## **Supporting Information**

## Unusual Particle-Size-Induced Promoter-to-Poison Transition of ZrN in Counter Electrodes for Dye-sensitized Solar Cells

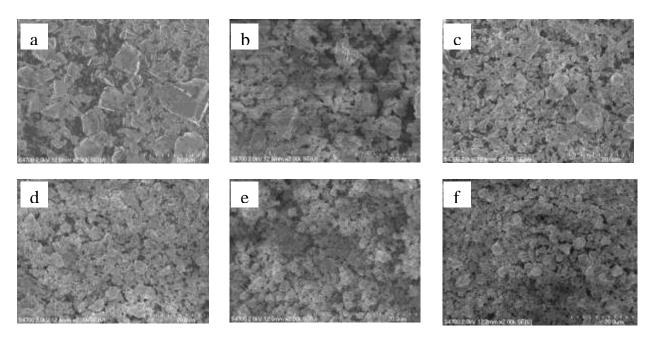
Wei Wei, Hui Wang, and Yun Hang Hu\*

Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Michigan Technological University, 1400

Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931-1295, USA.

\*Corresponding author: yunhangh@mtu.edu

## 1. SEM images of ZrN with ball-milling, which were obtained using a Hitachi-4700 field emission scanning electron microscope (FESEM).



**Figure 1S.** FESEM images of: (a) ZrN without ball-milling, (b) ZrN with ball-milling for 10min, (c) ZrN with ball-milling for 30min, (d) ZrN with ball-milling for 1h, (e) ZrN with ball-milling for 5h, and (f) ZrN with ball-milling for 10h.

## 2. The sizes of secondary particles of ZrN with ball-milling, which were estimated from SEM images.

Table 1S. Secondary particle sizes of ZrN with various ball-milling times

Ball-milling time (min)	Size range of secondary particles (nm)
0	1000-20000
10	500-10000
30	200-5000
60	80-3000
300	40-2000
600	20-1000

Note: The sizes of secondary particles (comprised of primary crystal particles) from SEM are much

larger than corresponding primary crystal particle sizes obtained from XRD (Table 3).