

Supplementary information:

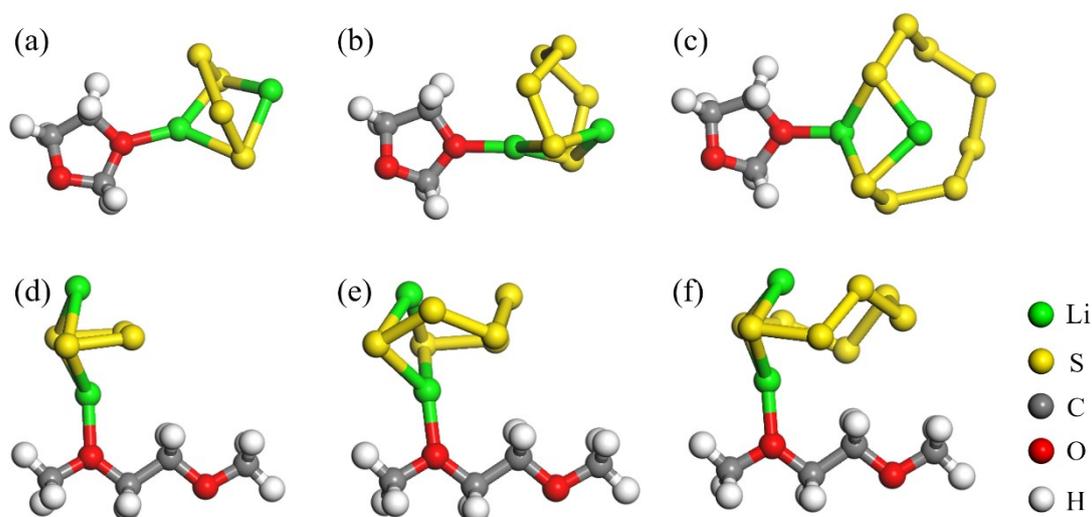


Fig. S1 The optimized structures of electrolyte solvent molecule DOL with (a) Li_2S_4 , (b) Li_2S_6 , (c) Li_2S_8 , and DME with (d) Li_2S_4 , (e) Li_2S_6 , (f) Li_2S_8 .

Table S1 The binding energies (in eV) between long-chain Li_2S_n clusters and electrolyte solvent molecules (DOL and DME).

Clusters	DOL				DME			
	E_b (eV)	E_b (eV)	E_b (eV)	E_b (eV)	This work	E_b (eV)	E_b (eV)	E_b (eV)
	This work	Ref. [1]	Ref. [2]	Ref.[3]		Ref. [1]	Ref. [2]	Ref.[3]
Li_2S_4	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.80	0.92	0.92	0.94	0.80
Li_2S_6	0.90	0.90	0.92	0.83	0.95	0.95	0.97	0.85
Li_2S_8	0.92	0.92	0.93	0.77	0.97	0.98	0.99	0.78

Table S2 The calculated parameters of ϵ -P with adsorbed Li_2S , $\text{LiS}+\text{Li}$ or $2\text{Li}+\text{S}$. The nearest distances between Li/S and P atoms ($D_{\text{AM-Li}}$ and $D_{\text{AM-S}}$), the distance between Li and S atoms in adsorbed species ($d_{\text{Li-S1}}$ and $d_{\text{Li-S2}}$), the longest distance between two adjacent P atoms in ϵ -P ($d_{\text{P-P}}$), the serious distance change of P-P bond in ϵ -P with adsorbed species ($\Delta d_{\text{P-P}}$), the P-S bond population ($P_{\text{P-S}}$), Mulliken atomic population of Li atoms (e_{Li1} , e_{Li2}), total Mulliken charge magnitude of S atoms (e_{S}) and total Mulliken charge difference of ϵ -P. Here, Mulliken charge difference means the difference of charge value between adsorbed case and free-standing case (Δe_{AM})(e). (In free Li_2S , $d_{\text{Li-S}} = 2.094 \text{ \AA}$; in free ϵ -P, $d_{\text{P-P}} = 2.230 \text{ \AA}$)

ϵ -P	$D_{\text{AM-Li}}$ (\AA)	$D_{\text{AM-S}}$ (\AA)	$d_{\text{Li-S1}}$ (\AA)	$d_{\text{Li-S2}}$ (\AA)	$d_{\text{P-P}}$ (\AA)	$\Delta d_{\text{P-P}}$ (\AA)	$P_{\text{P-S}}$	e_{Li1} (e)	e_{Li2} (e)	e_{S} (e)	Δe_{AM} (e)
Li_2S	2.542	2.112	2.507	2.470	3.156	0.926	0.41	0.96	0.95	-0.83	1.08
$\text{LiS}+\text{Li}$	2.532	2.018	2.412	-	2.314	0.084	0.59	0.97	0.95	-0.62	1.30
$2\text{Li}+\text{S}$	2.543	2.112	-	-	2.262	0.032	0.33	0.98	0.97	-0.25	1.70

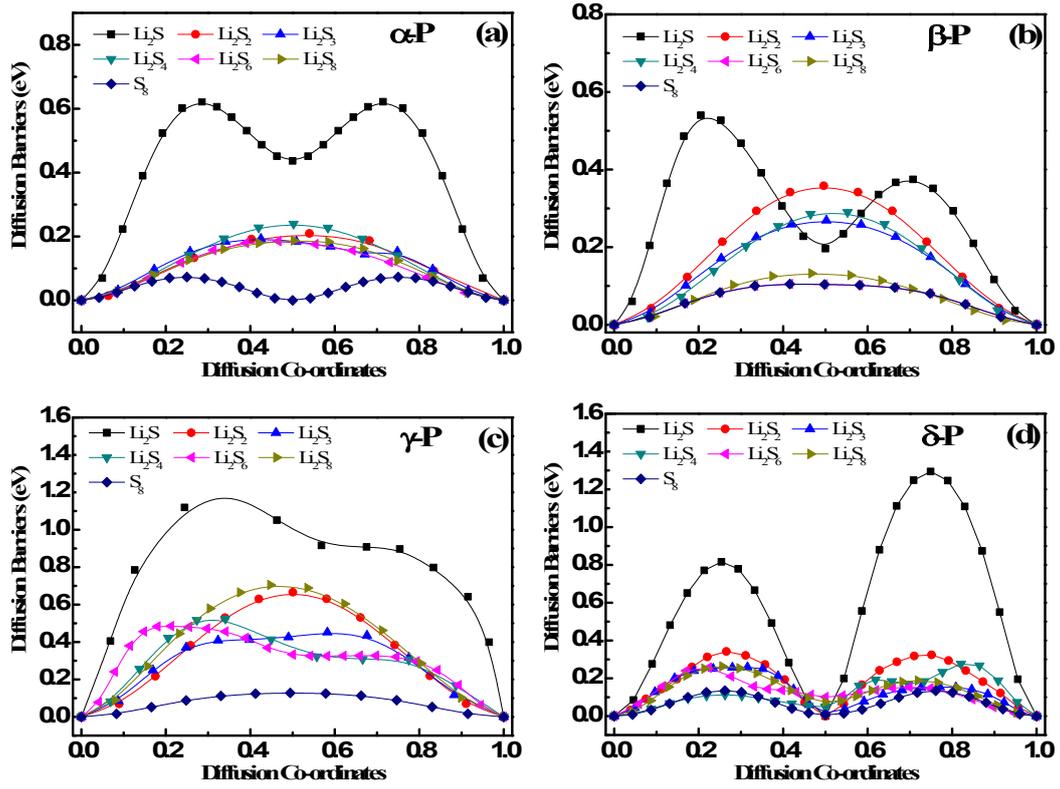


Fig. S2 Energy profiles of lithium sulfides diffusions along the directions with the lowest barriers. (a) α -P, (b) β -P, (c) γ -P, (d) δ -P.

Table S3 Diffusion energy barriers (eV) of lithium sulfides along different crystal orientations on β -P and γ -P.

Barrier (eV)	β -P[100]	β -P[010]	β -P[110]	γ -P[100]	γ -P[010]
S_8	0.069	0.132	0.137	2.957	3.19
Li_2S_8	0.127	0.161	0.178	17.456	16.446
Li_2S_6	0.104	0.134	0.197	14.198	13.226
Li_2S_4	0.285	0.385	0.498	14.303	12.075
Li_2S_3	0.268	0.269	0.374	10.417	21.36
Li_2S_2	0.358	0.394	0.426	15.369	20.459
Li_2S	0.544	0.667	0.762	28.246	30.953

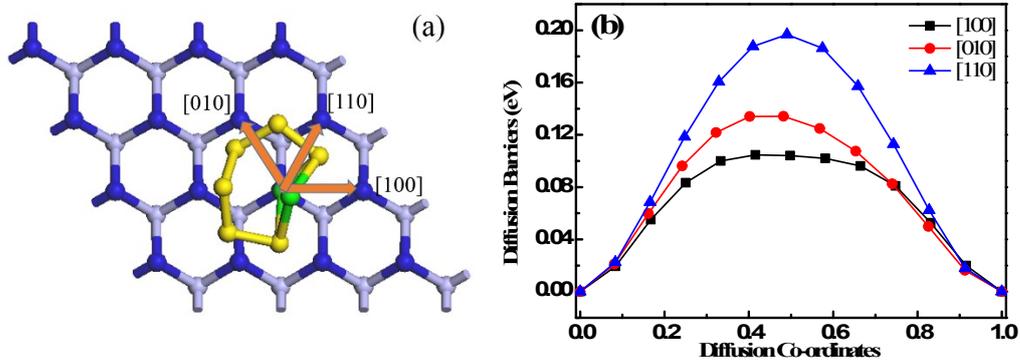


Fig. S3 Non-equivalent [100], [010] and [110] diffusion directions for Li_2S_6 on β -P. The energy profiles

with different barriers along [100], [010] and [110] directions for Li_2S_6 diffusion on $\beta\text{-P}$.

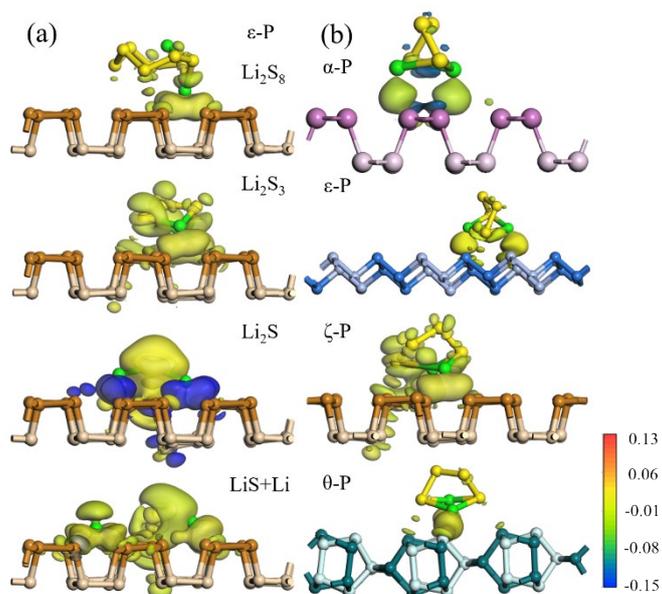


Fig. S4 (a) Electron density difference between Li_2S_8 , Li_2S_3 , Li_2S and LiS+Li species and $\epsilon\text{-P}$ AM; (b) Electron density difference between Li_2S_4 and various AMs, $\alpha\text{-P}$, $\epsilon\text{-P}$, $\zeta\text{-P}$ and $\theta\text{-P}$. The charge transfer is defined as the charge difference between before and after Li_2S_n cluster is absorbed on AM, and can be expressed as $\Delta\rho = \rho(\text{AM} + \text{Li}_2\text{S}_n) - \rho(\text{AM}) - \rho(\text{Li}_2\text{S}_n)$, where $\rho(\text{AM} + \text{Li}_2\text{S}_n)$, $\rho(\text{AM})$, and $\rho(\text{Li}_2\text{S}_n)$ are the charge densities for bound system, pristine AM and Li_2S_n cluster, respectively. Here, blue (yellow) is the spatial regions gain (loss) in charge. The isosurface level is set as 0.01 e \AA^{-3} .

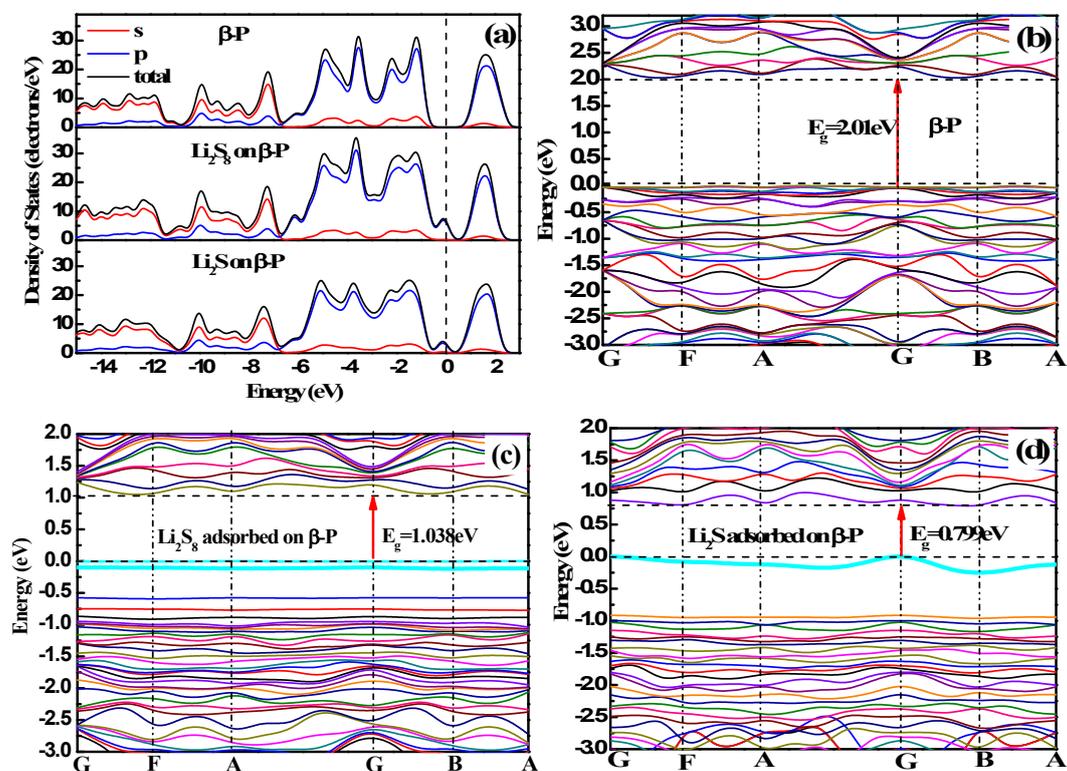


Fig. S5 (a) Atomic partial density of states (PDOS) for pristine $\beta\text{-P}$ and $\beta\text{-P}$ with adsorbed Li_2S_8 or Li_2S ; (b) Band structure of pristine $\beta\text{-P}$; (c) Band structure of $\beta\text{-P}$ with adsorbed Li_2S_8 ; (d) Band structure of

β -P with adsorbed Li_2S .

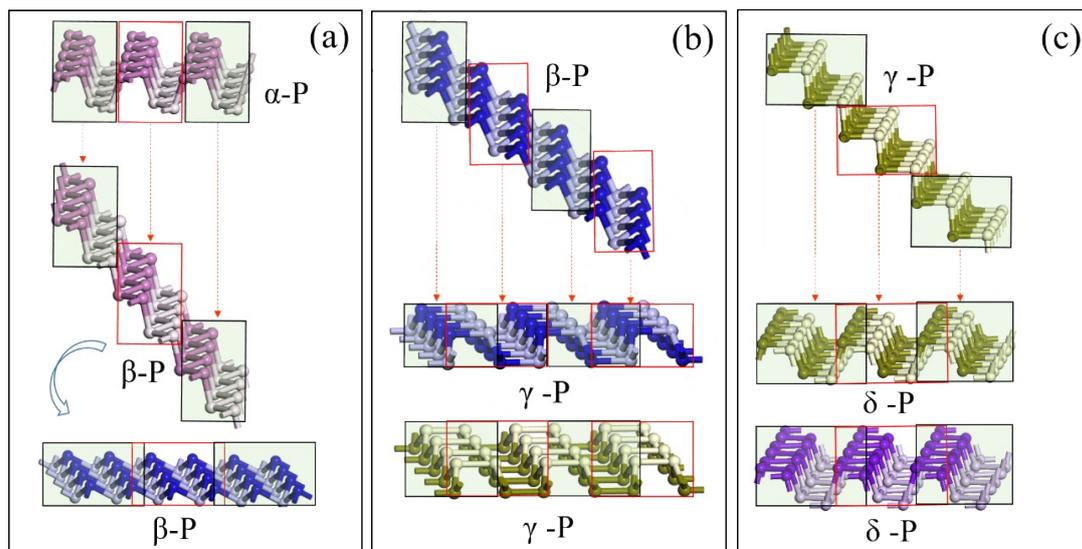


Fig. S6 Schematic diagrams of the conversions by embedding an array of dislocations, with the corresponding structural units highlighted by shaded regions and arrows. (a) from α -P to β -P, (b) from β -P to γ -P, (c) from γ -P to δ -P.

References:

- [1] L.-C. Yin, J. Liang, G.-M. Zhou, F. Li, R. Saito and H.-M. Cheng, 2016, *Nano Energy*, 25: 203-210.
- [2] T. Li, C. He and W. Zhang, 2020, *Energy Storage Materials*, 25: 866-875.
- [3] Y. Qie, J. Liu, S. Wang, S. Gong and Q. Sun, 2018, *Carbon*, 129: 38-44.