Celsion Strengthens Its 2019 Balance Sheet with the Approval of Its Application to Sell Net Operating Losses for $2.1 Million in Non-Dilutive Funding

October 1, 2019

$2 Million in Additional NOL Sales are Available to the Company in 2020

Funding Through the New Jersey Technology Business Tax Certificate Transfer (NOL) Program

LAWRENCEVILLE, N.J., Oct. 01, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Celsion Corporation (NASDAQ: CLSN), an oncology drug development company, today announced it has received approval from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority's (NJEDA) Technology Business Tax Certificate Transfer (NOL) program to sell the Company's unused New Jersey net operating losses (NOLs) and R&D tax credits. The exact percentage of NOL's to be sold will be determined by the NJEDA after reviewing all qualified applications. In 2018, the Company received approval from the NJEDA to sell $11.1 million of its unused New Jersey net operating losses for the tax years 2011 through 2017 and was able to transfer this credit and receive approximately $10.5 million of net cash proceeds in the fourth quarter of 2018. The NOL's are typically sold at a single digit discount to qualified companies with operations in New Jersey. As a result, the Company anticipates it will be able to transfer this current year credit for approximately $2 million prior to the end of 2019.

This competitive program, administered by the NJEDA, enables approved companies to sell their unused New Jersey net operating losses and R&D tax credits to unaffiliated, profit-generating corporate taxpayers in the state of New Jersey for at least 80 percent of the value of the tax benefits, up to a maximum lifetime benefit of $15.0 million per company. This allows technology and biotechnology companies with NOLs to turn their tax losses and credits into cash proceeds to fund more R&D, expand its workforce, or cover other allowable expenditures.

"The New Jersey Economic Development Authority's NOL program is an innovative funding mechanism, which serves as a catalyst to support key R&D and growth initiatives for Celsion here in New Jersey," said Michael H. Tardugno, Celsion's chairman, president and chief executive officer. "This non-dilutive funding can be used to support our clinical development programs and develop much-needed therapeutics for patients with cancer. We anticipate that our strong balance sheet, coupled with the additional sale of $2.0 million of New Jersey NOLs in 2020 and our track record of outstanding cash management, will provide the Company with an operating runway well into the first half of 2021 without the need for punitive dilutive terms typically associated with microcap biotech company financings. With the strong support and commitment of the NJEDA in promoting innovation in our industry in the state of New Jersey, Celsion continues to focus on shareholder interests in the challenging drug discovery environment. We are delighted to be a part of the New Jersey biotech ecosystem."

For more details on this funding for this year's NOL program, please visit www.njeda.com.

About Celsion Corporation

Celsion is a fully integrated oncology company focused on developing a portfolio of innovative cancer treatments, including directed chemotherapies, immunotherapies and RNA- or DNA-based therapies. The Company's lead program is ThermoDox®, a proprietary heat-activated liposomal encapsulation of doxorubicin, currently in Phase III development for the treatment of primary liver cancer. The pipeline also includes GEN-1, a DNA-based immunotherapy for the localized treatment of ovarian cancer. Celsion has two platform technologies for the development of novel nucleic acid-based immunotherapies and other anti-cancer DNA or RNA therapies. For more information on Celsion, visit our website: http://www.celsion.com.

Celsion wishes to inform readers that forward-looking statements in this release are made pursuant to the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Readers are cautioned that such forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties including, without limitation, unforeseen changes in the course of research and development activities and in clinical trials; the uncertainties of and difficulties in analyzing interim clinical data; the significant expense, time, and risk of failure of conducting clinical trials; the need for Celsion to evaluate its future development plans; possible acquisitions or licenses of other technologies, assets or businesses; possible actions by customers, suppliers, competitors, regulatory authorities; and other risks detailed from time to time in Celsion's periodic reports and prospectuses filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Celsion assumes no obligation to update or supplement forward-looking statements that become untrue because of subsequent events, new information or otherwise.

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