

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

### Insights into the halogen-induced p-band center regulation promising high-performance lithium-sulfur batteries

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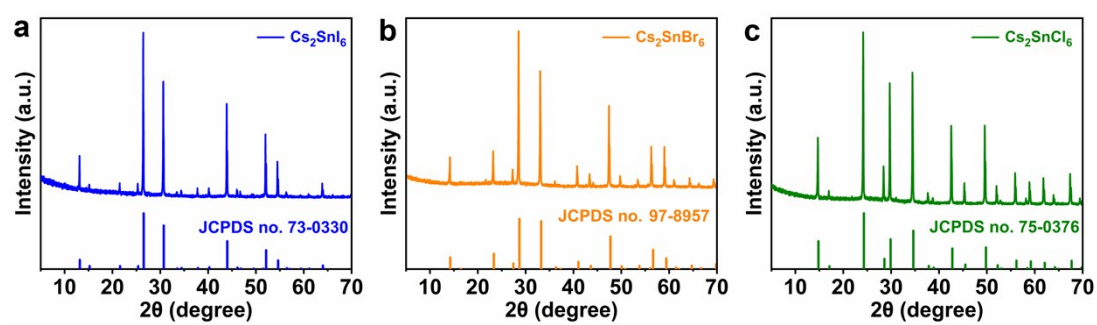
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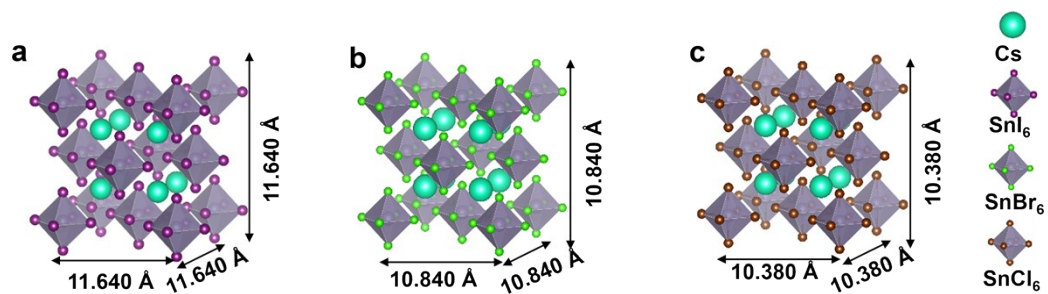
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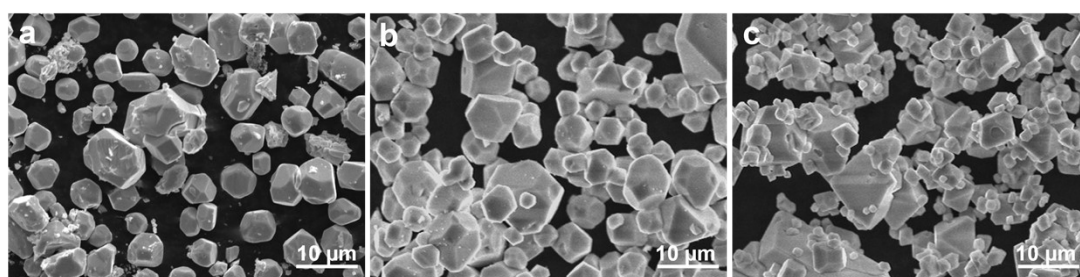
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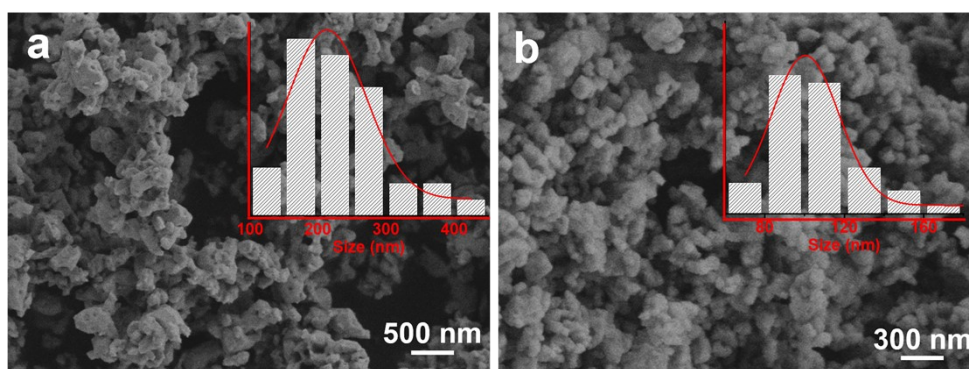
**Fig. S1.** XRD patterns of (a)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnI}_6$ , (b)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$ , and (c)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .



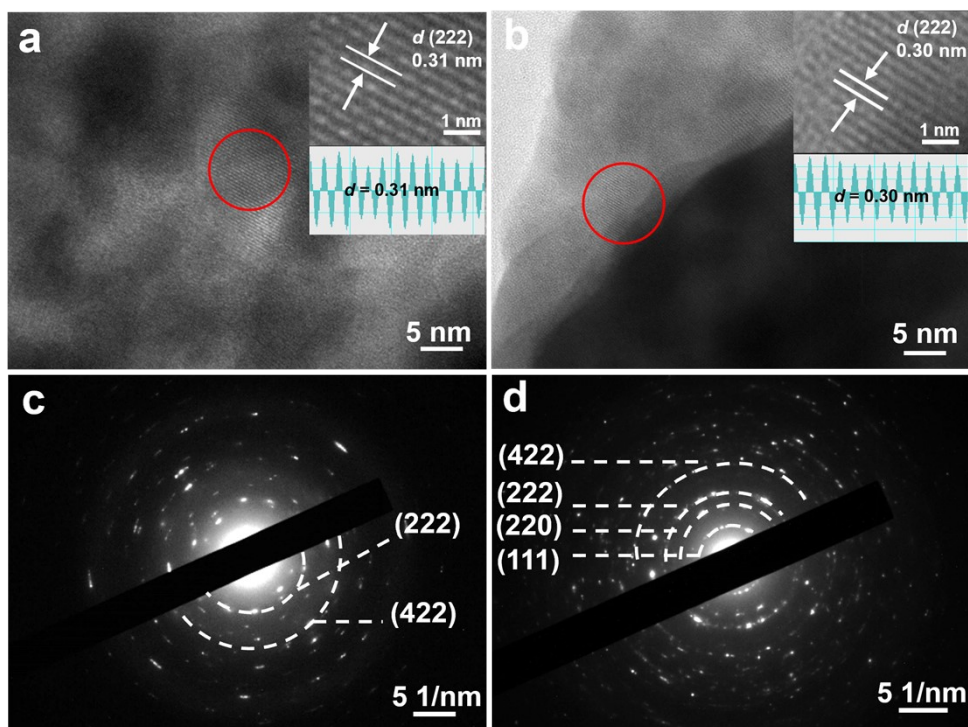
**Fig. S2.** Lattice parameters of (a)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnI}_6$ , (b)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$ , and (c)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .



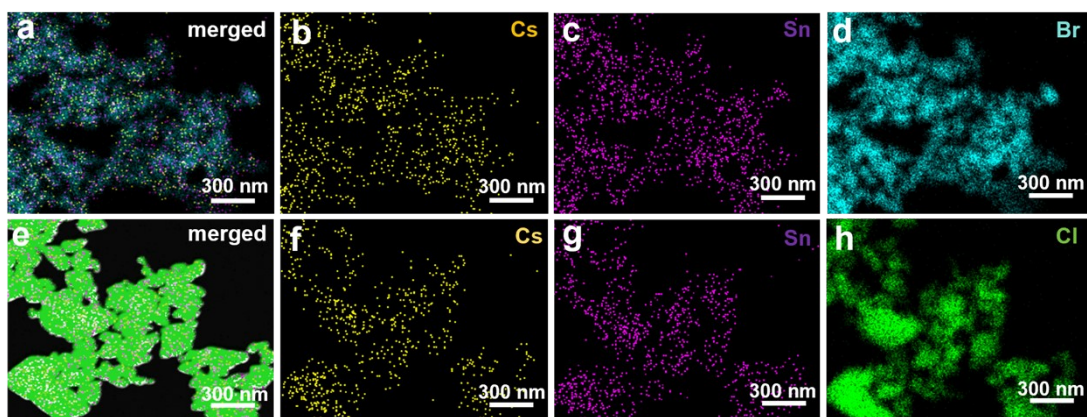
**Fig. S3.** FESEM images of (a) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnI<sub>6</sub>, (b) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnBr<sub>6</sub>, and (c) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> before ball-milling.



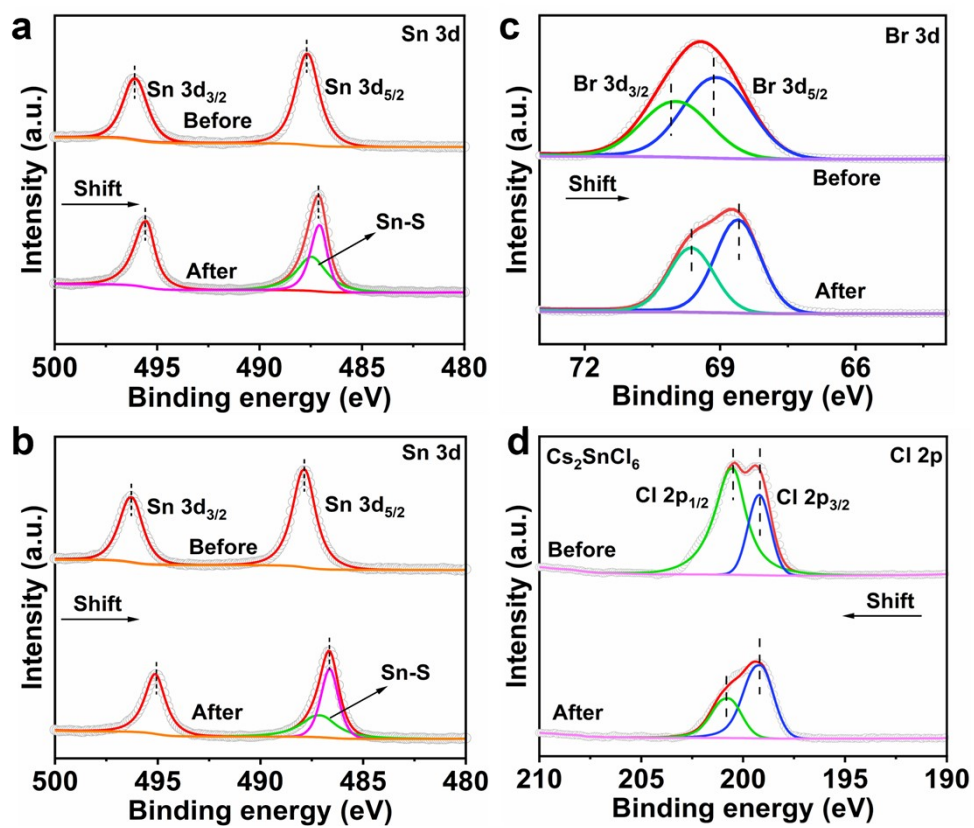
**Fig. S4.** FESEM images of (a)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$  and (b)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  after ball-milling, and corresponding particle size distribution diagrams (the insets).



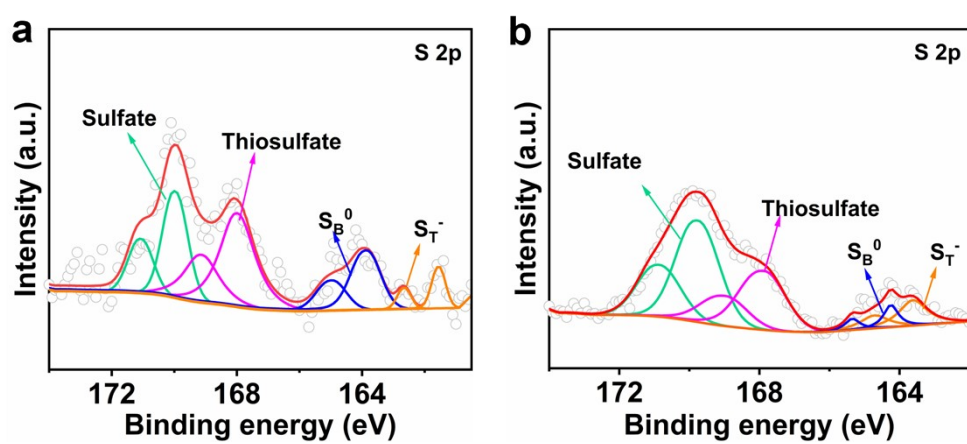
**Fig. S5.** (a, b) HRTEM images and (c, d) SAED patterns of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$  and  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .



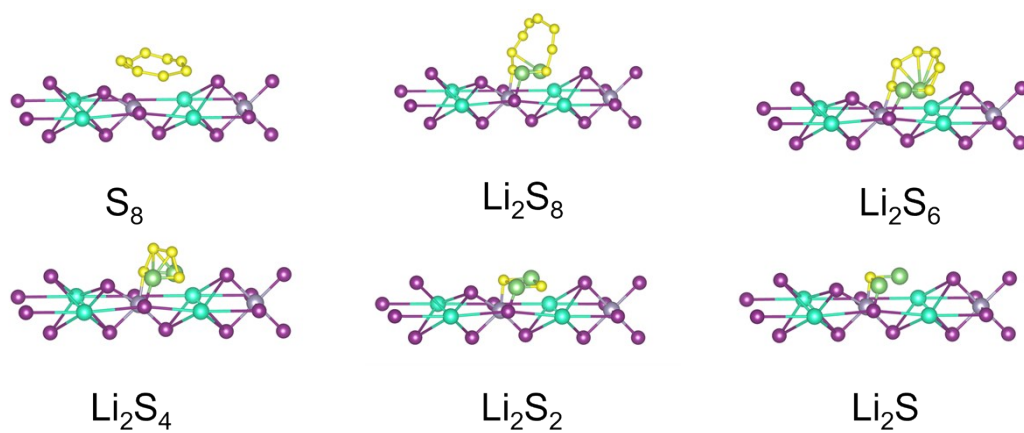
**Fig. S6.** EDS mapping images of Cs, Sn, and halogen elements for (a – d)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$ , and (e – h)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .



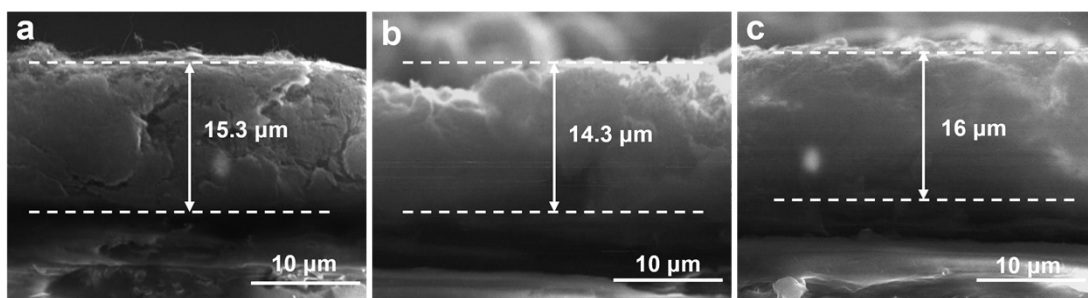
**Fig. S7.** Typical Sn 3d spectra of (a)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$  and (b)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ . (c) Br 3d spectra of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$  and (d) Cl 2p spectra of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$ .



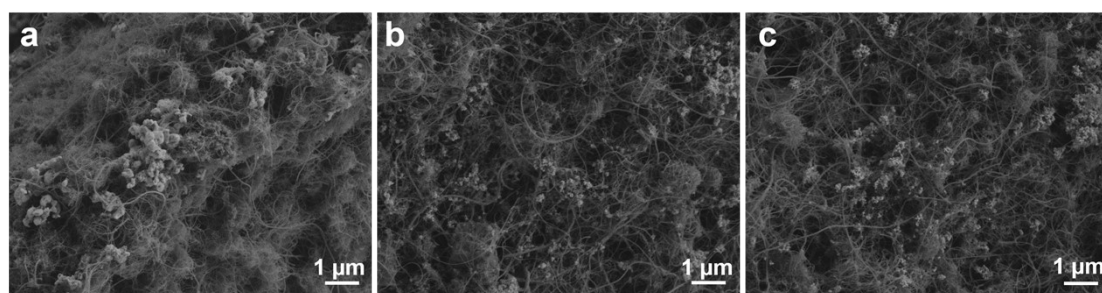
**Fig. S8.** S 2p spectra of (a)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$  and (b)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  absorbed with  $\text{Li}_2\text{S}_6$ .



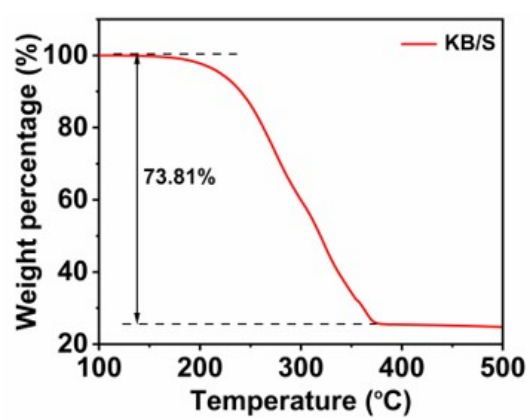
**Fig. S9.** Adsorption configurations of  $Li_2S_n$  ( $1 \leq n \leq 8$ ) on the surface of  $Cs_2SnX_6$ .



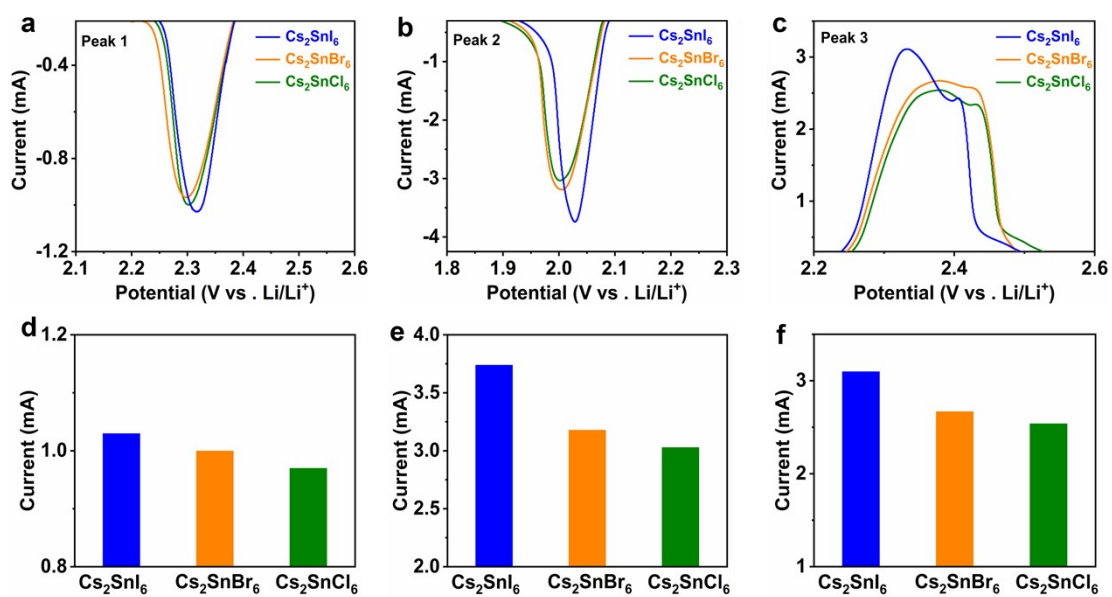
**Fig. S10.** Cross-sectional FESEM images of (a)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnI}_6$ , (b)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$ , and (c)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  modified separators.



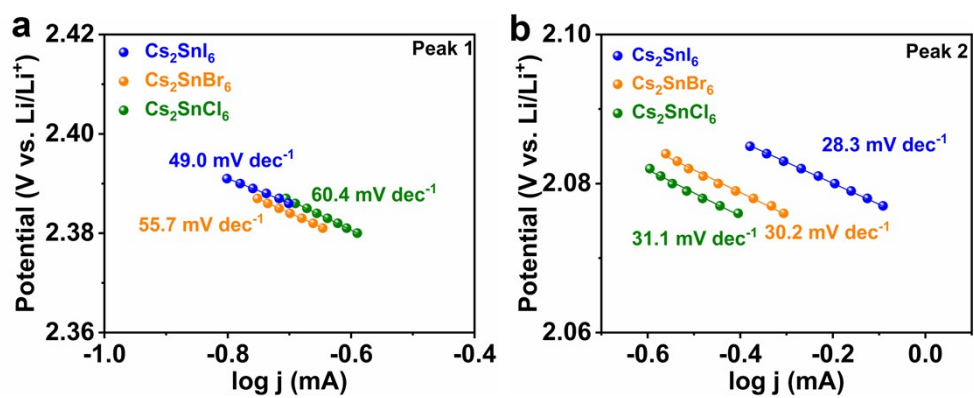
**Fig. S11.** Top-view FESEM images of (a)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnI}_6$ , (b)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$ , and (c)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  modified separators.



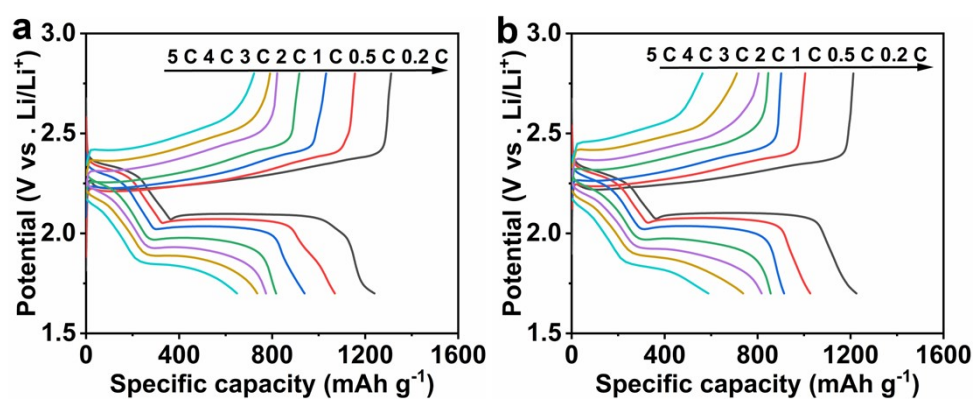
**Fig. S12.** Thermogravimetric analysis plot of KB/S.



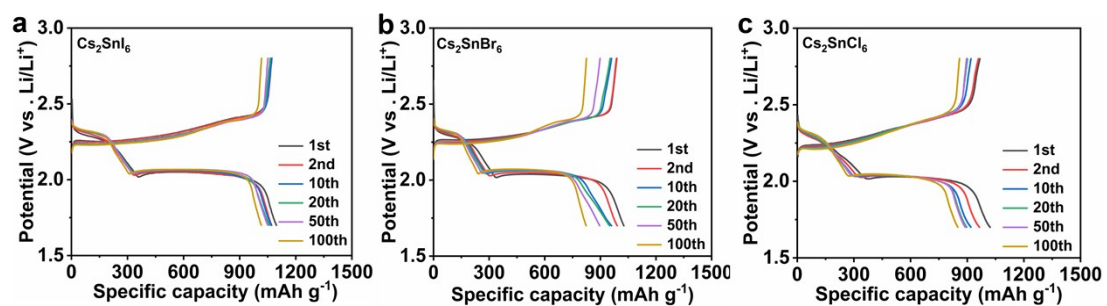
**Fig. S13.** (a – c) Enlarged CV curves ( $0.1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ ) and (d – f) corresponding peak current value of LSBs with  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnX}_6$  modified separators.



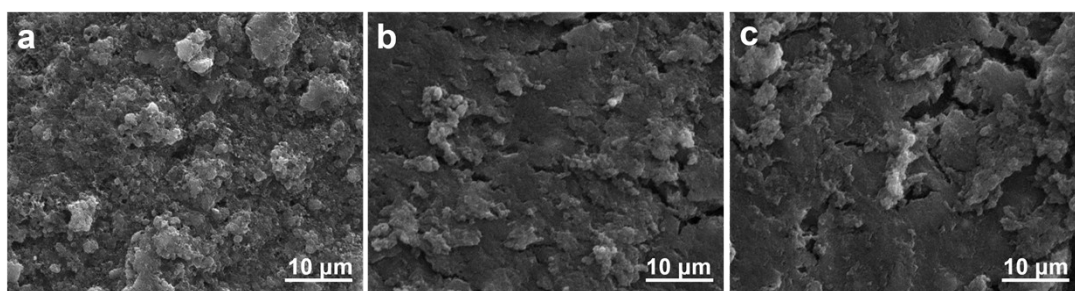
**Fig. S14.** Tafel slopes of (a) peak 1 and (b) peak 2 of LSBs with  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnX}_6$  modified separators.



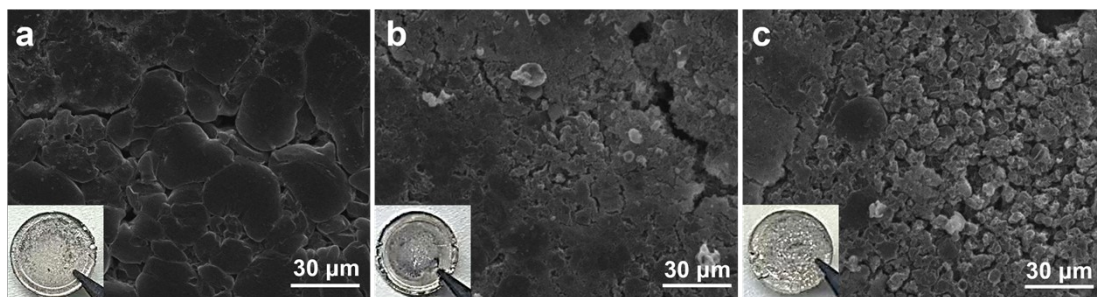
**Fig. S15.** Charge-discharge curves of (a) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnBr<sub>6</sub> and (b) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> batteries at different current rates.



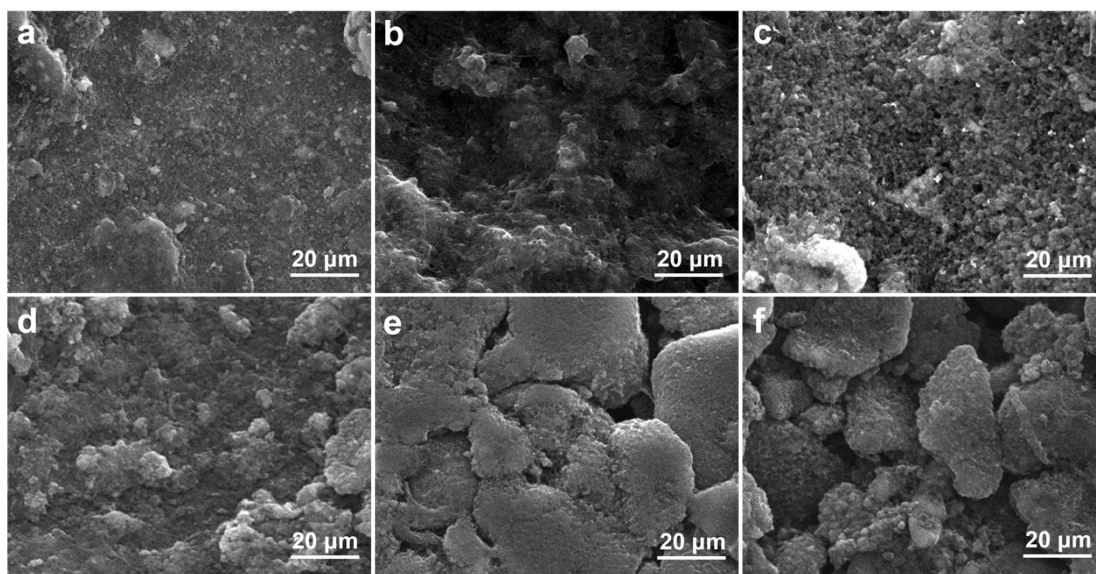
**Fig. S16.** Charge-discharge curves of (a)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnI}_6$ , (b)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnBr}_6$ , and (c)  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnCl}_6$  batteries at different cycle times.



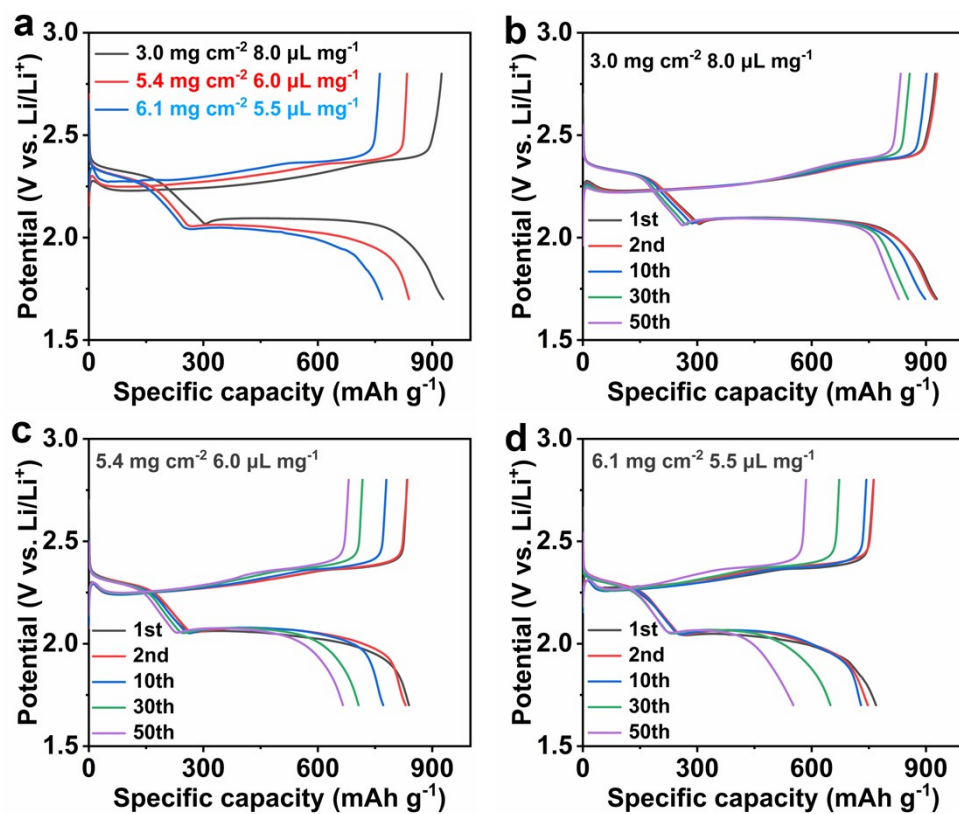
**Fig. S17.** FESEM images of the cathode of (a) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnI<sub>6</sub>, (b) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnBr<sub>6</sub>, and (c) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> batteries after 500 cycles at 1 C.



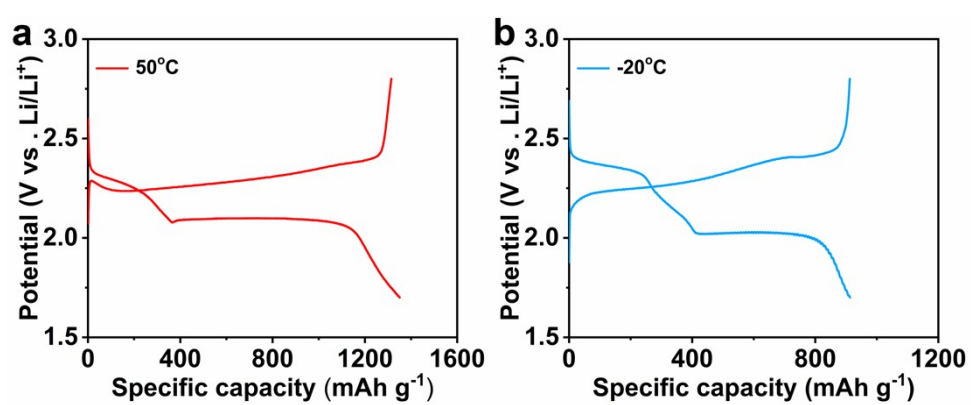
**Fig. S18.** FESEM images and digital photos (the insets) of lithium anodes of (a) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnI<sub>6</sub>, (b) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnBr<sub>6</sub>, and (c) Cs<sub>2</sub>SnCl<sub>6</sub> batteries after 500 cycles at 1 C.



**Fig. S19.** FESEM images of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnX}_6$  modified separators (a – c) before and (d – f) after 500 cycles at 1C.



**Fig. S20.** (a) The first charge-discharge curves of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnI}_6$  batteries under high-load and low E/S ratio conditions. (b – d) Corresponding charge-discharge curves at different cycle times as indicated.



**Fig. S21.** The first Charge-discharge curves of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{SnI}_6$  batteries in environments of  $50^\circ\text{C}$  (0.5 C) and  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  (0.1 C).

**Table S1** EIS fitting results of Cs<sub>2</sub>SnX<sub>6</sub> batteries.

|                | Coated materials                  | $R_s$ ( $\Omega$ ) | $R_{sf}$ ( $\Omega$ ) | $R_{ct}$ ( $\Omega$ ) |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Before cycling | Cs <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>6</sub> | 1.6                | -                     | 73.5                  |
|                | Cs <sub>2</sub> SnBr <sub>6</sub> | 1.8                | -                     | 72.6                  |
|                | Cs <sub>2</sub> SnI <sub>6</sub>  | 2.9                | -                     | 60.7                  |
| After cycling  | Cs <sub>2</sub> SnCl <sub>6</sub> | 3.9                | 20.6                  | 7.6                   |
|                | Cs <sub>2</sub> SnBr <sub>6</sub> | 3.5                | 17.7                  | 6.2                   |
|                | Cs <sub>2</sub> SnI <sub>6</sub>  | 4.5                | 13.8                  | 2.9                   |

**Table S2.** Performance comparison of LSBs with various separators.

| Coated materials                                              | Current rate (C) | Cycle number | Capacity decay per cycle (%) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Cs<sub>2</sub>SnI<sub>6</sub><br/>(This work)</b>          | <b>2</b>         | <b>500</b>   | <b>0.068</b>                 |
| VN@NG <sup>1</sup>                                            | 2                | 500          | 0.075                        |
| CQDs-PAN <sup>2</sup>                                         | 0.5              | 500          | 0.075                        |
| H-CMP <sup>3</sup>                                            | 1                | 500          | 0.066                        |
| Li-MOF/RGO <sup>4</sup>                                       | 1                | 600          | 0.089                        |
| Zwitterionic<br>COF <sup>5</sup>                              | 2                | 500          | 0.072                        |
| C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> -CoSe <sub>2</sub> <sup>6</sup> | 1                | 500          | 0.089                        |
| ZIF-8 <sup>7</sup>                                            | 1                | 500          | 0.100                        |
| Ni/SiO <sub>2</sub> /G <sup>8</sup>                           | 1                | 300          | 0.086                        |
| Co/Mo <sub>2</sub> C <sup>9</sup>                             | 1                | 600          | 0.072                        |

**Table S3** Performance comparison of LSBs with various separators under high-load and low-E/S-ratio conditions.

| Coated materials                                 | Sulfur loading (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> ) | E/S ratio (μl mg <sup>-1</sup> ) | Initial specific capacity (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> ) @ C rates |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Cs<sub>2</sub>SnI<sub>6</sub> (This work)</b> | <b>6.10</b>                           | <b>5.5</b>                       | <b>768.8@0.2 C</b>                                         |
| NbB <sub>2</sub> /rGo <sup>10</sup>              | 7.06                                  | 10                               | 590.7@0.1 C                                                |
| Co-MoS <sub>2</sub> <sup>11</sup>                | 5.27                                  | 12                               | 800.8@0.2 C                                                |
| NS-MXene <sup>12</sup>                           | 7.20                                  | 7.0                              | 730.6@0.2 C                                                |
| Fe-ZIF-8 <sup>13</sup>                           | 5.00                                  | 5.0                              | 517@0.05 C                                                 |
| TpPa-SO <sub>3</sub> H <sup>14</sup>             | 5.00                                  | 10                               | 800.0@0.2 C                                                |
| ZIF-67/SA-PAN <sup>15</sup>                      | 5.45                                  | 10                               | 797.5@0.1 C                                                |
| ZrO <sub>2</sub> -SiO <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> | 4.00                                  | 10                               | 757.0@0.2 C                                                |
| GQDs-PAN <sup>17</sup>                           | 5.10                                  | 15                               | 633.3@0.1 C                                                |
| RPM <sup>18</sup>                                | 5.40                                  | 10                               | 703.7@0.2 C                                                |

**Table S4.** Performance comparison of LSBs with various separators under different operating temperatures

| Coated materials                     | Temperature (°C)@Current rate (C)@Initial specific capacity (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Cs<sub>2</sub>SnI<sub>6</sub></b> | <b>-20 °C@0.1 C@ 912.7 mAh g<sup>-1</sup></b>                                      |
| <b>(This work)</b>                   | <b>50 °C@0.5 C@1350 mAh g<sup>-1</sup></b>                                         |
| Go-CoNiP <sup>19</sup>               | -20 °C@0.5 C@810.9 mAh g <sup>-1</sup><br>60 °C@0.5 C@1064.8 mAh g <sup>-1</sup>   |
| SAF-3 <sup>20</sup>                  | -20 °C@0.1 C@870.0 mAh g <sup>-1</sup><br>60 °C@0.5 C@1064.8 mAh g <sup>-1</sup>   |
| NbB <sub>2</sub> <sup>21</sup>       | -10 °C@0.1 C@802.0 mAh g <sup>-1</sup>                                             |
| TPE <sup>22</sup>                    | -20 °C@0.1 C@802.0 mAh g <sup>-1</sup>                                             |
| FeCoNi <sup>23</sup>                 | 0 °C@0.2 C@931.0 mAh g <sup>-1</sup>                                               |
| Fe/Ni-N@NC <sup>24</sup>             | 0 °C@0.5 C@741.0 mAh g <sup>-1</sup>                                               |

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