## **Supporting Information**

## Self-Sacrificed Synthesis of Carbon-Coated SiO<sub>x</sub> Nanowires for High Capacity Lithium Ion Battery Anode

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**Fig. S1** Typical SEM images of BMS-a (a) and BMS-b (b) (inset is the SEM image with higher magnification), and BJH (c) and pore size distribution curves (d) of BMS-a and BMS-b.



Fig. S2 SEM (a, b), TEM (c) and HRTEM (d) images of  $SiO_x$  NWs-b.



Fig. S3 XRD patterns of BMS precursor and as-synthesized  $SiO_x$  NWs.



**Fig. S4** (a) TGA curves of  $SiO_x$  NWs in air and argon atmosphere (flow of 100 ml/min and a heating rate of 10 °C/min). (b) The EDS of  $SiO_x$  NWs after annealing in air at 800 °C. The concentration of oxygen vacancies is calculated from the difference in weight increase between the two TGA curves.



**Fig. S5** Typical SEM image of RF-SiO<sub>x</sub> NWs. The area marked by red circle shows the existance of fracture in RF-SiO<sub>x</sub> NWs.



Fig. S6 High-resolution C 1s XPS spectrum of pC-SiO<sub>x</sub> NWs.



Fig. S7 (a) SEM image of  $p-SiO_2$  NPs and (b) corresponding BET curves. (c) SEM image of  $pC-p-SiO_2$  NPs and (d) corresponding TGA profile.



Fig. S8 SEM images of pC-SiO<sub>x</sub> NWs after 150 electrochemical cycles at a current density of 500 mA g<sup>-1</sup>.