Supporting information for

## Observation of Inserted Oxocarbonyl Species in the Tantalum Cation-Mediated Activation of Carbon Dioxide Dictated by Two-State Reactivity

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PBE0-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level of theory (bond lengths in Ångströms and bond angles in degrees).



**Figure S1.** Optimized geometries of isomers for the  $[TaO_2(CO)_2(CO_2)_2]^+$  complex in the singlet state and their relative energies (in kcal·mol<sup>-1</sup>) calculated at the PBE0-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level of theory (bond lengths in Ångströms and bond angles in degrees).



**Figure S2.** Optimized geometries of isomers for the [TaO(CO)(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> complex in different spin states and their relative energies (in kcal·mol<sup>-1</sup>) calculated at the PBE0-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level of theory (bond lengths in Ångströms and bond angles in degrees).



**Figure S3.** Optimized geometries of isomers for the  $[Ta(CO_2)_4]^+$  complex in different spin states and their relative energies (in kcal·mol<sup>-1</sup>) calculated at the PBE0-D3(BJ)/def2-TZVP level of theory (bond lengths in Ångströms and bond angles in degrees).