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Title: Green synthesis of mesoporous γ -Al₂O₃ from coal fly ash with simultaneous on-site utilization of CO₂

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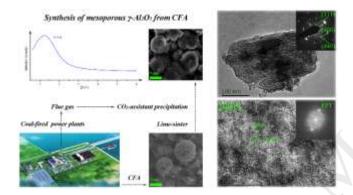
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Graphical Abstract



Highlights

- Facile conversion of coal fly ash into highly ordered mesoporous γ-Al₂O₃.
- Practical extraction technique and high extraction efficiency of aluminum.
- Green and rapid synthesis of γ-Al₂O₃ through the CO₂-assistant precipitation.
- Synthetic product shows crystalline framework walls and ordered mesostructure

ABSTRACT: Mesoporous Al_2O_3 with crystalline framework walls has expanded all over the world due to the various potential applications especially in catalysis. Here, we develop a green and facile approach for the conversion of coal fly ash (CFA) into ordered mesoporous γ - Al_2O_3 . The practical and promising lime-sinter method was comprehensively studied for the extraction of aluminum from CFA as a first step. The extraction efficiency of aluminum could reach up to 87.42%, through calcining with $CaCO_3$ at 1390°C for 1 h and then dissolving in Na_2CO_3 solution at 70°C for 0.5 h. Combined with the urgent demand for CO_2 emission reduction, simulated purified flue gas was introduced to precipitate the $Al(OH)_3$ precursors without structure-directing agents for just 1 h, followed by calcining at only 400°C or 550°C. A series of characterizations were conducted to discuss the effect of precipitation temperature and calcination temperature, resulting the superior product $(Al_2O_3-65/550)$ with high surface area $(230.3 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1})$, crystalline

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