**Supplementary Information** 

## Preparation and hydrogen storage capacity of templated and activated carbons nanocast from commercially available zeolitic imidazolate framework

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Supporting Figure 1: Powder XRD pattern of commercially available ZIF, Basolite Z1200.



**Supporting Figure 2.** Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) curve (A) and differential thermogravimetric (DTG) profile (B) of ZIF-8 (Basolite  $Z1200^{TM}$ ) in nitrogen. The inset in (A) shows TGA curve for Zn metal.



**Supporting Figure 3.** a) Nitrogen sorption isotherm and b) pore size distribution of Basolite template



**Supporting Figure 4.** a) Powder XRD pattern and b) TGA curve (in air) of ZIF/FA composite after heating at 80 °C for 24 h and then at 150 °C for 6 h under Ar. The XRD patterns of the pristine ZIF is shown in (a) for comparison.



**Supporting Figure 5**. Pore size distribution curves of ZIF-templated carbon materials carbonised at various temperatures.



**Supporting Figure 6**. Nitrogen sorption isotherms of ZIF-templated carbons before (a) and after (b) chemical activation with KOH. The carbonisation temperature for each sample is shown.



**Supporting Figure 7.** Plot of hydrogen storage capacity as a function of (A) micropore surface area or (B) micropore volume of ZIF-templated carbons before (O) and after ( $\bullet$ ) chemical activation with KOH (at KOH/carbon ratio of 4) at 700 °C for 1 h.