Delaware corporation having a principal place of business at 617 Davis Drive, Suite 100, Durham, State of North Carolina, hereinafter referred to as assignee, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title, and interest in and to said invention as described in said application, and in and to any and all Letters Patent which shall be granted therefor in the United States of America and all foreign countries;

NOW, THEREFORE, To Whom It May Concern, be it known that for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, we have sold and by these presents do hereby sell, assign, transfer, and convey unto the said assignee, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said invention and application, and in and to any and all continuations, continuations-in-part, or divisions thereof, and in and to any and all Letters Patent of the United States of America and all foreign countries or reissues thereof which may be granted therefor or thereon, for the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted, together with the right to claim the priority of said application in all foreign countries in accordance with the International Convention, the same to be held and enjoyed by said assignee, its successors and assigns, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by us if this assignment and sale had not been made.
We hereby request that said Letters Patent be issued in accordance with this assignment.

We further covenant and agree that, at the time of the execution and delivery of these presents, we possess full title to the invention and application above-mentioned, and that we have the unencumbered right and authority to make this assignment.

We further covenant and agree to bind our heirs, legal representatives, and assigns promptly to communicate to said assignee or its representatives any facts known to us relating to said invention, to testify in any interference or legal proceedings involving said invention, to execute any additional papers which may be requested to confirm the right of the assignee, its representatives, successors, or assigns to secure patent or similar protection for the said invention in all countries and to vest in the assignee complete title to the said invention and Letters Patent, without further compensation, but at the expense of said assignee, its successors, assigns, and other legal representatives.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal on this 23 day of August, 2001.

[Signature]

Nnochiri Nkem Ekwuribe

(SEAL)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )
COUNTY OF Durham )

Before me personally appeared Nnochiri Nkem Ekwuribe, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purpose therein stated, this 23 day of August, 2001.

[Signature]

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: Jan 30, 2006

9233-62

PATENT
REEL: 012276 FRAME: 0751
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal on this 22 day of August 2001.

Christopher H. Price (SEAL)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )
COUNTY OF Durham )

Before me personally appeared Christopher H. Price, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purpose therein stated, this 22 day of August 2001.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: Jan 30, 2006
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal on this ___ day of ___ , 2001.

Aslam M. Ansari

STATE OF MARYLAND

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Before me personally appeared Aslam M. Ansari, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purpose therein stated, this ___ day of SEPTEMBER, 2001.

Notary Public

SEAL

MARIA G. HELDENBRAND
Notary Public, State of Maryland

My Commission Expires: __________ My Commission Expires Sept. 1, 2005
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal on this 23rd day of August, 2001.

Amy L. Odenbaugh (SEAL)

Amy L. Odenbaugh

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  )
COUNTY OF Durham   )

Before me personally appeared Amy L. Odenbaugh, to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and he acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purpose therein stated, this 23rd day of August, 2001.

Notary Public

SEAL.

My Commission Expires: Jan 30, 2006