## Supporting Information

## Synthesis of SiO<sub>2</sub> nanofibre confined Ni catalyst by electrospinning for CO<sub>2</sub> reforming of methane

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Fig. S1 XPS spectra of the calcined Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-F catalysts: (a) survey scan for catalyst calcined at 600 °C; (b) high resolution scan of N 1s for catalyst calcined at indicated temperatures.



Fig. S2 SEM images of the Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-F catalyst before (a) and after (b) calcination at 800  $^{\circ}$ C.



Fig. S3 STEM image of the fresh Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-F catalyst. The white dots corresponded to Ni nanoparticles.



Fig. S4 HR-TEM image of the cross-section of the fresh Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-F catalyst. Scale bar of the inset HR-

TEM image is 100 nm.



Fig. S5 SEM images of the spent Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-F (a) and Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-C (b) catalysts after reaction of 360 min.



Fig. S6 Catalytic performances of the Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-FI catalyst. Reaction conditions: P= 1 atm; T=700 °C; the nickel amount=10 wt%; CH<sub>4</sub>:CO<sub>2</sub>:Ar=1:1:2; GHSV=48 000 ml (h gcat)<sup>-1</sup>.



Fig. S7 HR-TEM image of the fresh Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-FI catalyst.



Fig. S8 Catalytic performances of the Ni/SiO<sub>2</sub>-F catalyst with a prolonged reaction time. Reaction conditions: P= 1 atm; T=700 °C; the nickel amount=10 wt%; CH<sub>4</sub>:CO<sub>2</sub>:Ar=1:1:2; GHSV=48 000 ml (h

gcat)<sup>-1</sup>.