

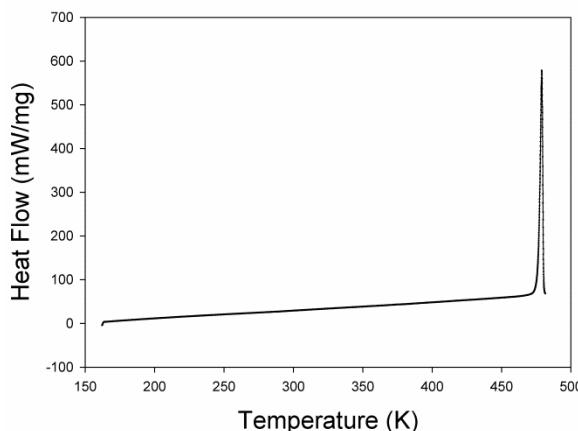
## Supporting Information

### Hydrate Smaller than the Anhydride

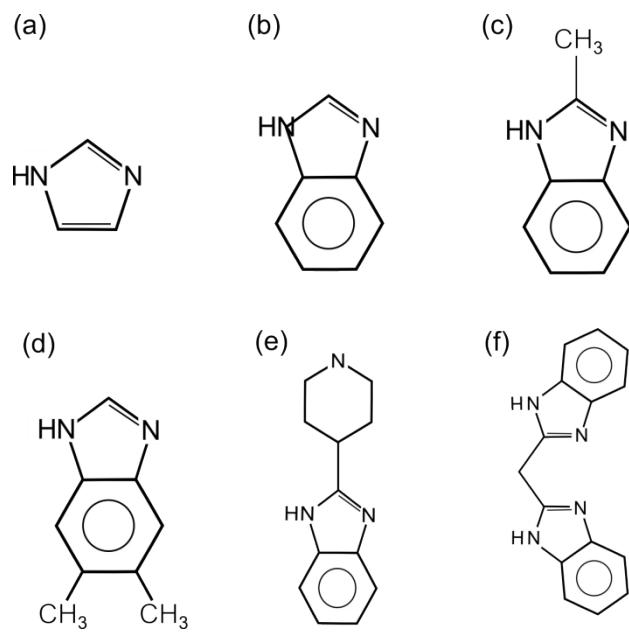
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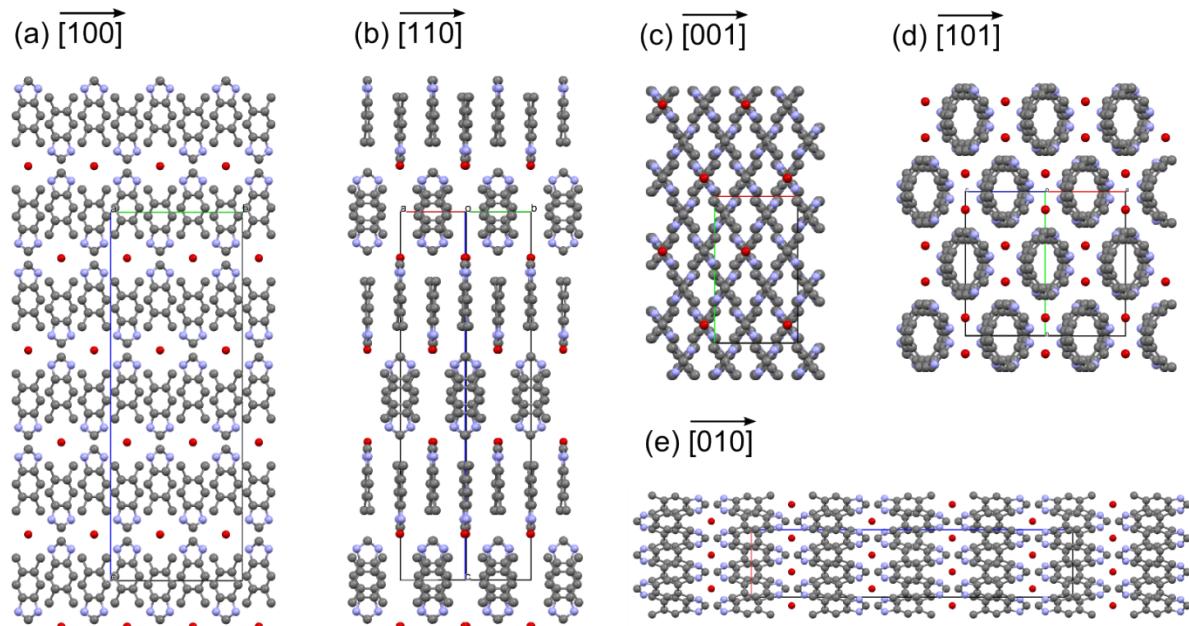
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**Figure S1.** Differential scanning calorimetry for 56dMBzIm in range of temperatures from 163.15 K to 483.15 K.



**Figure S2.** Structural formulas of (a) imidazole (b) benzimidazole (BzIm) (c) 2-methylbenzimidazole (2MBzIm) (d) 5,6-dimethylbenzimidazole (dMBzIm) (e) 2-(4-pyridyl)benzimidazole (PyrBzIm) (f) bis(benzimidazole-2-yl) methane (bBzImM).



**Figure S3.** Molecular packing of 5,6-dimethylbenzimidazole hemihydrate viewed along different crystallographic directions. Hydrogen atoms has been removed for clearyty.

**Table S1.** The high-pressure crystal data and experimental details of 5,6-dimethylbenzimidazole hemihydrates.

<b>C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>·½H<sub>2</sub>O</b>					
Pressure (GPa)	0.0001 (2)	0.54(2)	0.70 (2)	1.10(2)	1.49(2)
Temperature (K)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)
Formula weight	309.39	309.39	309.39	309.39	309.39
Crystal colour	yellow	yellow	yellow	yellow	yellow
Crystal size (mm)	0.15x0.15x0.10	0.15x0.15x0.10	0.15x0.15x0.10	0.15x0.15x0.10	0.15x0.15x0.10
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Orthorhombic	Orthorhombic	Orthorhombic	Orthorhombic
Space group	<i>Fddd</i>	<i>Fddd</i>	<i>Fddd</i>	<i>Fddd</i>	<i>Fddd</i>
Unit cell dimensions (Å)	<i>a</i> = 7.5684(10) <i>b</i> = 12.432(2) <i>c</i> = 34.803(4)	7.2661(15) 12.407(8) 34.550(5)	7.173(3) 12.383(5) 34.439(4)	7.040(2) 12.334(4) 34.323(3)	6.9376(16) 12.228(3) 34.174(2)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	3274.5(8)	3115(2)	3059.0(16)	2980.3(15)	2899.1(10)
<i>Z</i>	8	8	8	8	8
D <sub>x</sub> (mg cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.255	1.320	1.344	1.379	1.418
Wavelength MoKα, λ (Å)	0.71073	0.71073	0.56087	0.71073	0.71073
Absorption coefficient (m/mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.081	0.085	0.056	0.089	0.091
<i>F</i> (000) (e)	1320.0	1320.0	1320.0	1320.0	1320.0
2θ max (°)	53.044	54.32	49.384	54.75	56.28
Min./Max. indices h,k,l	-8/9,-15/15,-43/42	-8/8,-8/8,-41/41	-8/8,-14/14,-50/51	-6/6,-11/11,-43/44	-6/6,-12/12,-45/45
Reflections collected/unique	3718/798	3831/486	5885/693	3870/398	4816/421
R <sub>int</sub>	0.1387	0.1459	0.2197	0.1105	0.0826
Data/parameters	798/58	486/58	693/58	398/59	421/58
Goodness of fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.077	1.027	1.014	1.029	1.086
Final R <sub>1</sub> /wR <sub>2</sub> indices (I>4σ(I))	0.0772/0.1505	0.0848/0.2067	0.0933/0.2169	0.0696/0.1817	0.0695/0.1839
R <sub>1</sub> /wR <sub>2</sub> indices (all data)	0.1719/0.1999	0.1586/0.2753	0.2145/0.2891	0.1290/0.2223	0.1104/0.2223
Δσ <sub>max</sub> , Δσ <sub>min</sub> (eÅ <sup>-3</sup> )	0.20/-0.23	0.20/-0.21	0.23/-0.23	0.25/-0.21	0.23/-0.23
Weighting scheme: x; y <sup>a</sup>	0.845;0	0.158;0	0.136;0	0.1374;0	0.117;6.935
Extinction coefficient	—	—	—	—	—
Absorption corrections	DAC, gasket and sample crystal	DAC, gasket and sample crystal	DAC, gasket and sample crystal	DAC, gasket and sample crystal	DAC, gasket and sample crystal
DAC transmission min/max	0.93/0.99	0.92/0.99	0.92/0.99	0.91/0.99	0.92/0.99
Gasket shadowing min/max	0.75/0.98	0.79/0.98	0.75/0.96	0.70/0.98	0.73/0.97
Sample transmission min/max	0.98/0.98	0.989/0.988	0.986/0.988	0.985/0.988	0.986/0.987

<sup>a</sup>  $w = 1/(\sigma^2(F_o^2)+x^2P^2+yP)$ , where  $P=(\text{Max}(F_o^2, 0)+2F_c^2)/3$ .

**Table S2.** The high-pressure crystal data and experimental details of 5,6-dimethylbenzimidazole.

<b>C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub></b>					
Pressure (GPa)	0.11 (2)	0.22(2)	0.28 (2)	0.33(2)	0.64 (2)
Temperature (K)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)
Formula weight	146.19	146.19	146.19	146.19	146.19
Crystal colour	yellow	yellow	yellow	yellow	yellow
Crystal size (mm)	0.15x0.15x0.10	0.15x0.15x0.10	0.15x0.15x0.10	0.15x0.15x0.10	0.15x0.15x0.10
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c				
<i>a</i> =	6.5122(6)	6.4776(7)	6.5011(10)	6.538(3)	6.487(2)
<i>b</i> =	27.61(2)	27.51(3)	27.23(2)	26.99(14)	26.63(12)
<i>c</i> =	14.0669(13)	14.0381(15)	13.949(2)	13.930(5)	13.831(4)
$\beta$ =	102.550(9)	102.456(10)	102.615(15)	102.68(4)	102.50(3)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2469(2)	2443(3)	2410(2)	2398(13)	2333(11)
Z	12	12	12	12	12
D <sub>x</sub> (mg cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.180	1.192	1.209	1.215	1.249
Wavelength MoKa, λ (Å)	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073
Absorption coefficient (m/mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.072	0.073	0.074	0.075	0.077
F(000) (e)	936.0	936.0	936.0	936.0	936.0
2θ max (°)	48.684	46.596	55.074	56.158	56.21
Min./Max. indices h,k,l	-8/8,-10/10,-18/18	-9/9,-10/10,-19/19	-8/8,-15/14,-17/17	-8/8,-7/7,-18/18	-8/8,-6/6,-18/18
Reflections collected/unique	15179/ 1896	16405/ 1961	14463/2331	14260/1358	12153/1174
R <sub>int</sub>	0.1493	0.1360	0.2093	0.2049	0.1634
Data/parameters	1896/304	1961/304	2331/304	1358/303	1174/304
Goodness of fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.187	1.197	1.010	1.008	1.042
Final R <sub>1</sub> /wR <sub>2</sub> indices (I>4σ(I))	0.1192/0.3185	0.1177/0.3170	0.1163/0.2809	0.0883/0.2049	0.0730/0.1559
R <sub>1</sub> /wR <sub>2</sub> indices (all data)	0.2578/0.4008	0.2476/0.3922	0.2814/0.3944	0.2291/0.2909	0.1776/0.2103
Δσ <sub>max</sub> , Δσ <sub>min</sub> (eÅ <sup>-3</sup> )	0.20/-0.20	0.19/-0.20	0.19/-0.23	0.11/-0.12	0.09/-0.10
Weighting scheme: x; y <sup>a</sup>	1.14;0	2.205;0	6.005;0	2.203;0	2.555;0
Extinction coefficient	—	—	—	—	—
Absorption corrections	DAC, gasket and sample crystal				
DAC transmission min/max	0.94/0.99	0.93/0.99	0.92/0.99	0.90/0.99	0.93/0.99
Gasket shadowing min/max	0.79/0.98	0.80/0.98	0.75/0.96	0.80/0.98	0.79/0.97
Sample transmission min/max	0.98/0.98	0.98/0.99	0.986/0.988	0.98/0.99	0.97/0.99

<sup>a</sup>  $w = 1/(\sigma^2(F_o^2)+x^2P^2+yP)$ , where  $P=(\text{Max}(F_o^2, 0)+2F_c^2)/3$ .