## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

## Cobalt and lithium recovery from spent LiCoO<sub>2</sub> using a free-standing potassium zinc hexacyanoferrate/carbon cloth composite electrode

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**Supplementary Figures** 

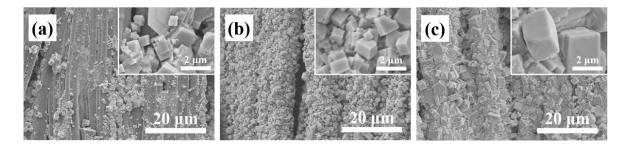


Fig. S1 SEM images of (a) CC/KZHCF-1, (b) CC/KZHCF-3 and (c) CC/KZHCF-4.

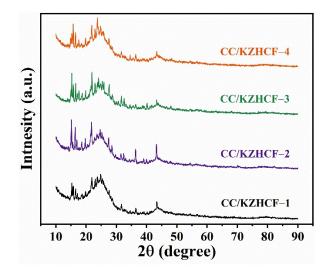
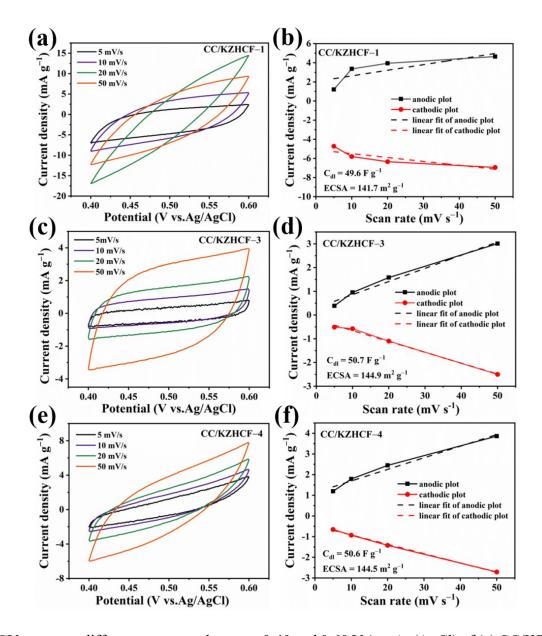


Fig. S2 XRD patterns of the as-synthesized CC/KZHCF-1, CC/KZHCF-2, CC/KZHCF-3 and CC/KZHCF-4.



**Fig. S3** CV curves at different scan rates between 0.40 and 0.60 V (vs. Ag/AgCl) of (a) CC/KZHCF-1, (c) CC/KZHCF-3 and (e) CC/KZHCF-4. The corresponding cathodic and anodic charging current measured at 0.50 V (vs. Ag/AgCl) plotted as a function of scan rates of (b) CC/KZHCF-1, (d) CC/KZHCF-3 and (f) CC/KZHCF-4.

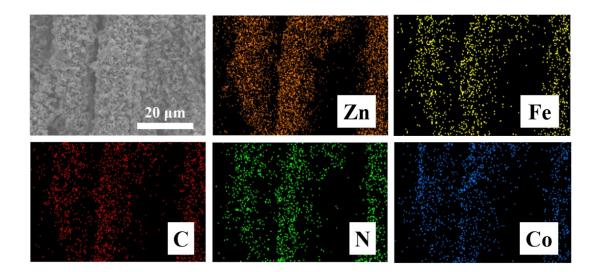


Fig. S4 EDS elemental mappings of CC/KZHCF-2 electrode after Co<sup>2+</sup> electrosorption.

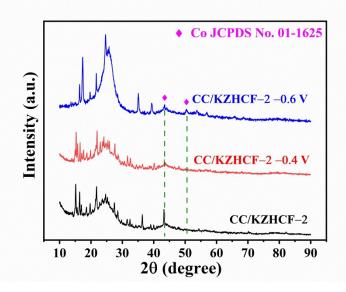


Fig. S5 XRD patterns of CC/KZHCF-2 electrodes before and after  $Co^{2+}$  electrosorption under -0.4 V and -0.6 V (vs. Ag/AgCl) potentials.

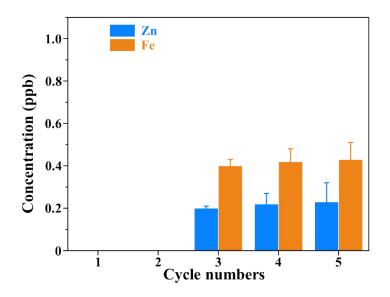


Fig. S6 Concentration of metal ions released from the CC/KZHCF electrode after five cycles.

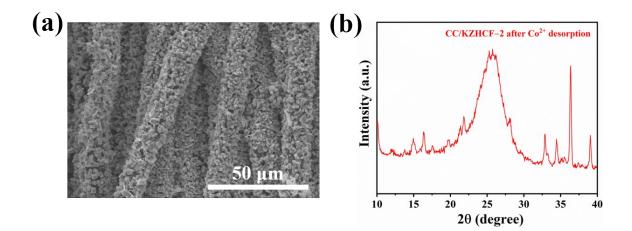
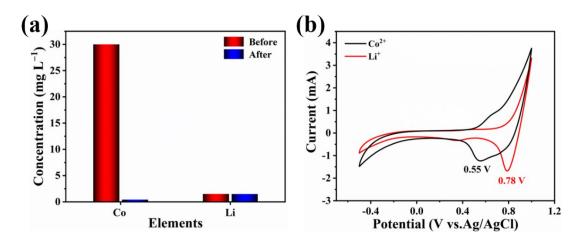


Fig. S7 (a) SEM image and (b) XRD pattern of CC/KZHCF electrode after Co<sup>2+</sup> desorption.



**Fig. S8** (a) Concentrations of  $Co^{2+}$  and  $Li^+$  ions in the spent  $LiCoO_2$  leachate before and after electrosorption; (b) CV curves of CC/KZHCF-2 electrode in 50 mM  $Co^{2+}$  or  $Li^+$  solution at a scan rate of 50 mV/s, respectively.

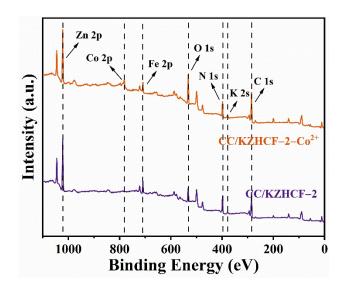


Fig. S9 XPS spectra of CC/KZHCF-2 electrode before and after Co<sup>2+</sup> electrosorption.

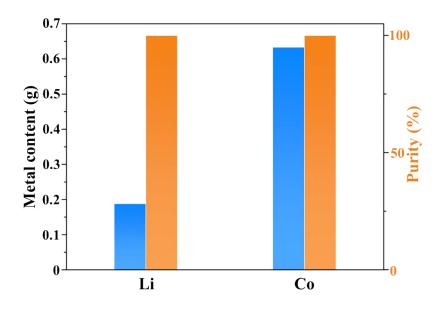


Fig. S10 Metal content and purity of recycled  $Li_2CO_3$  and Co (OH)<sub>2</sub>.