

# **Sandia Materials for the Capture, Storage or Purification of Radiological Ions and Gases**

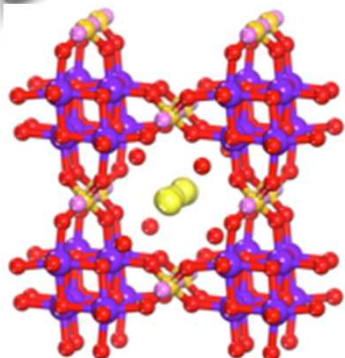
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Albuquerque, NM 87185

August 2014  
Sandia Japan Visit

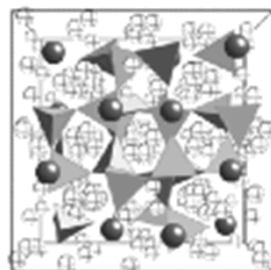
Separations and waste forms research is currently funded under the DOE/NE-FCR&D Separations and Waste Form Campaign.

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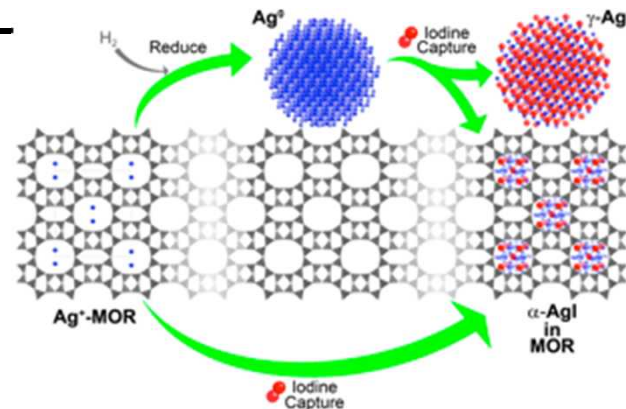
# Nenoff, et.al., Portfolio of NE related Technologies: Novel Separations and Waste Forms



**CST, Cs<sup>+</sup> removal from water to Pollucite Waste Form**



R&D100 1996  
JACerS, **2009**, 92(9), 2144  
JACerS, **2011**, 94(9), 3053  
Solvent Extr. & Ion Exch, **2012**, 30, 33

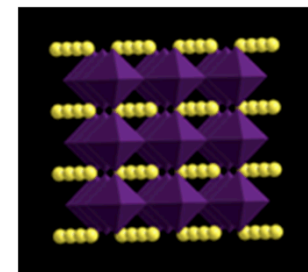
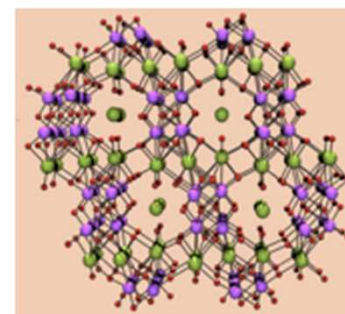


**Ag-MOR**  
**I<sub>2</sub>(g) capture & mechanisms**

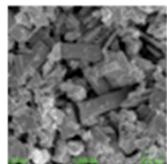
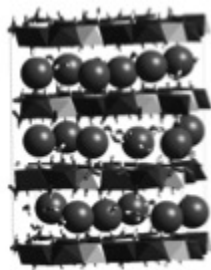
JACS, **2010**, 132(26), 8897  
J Phys Chem Letters, **2011**, 2, 2742

Applied Geochem, **2011**, 26, 57

**Fundamental Research to  
Applied to Commercial Products  
Design the Separation Material  
To Develop the Waste Form**



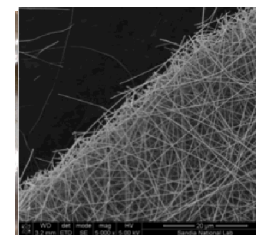
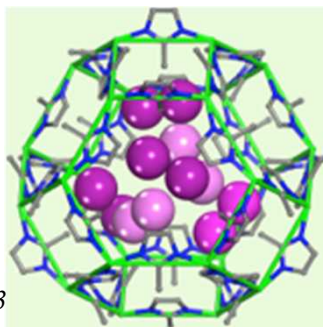
**Sr<sup>2+</sup> getter, 1-step to  
Perovskite waste form**  
JACS, **2002**, 124(3), 1704



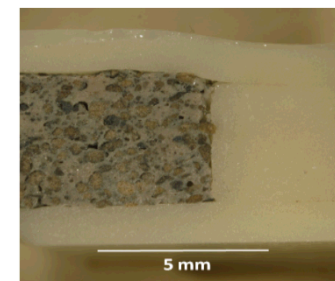
**In-situ Iodine  
removal from water**

**I<sub>2</sub>/MOF, Isolation  
to Waste Form**

JACS, **2011**, 133(32), 12398  
Ind.Eng. Chem.Res, **2012**,  
51(2), 614  
Provisional Patent Oct 2013



**Nanoporous Nanofibers  
Volatile Gas Removal**  
US Patent Application, 2011



**Universal Core-Shell Glass Waste  
Form Iodine & Getter**

JACerS, **2011**, 94(8), 2412  
US Patent 8,262,950

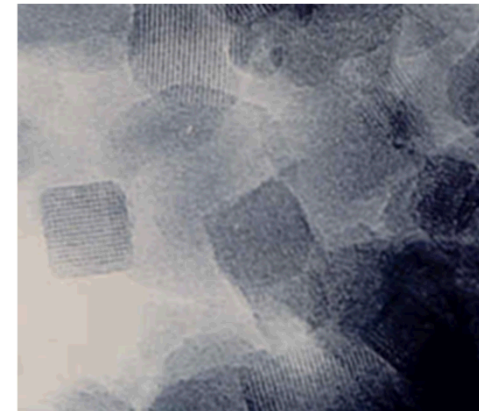
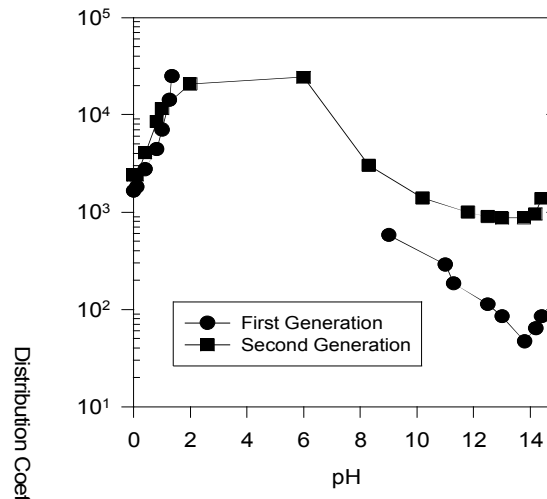
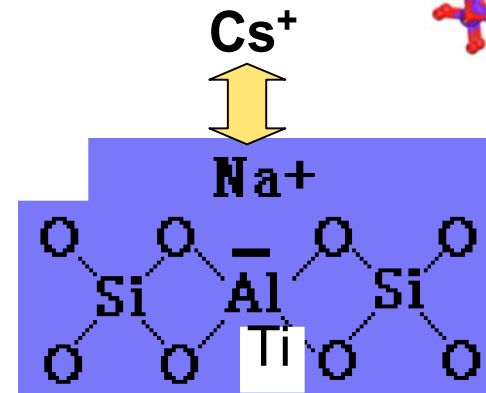
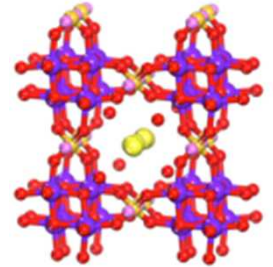
# Removal of Rad-Cs<sup>+</sup> from Pooled Seawater (heat treat to Pollucite WF or add into SNL GCM)

## Crystalline Silicotitanates (CSTs)

With exceptional Cs<sup>+</sup> selectivity, and mechanical, thermal and radiological stability

### CST properties:

- Removes 1 part Cs per 100,000 parts Na
- Stable over entire pH range
- Stable in extreme environments
- *Commercially available as IONSIV™ IE-910 & IE-911*



20 nm

# Sandia Octahedral Molecular Sieves (SOMS)

## Selectivity (heat treat to perovskite WF)

*Radionuclides* ←

*High concentration  
in natural systems* ←

*Industrial  
Waste  
Metals*

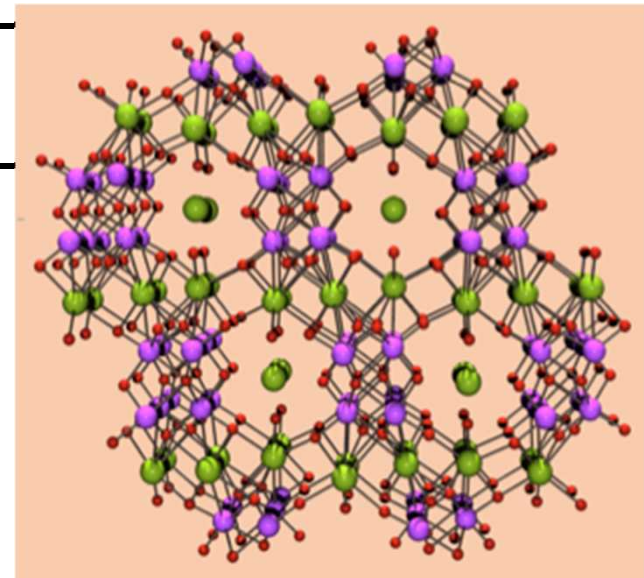
metal ion	Ti-niobate phase Nb:Ti = 1:4	Zr-niobate phase Nb:Zr = 1:6
Ba <sup>2+</sup>	> 99,800 *	> 99,800 *
Sr <sup>2+</sup>	> 99,800 *	> 99,800 *
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	2,300	2,657
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	226	458
Pb <sup>2+</sup>	66,467	22,022
Cr <sup>3+</sup>	> 99,800 *	> 99,800 *
Co <sup>2+</sup>	> 99,800 *	> 99,800 *
Ni <sup>2+</sup>	> 99,800 *	> 99,800 *
Zn <sup>2+</sup>	> 99,800 *	> 99,800 *
Cd <sup>2+</sup>	> 99,800 *	> 99,800 *
Cs <sup>+</sup>	150	169
K <sup>+</sup>	95	153
Li <sup>+</sup>	8	35

*Instead use  
CST:  
high  
selectivity*

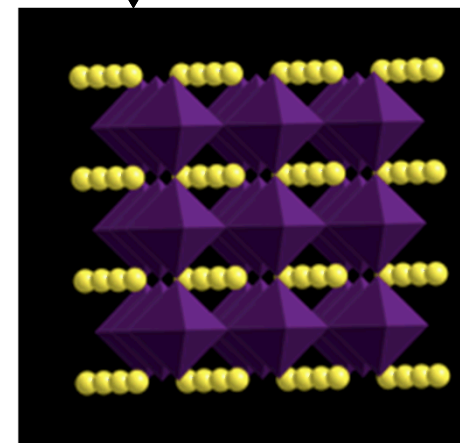
$$K_d = [M]_{ie} / [M]_{sol}$$

\* 0.1 ppm detection limit

K<sub>d</sub> obtained from 50 ppm metal ion solutions (no competing ions)



450°C heat treat  
1 step to waste form  
to perovskite





Separations of non-burnable volatile fission products and lesser actinides

Gamma Irradiation Studies at Sandia's GIF  
Show structure stability and iodine retention

*At Sandia, we have a number of new phases with high selectivity for various fission gases*

## Use of Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs) for Radiological Gas Sorption

### Depending on Selectivity Needs: Tunability of MOFs

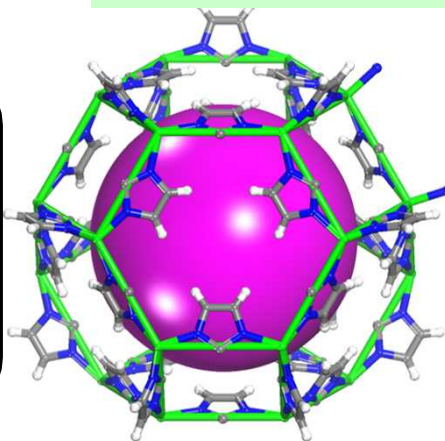
Size (Pore) vs. Open Metal Center

Hydrophobic vs Hydrophilic MOFs

For I<sub>2</sub> Sorption in complex stream (eg., H<sub>2</sub>O)

*JACS*, 2011, 133 (32), 12398

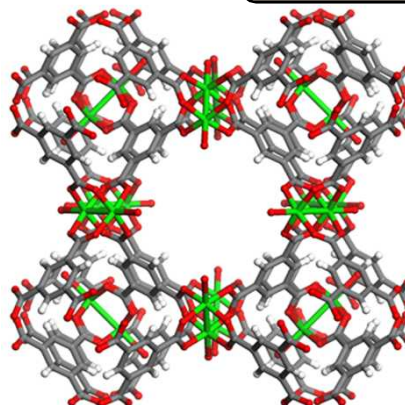
Basolite Z1200, ZIF-8  
Constricted Pore Opening ( $\approx 3.4\text{\AA}$ )  
1100 – 1600 m<sup>2</sup>/g  
Pore Volume = 0.636 cc/g  
stable in Air & H<sub>2</sub>O  
High Selectivity for I<sub>2</sub>, slow kinetics



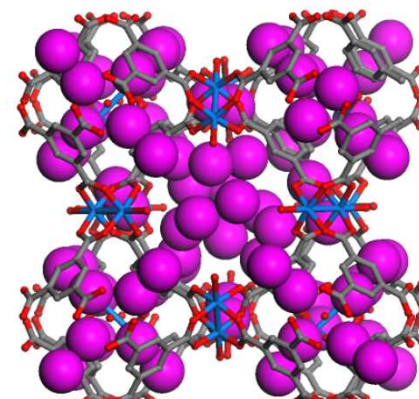
I<sub>2</sub>@ZIF-8 ~ 125 wt.% I<sub>2</sub>

*Chem. Mater.*, 2013, 25 (13), 2591

Basolite C300, Cu-BTC, HKUST-1  
Open Channels,  $\approx 1\text{nm}$  in 3D  
1500-2100 m<sup>2</sup>/g  
Exposed Metal Sites of Framework  
I<sub>2</sub> selectivity in Humid Stream



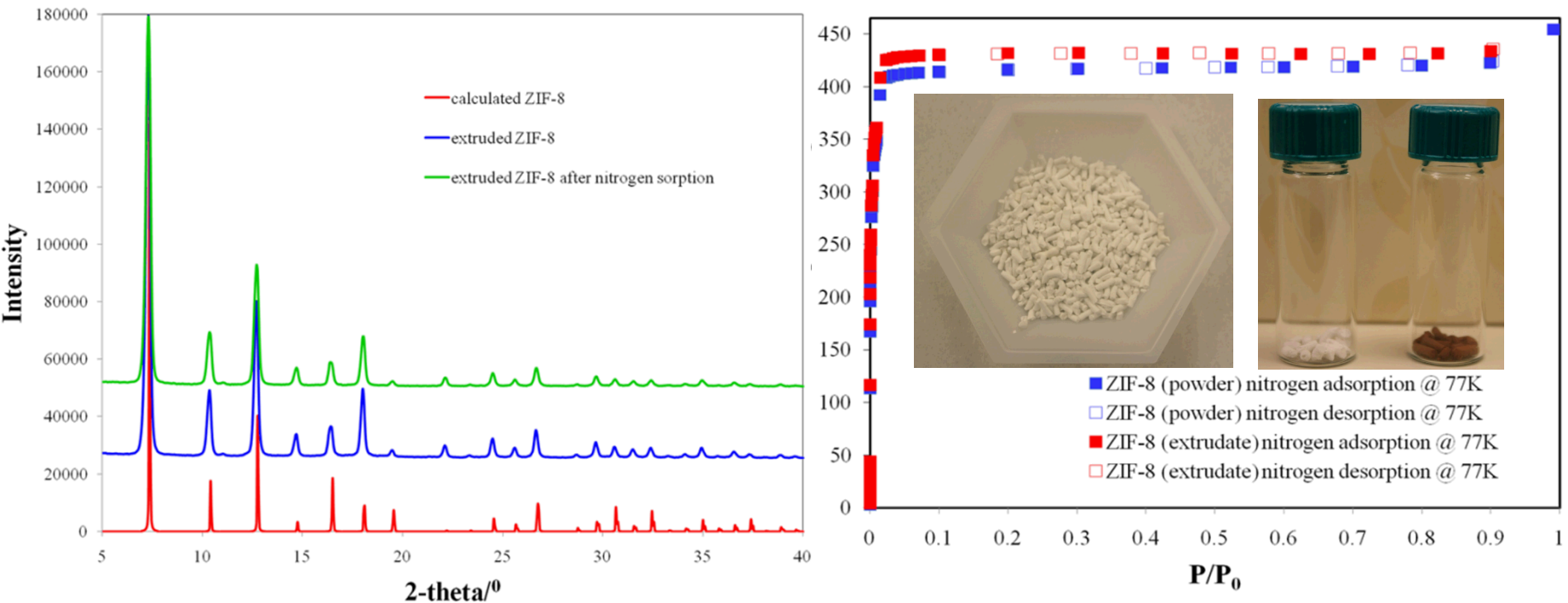
I<sub>2</sub>@HKUST-1 ~ 175 wt.% I<sub>2</sub>



# MOF Pelletizing / Characterization for Industrial Applications

## Example utilizing ZIF-8

*US Patent submitted, 2014*



Regularly sized pellets  
Maintained surface area of MOF  
1850-1900 m<sup>2</sup>/g  
3.5 grams prepared

# Long Term Storage of Fission Gas Capture Materials: Waste Forms

Homogenous Glass GCM: for  
AgI or AgI-MOR off-gas capture and storage



50 wt% AgI/50 wt% Glass  
500°C for 3 hr



50 wt% AgI/50 wt% Glass,  
500°C for 3 hr

**All These waste forms have been made with the  
SNL Low Temperature Sintering Oxide Glass**

No HIP-ping needed: Sintering 550°C

Accepting of all types of rad-loaded getters:

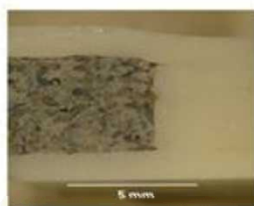
zeolites (AgI-MOR), Metals (AgI), MOFs (I<sub>2</sub>-MOF), and Cs-CSTs

Durability studies: equal to better performance than basalt glass

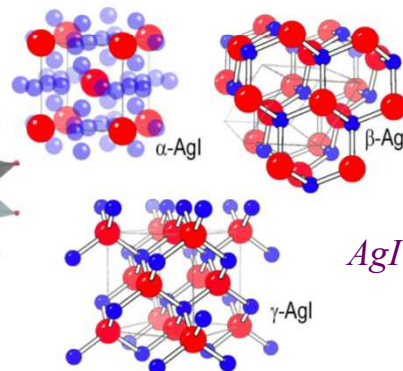
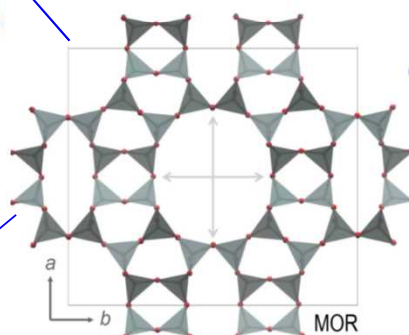
Core-Shell GCM Glass Waste Forms



Glass shell, AgI/glass core,  
75/25



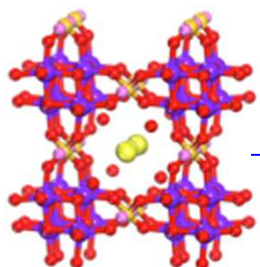
Glass shell,  
AgI-MOR/Ag/Glass core 80/20/5



*AgI bp 556° C*

*JACerS*, 2011, 94(8), 2412

***Cs-CST in Low Temp Glass  
Waste Form, No Cs Loss in Sintering***

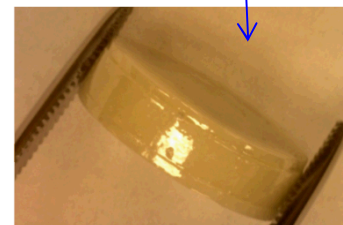
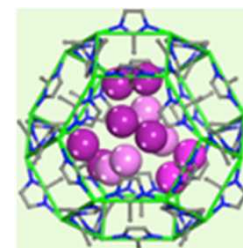


***I<sub>2</sub>/MOF, Isolation  
to Waste Form***

*JACS*, 2011, 133(32), 12398

*Ind. Eng. Chem. Res* (Invited Article)

2012, 51(2), 614

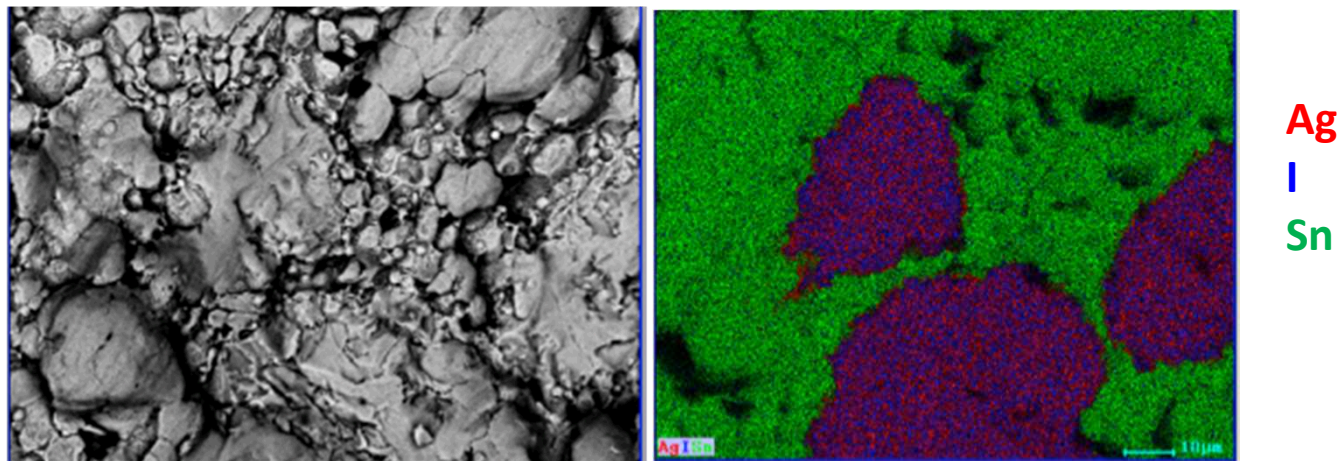




# Metal Matrix Waste Form



- Highly attractive to encapsulate iodine-loaded zeolites and MOFs due to low temperature processability.
- This methodology prevents the use of expensive Ag for both the getter material and the waste form.
- Potential to incorporate a very high capacity of iodine into a final waste form.
- Waste form durability testing procedures need to be established.



SEM-EDS image of Sn with 25% AgI waste form





# Nenoff, et. al., Patents Awarded and Pending Related to Nuclear Fuel and Legacy Waste

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## **U.S. PATENTS**

### **Awarded/Filed**

- Cesium Silicotitanates for Ion Exchange and Waste Storage, 6,482,380, November 19, 2002.
- Niobate-based octahedral molecular sieves, 6,596,254, July 22, 2003.
- Niobate-based octahedral molecular sieves, 7,122,164, October 17, 2006.
- Low Sintering Temperature Glass Waste Form for Sequestering Radioactive Iodine, 8,262,950, September 11, 2012
- Mixed-Layered Bismuth-Oxygen-Iodine Materials for Capture and Waste Disposal of Radioactive Iodine, 8,383,021, February 2013

### **Applications**

- An Inexpensive Method for bulk synthesis and Commercial Scale up of SOMS: Sandia Octahedral Molecular Sieves (2006)
- Pelletized Molecular Sieves and Method of Making Pelletized Molecular Sieves (Nonprovisional Patent Application, SD11971), 11/07/12.
- Metal Matrix Waste Forms for Fission Products. (Aug 2013)

Interested in learning more about Tech Transfer Possibilities in  
(1) getter materials, (2) waste forms and (3) engineered/ pelletized getter materials