## **Supporting information**

## Relationship between form III and the form reported in patent CN107954984

The form claimed in patent CN107954984 is the form III reported in this research. A figure of the comparison of PXRD patterns was shown in figure S1. The high similarity explains they are the same form. However, one small peak was seen in the "patent form" but not in "form III" reported here. This tiny disagreement may be due to the different content of impurity. The purity of the form reported in patent is about 92%, but the form reported in this research is about 99%. The "patent form" were found in our earlier study and then we applied for a patent. During the later study, we found nicosulfuron is easy to decomposition in the crystallization process. Therefore, the crystallization conditions were controlled strictly to prevent decomposition, and the purity of all the product were detected using HPLC to inhibit the influence of impurity. And the purity of all the forms declared in this research is above 98%.



**Fig. S1** The comparison of form III reported in this research (bottom) and the form reported in patent CN107954984 (top).

| Reported in | New forms | Details              | Designated in |
|-------------|-----------|----------------------|---------------|
| literature  |           |                      | this research |
| Ia          |           | Solvent-free form    | Ia            |
| Ib          |           | Solvent-free form    | Ib            |
| II          |           | monohydrate          | II            |
|             | III       | Solvent-free form    | III           |
|             | IV        | Solvent-free form    | IV            |
|             | V         | Solvent-free form    | V             |
|             | VI        | Solvent-free form    | VI            |
|             | S1        | Methanol solvate     | S1            |
|             | S2        | Ethanol solvate      | S2            |
|             | S3        | Acetonitrile solvate | S3            |
|             | S4        | 1,4-dioxane solvate  | S4            |
|             | S5        | 1,4-dioxane solvate  | S5            |

Table 1. The nomenclature of all the nicosulfuron polymorphs mentioned in this research



Fig. S2 The DSC curves of (a) Ia, (b) III, (c) IV, (d) V, (e) VI



Fig. S3 The overlaid DSC/TGA curves of (a) S1, (b) S2, (c) S3, (d) S4, (e) S5, (f) II



Fig. S4 Compared XRPD patterns of nicosulfuron solvates after heating





Fig. S5 Compared XRPD patterns of nicosulfuron solid forms after DVS experiment