July 18, 2018

Moleculin Expects to Meet FDA IND Filing Requirements for its Pancreatic Cancer Drug Candidate with Development Work in Australia

HOUSTON, July 18, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Moleculin Biotech, Inc. (Nasdaq:MBRX) ("Moleculin" or the "Company"), a clinical stage pharmaceutical company focused on the development of oncology drug candidates, all of which are based on license agreements with The University of Texas System on behalf of the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, today announced it has begun preclinical toxicology testing of its WP1732, a fully water-soluble STAT3 inhibitor through its new subsidiary in Australia.

“Based on preclinical testing, we believe the discovery of WP1732, a fully water-soluble STAT3 inhibitor, has the potential to be a breakthrough discovery for rare and difficult to treat cancers. As a result of our preclinical testing, we have recieved multiple requests to commence clinical trials and we are pleased to be taking the next steps in preparing for the appropriate clinical work,” commented Walter Klemp, Chairman and CEO of Moleculin. “By utilizing our subsidiary in Australia and the attractive R&D tax credits it offers, we can accelerate the preclinical work of WP1732 and maintain a strong cash balance. We believe this will allow us to complete our IND-enabling work and meet FDA submission requirements before year-end while also reducing our total cost of development.”

About Moleculin Biotech, Inc.

Moleculin Biotech, Inc. is a clinical stage pharmaceutical company focused on the development of oncology drug candidates, all of which are based on discoveries made at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Our clinical stage drugs are Annamycin, an anthracycline designed to avoid multidrug resistance mechanisms with little to no cardiotoxicity being studied for the treatment of relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukemia, more commonly referred to as AML, and WP1066, an immuno-stimulating STAT3 inhibitor targeting primary brain tumors and brain metastases, pancreatic cancer and hematological malignancies. We are also engaged in preclinical development of additional drug candidates, including additional STAT3 inhibitors and compounds targeting the metabolism of tumors.

For more information about the Company, please visit http://www.moleculin.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

Some of the statements in this release are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which involve risks and

uncertainties. Forward-looking statements in this press release include, without limitation, the ability to receive the benefit of tax credits in Australia, the timing of the completion of the IND-enabling work on WP1732, and the ability to secure IND status for and conduct clinical trials with WP1732. These statements relate to future events, future expectations, plans and prospects. Although Moleculin Biotech believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable as of the date made, expectations may prove to have been materially different from the results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Moleculin Biotech has attempted to identify forward-looking statements by terminology including "believes," "estimates," "anticipates," "expects," "plans," "projects," "intends," "potential," "may," "could," "might," "will," "should," "approximately" or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes to identify these forward-looking statements. These statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors, including those discussed under Item 1A. "Risk Factors" in our most recently filed Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and updated from time to time in our Form 10-Q filings and in our other public filings with the SEC. Any forward-looking statements contained in this release speak only as of its date. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained in this release to reflect events or circumstances occurring after its date or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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Source: Moleculin Biotech, Inc.