Electronic Supplementary Information

Dendritic AIE-active luminogens with a POSS core: synthesis, characterization, and application as chemosensors

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1. Preparation of Compound 1 and 2.

Preparation of compound 2



Scheme S1. Synthtic route to compound 2. PTSA = *p*-toluenesulfonic acid.

Preparation of compound 1



To a THF (40 mL) solution S4 (1.65 g, 4 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added n-BuLi (1.6 M in hexane, 5 mL, 8 mmol, 2 eq.) at -78 °C. After being stirred for 8 h at -78 °C, chlorodimethylsilane (0.87 mL, 8 mmol, 2 eq) was then injected slowly to the solution at 78°C. The obtained solution was warmed gradually to room temperature and stirred overnight. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (15 mL). The organic layer was separated and aqueous layer was extracted with

petroleum ether (100 mL x 2). The combined organic layer was washed with brine (15 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under vacuum to get residue. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography using hexane as eluent to give 1.40 g (89.7%) of compound **1** as a white solid. **m. p.** 115-116 °C. ¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.24 (d, 1H, Ar-H), 7.13-7.05 (m, 10H, Ar-H), 7.05-6.97 (m, 8H, Ar-H), 4.34 (quint, 1H), 0.28 (d, 6H, CH₃). ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) 144.5, 143.7, 143.6, 141.1, 140.8, 135.1, 133.3, 131.3, 131.3, 130.7, 127.7, 127.6, 126.4, 126.4, -3.8. **IR** (KBr), υ (cm⁻¹): 3058, 2959, 2121, 1599, 1491, 1441, 1388, 1254 (Si-CH₃ bending), 1102 (Si-Ph stretching), 884 (Si-CH₃ stretching), 759, 700. **HRMS (MALDI-TOF)**: [M]⁺= 390.18013 (calcd for C₂₈H₂₆Si, 390.17983).





Figure S1. DSC curves of 1, 2, POSS2, POSS4 under N_2 at a heating rate of 10 °C/min.

3. ¹H, ¹³C, ²⁹SiNMR Spectra of Synthetic Compounds.















POSS4 ¹H

 $\begin{array}{c} 7.26\\ 7.10\\ 7.10\\ 7.05\\ 7.05\\ 6.94\\ 6.22\\$

8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 -0.5 f1 (ppm)

0.18 0.16



