

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Activating Co nanoparticles on graphitic carbon nitride *via* tuning the Schottky barrier by P doping for the efficient dehydrogenation of ammonia-borane

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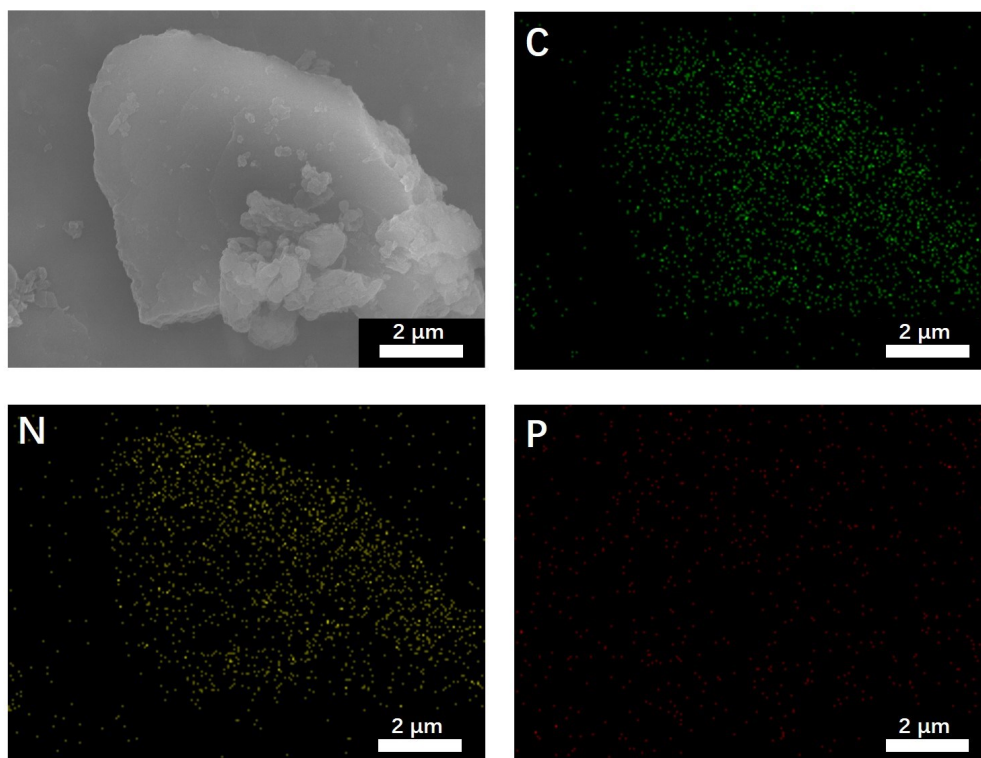
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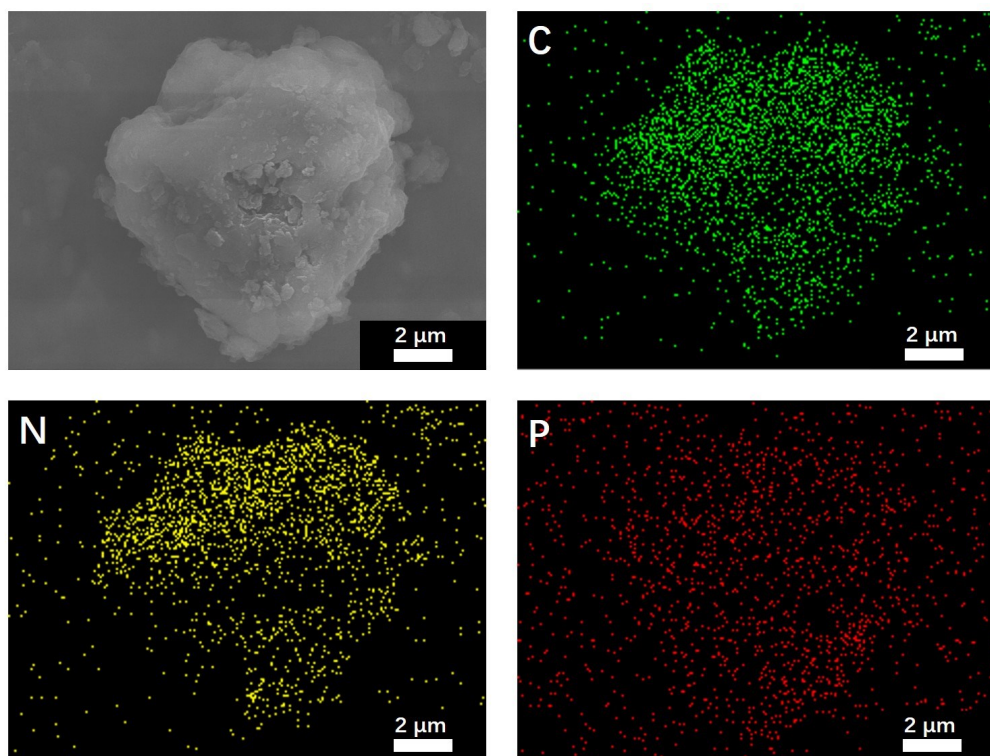
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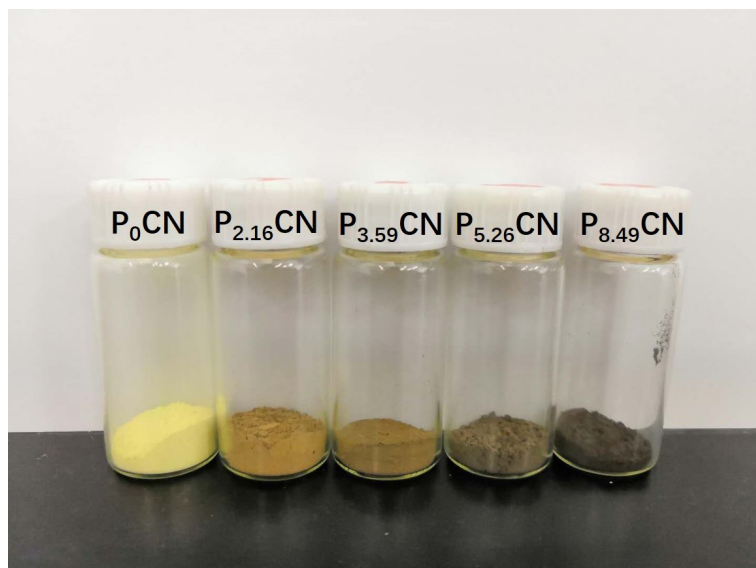
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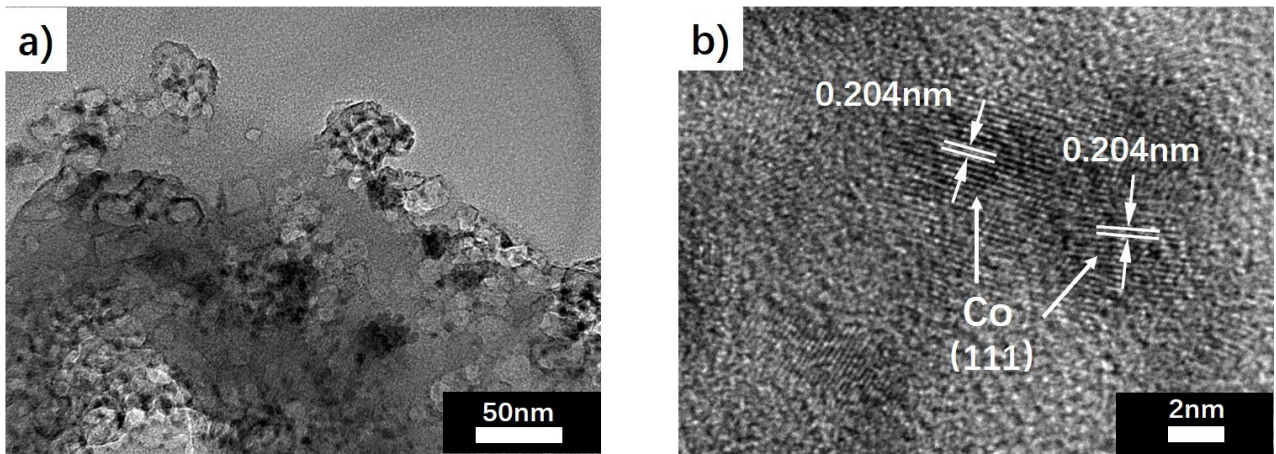
**Fig. S1** EDS elemental mapping images of  $P_0CN$ .



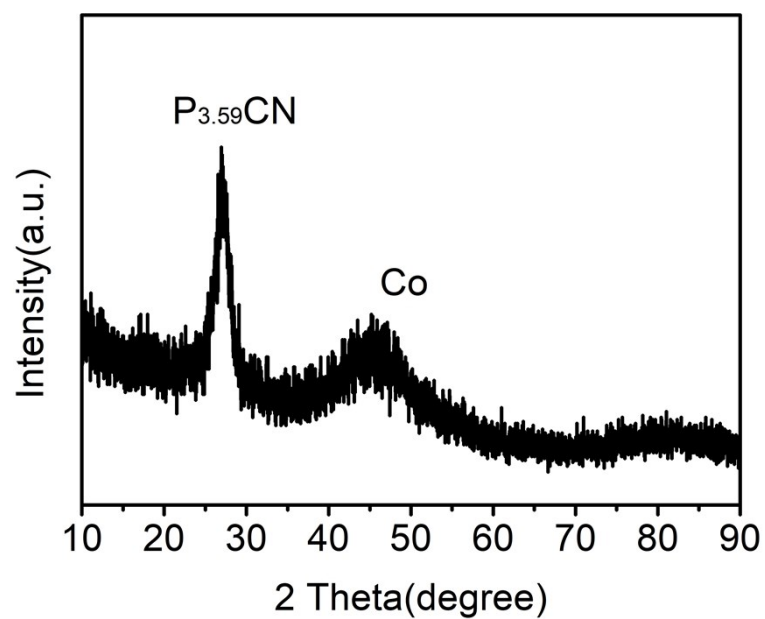
**Fig. S2** EDS elemental mapping images of  $P_{3.59}CN$ .



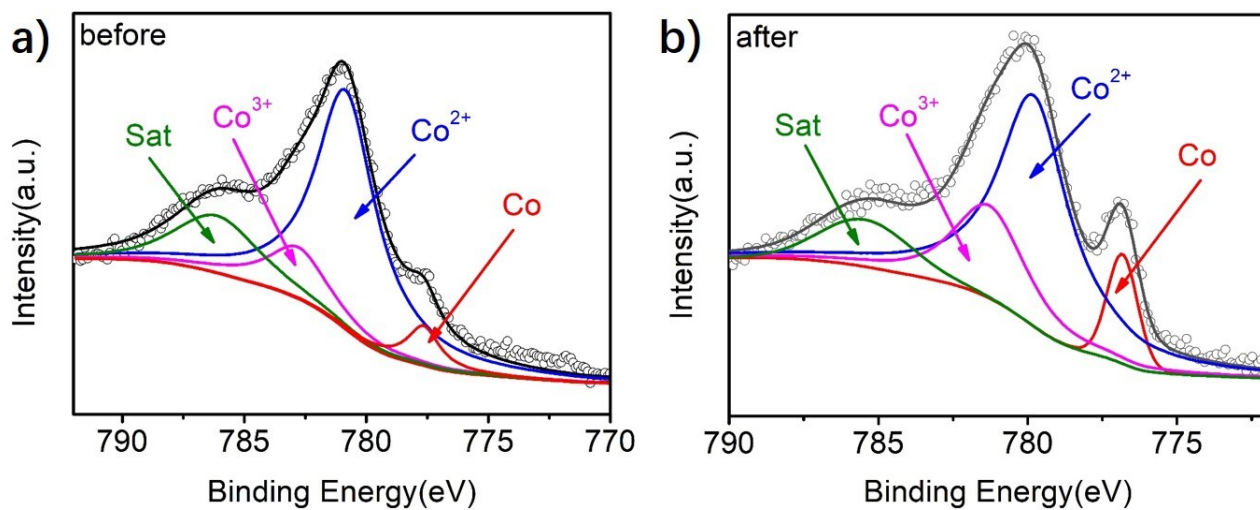
**Fig. S3** Photographs of P<sub>0</sub>CN, P<sub>2.16</sub>CN, P<sub>3.59</sub>CN, P<sub>5.26</sub>CN, and P<sub>8.49</sub>CN. It is shown a significant color change from pale yellow to black for the samples.



**Fig. S4** Typical TEM (a) and HRTEM (b) images of Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN. The interlayer space of 0.204 nm in Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN is ascribed to the (111) lattice plane of metallic cobalt nanocrystal.



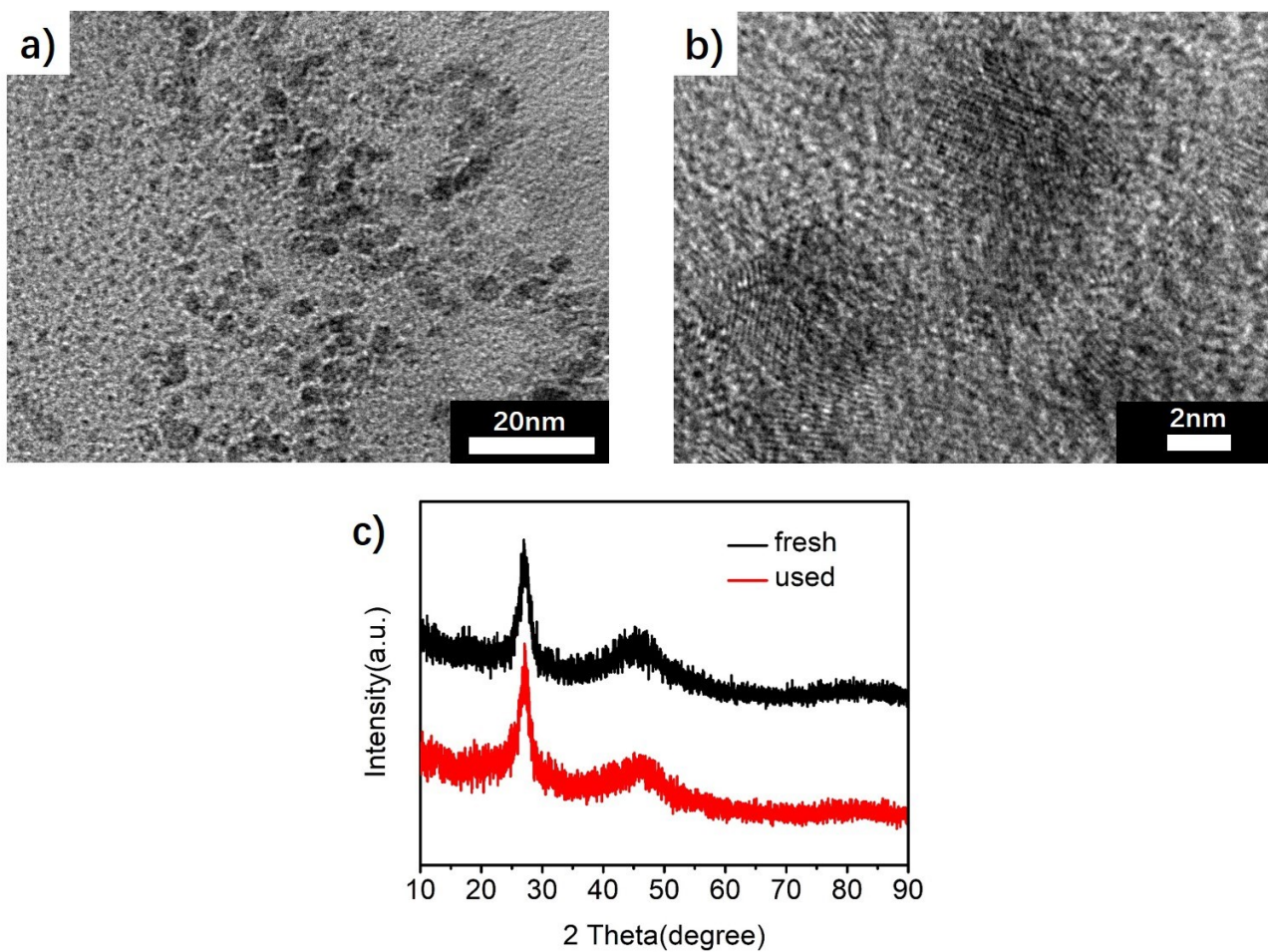
**Fig. S5** XRD pattern of Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN. When Co NPs are introduced into P<sub>3.59</sub>CN, a weak and broad peak located at 44.2° is observed, indicating the formation of metallic Co NPs. The diffraction peak located at 27.3° which corresponds to P<sub>3.59</sub>CN exhibits no obvious change after the loading of Co NPs.



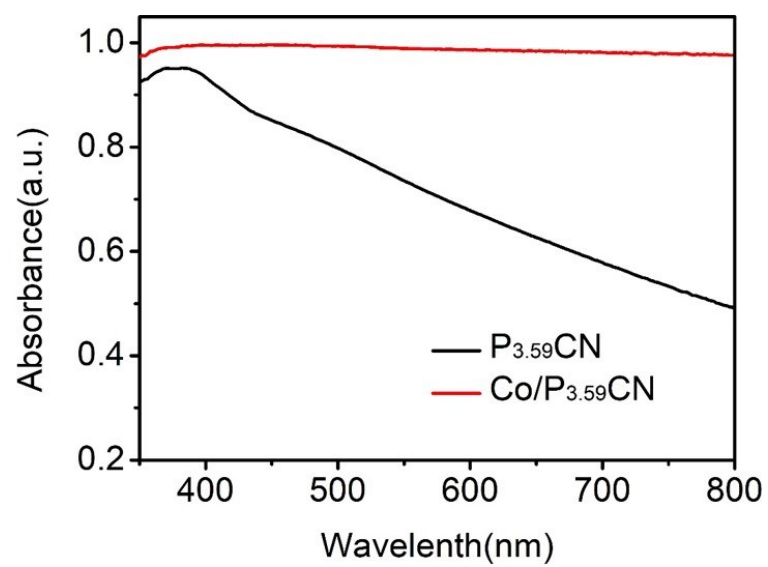
**Fig. S6** Co<sub>2p</sub> deconvoluted XPS spectra of Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN before (a) and after (b) etching treatment.

The peak of metallic Co is obviously enhanced after etching, indicating that metallic Co NPs are existed under the oxidation layer.

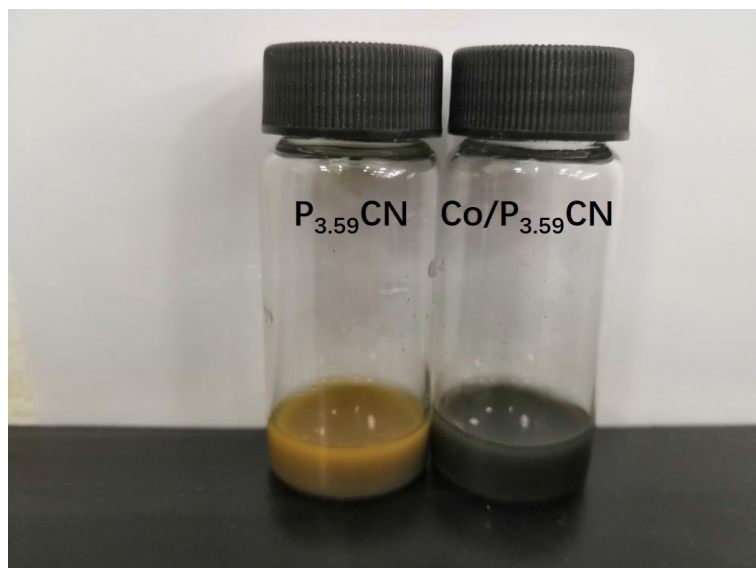




**Fig. S7** Typical TEM (a-b) images of Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN catalysts after eight cycles and XRD patterns(c) of fresh and used Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN catalysts. No obvious change was found in the Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN catalysts after eight cycles, indicating the good stability of Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN.



**Fig. S8** UV/Vis diffuse reflection spectra of P<sub>3.59</sub>CN and Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN.



**Fig. S9** Photographs of P<sub>3.59</sub>CN and Co/P<sub>3.59</sub>CN.

**Table S1** The P atomic percentage of P<sub>0</sub>CN, P<sub>2.16</sub>CN, P<sub>3.59</sub>CN, P<sub>5.26</sub>CN, and P<sub>8.49</sub>CN.

Samples	HEDP amount (g)	P (%)
P <sub>0</sub> CN	0	0
P <sub>2.16</sub> CN	0.2	2.16
P <sub>3.59</sub> CN	0.4	3.59
P <sub>5.26</sub> CN	0.6	5.26
P <sub>8.49</sub> CN	0.8	8.49