## *Supporting Information* for

## Capture of Radioactive Cations from Water Using Niobate Nanomaterials with Layered and Tunnel Structures

Jin Sun, \*a Long Liu, a Xiaoliang Zhao, a Shuanglei Yang, b Sridhar Komarneni, c

Dongjiang Yang\*a,d

<sup>a</sup>Collaborative Innovation Center for Marine Biomass Fibers, Materials and Textiles of Shandong

Province; College of Chemistry, Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Qingdao University,

Qingdao 266071, China. E-mail: d.yang@qdu.edu.cn.

<sup>b</sup>State Key Laboratory of Powder Metallurgy, Central South University, Changsha, China 410083.

<sup>c</sup>Materials Research Institute and Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802, United States.

<sup>d</sup>Queensland Micro- and Nanotechnology Centre (QMNC), Griffith University, Nathan, Brisbane,

QLD 4111, Australia.

Formula	KNb <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	Na <sub>2</sub> Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> ·H <sub>2</sub> O
Crystal system	orthorhombic	monoclinic
Space-group	Amam	C2/c
Cell parameters	a−8.002(2) Å	a=17.0511 Å
	a=8.903(3) A	b=5.0293 Å
	D=21.16(2) Å	c=16.4921 Å
	c=3./99(2) A	β=113.9420°
Cell ratio	a/b=0.4207	a/b=3.3904
	b/c=5.5699	b/c=0.3050
	c/a=0.4267	c/a=0.9672
Cell volume	715.68(81) Å <sup>3</sup>	1292.59 Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4	8

Table S1. Phase compositions and crystallographic parameters for nanofibers in this study



**Fig. S1.** The plot of the K<sup>+</sup> (Na<sup>+</sup>) concentration with ion-exchange time when the initial concentration of M cations is 5 mmol/L and the amount of adsorbent = 1 g/L (M= $Sr^{2+}$ ,  $Ba^{2+}$  or  $Cs^+$ ).



**Fig. S2.** The pH value of the solution with desorption time when 100 mg of (a) KNb<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>-M or (b)  $Na_2Nb_2O_6 \cdot H_2O$ -M were redispersed into 100 mL deionized water for 24 h (M=Sr<sup>2+</sup>, Ba<sup>2+</sup> or Cs<sup>+</sup>).



**Fig. S3.** Influence of the pH value of the solutions on equilibrium capacity for  $Sr^{2+}$ ,  $Ba^{2+}$  and  $Cs^+$  sorptions.  $Q_e$  is the equilibrium capacity in normal environment and  $Q_p$  is the equilibrium capacity in solutions with various pH values. The adsorbent is KNb<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> nanorods.



**Fig. S4.** Influence of the pH value of the solutions on equilibrium capacity for  $Sr^{2+}$  and  $Ba^{2+}$  sorptions. The adsorbent is  $Na_2Nb_2O_6 \cdot H_2O$  nanofibers.