

Information for Authors of ACS Energy Letters Papers

(revised 2/1/18)

Contents (click on the topic)

Journal Scope

Manuscript Types

Manuscript Preparation Manuscript Format • Supporting Information for Publication • Supporting Information for Review • References • Funding Sources • Preparing and Submitting Manuscripts Using TeX/LaTeX • ACS Math Style • Data Management and Reporting of Raw Data

Manuscript Revision

Artwork

Submission of Manuscripts Prior Publication Policy/Preprint Servers • Assistance with English Language Editing • Review Process • Just Accepted Manuscripts

Ethics Multiple Reporting of Research • Plagiarism • Coauthorship • Conflict of Interest Disclosure • Professional Ethics • Author List • Patent Activities and Intellectual Property Issues

General Information Best Practices in Reporting Experimental Results • Nomenclature • Journal Publishing Agreement • Proofs • ACS Policies for E-prints • Open Access • Manuscript Transfer

Multimedia • Videos

Appendices Appx A: Manuscript Preparation • Appx B: Artwork • Appx C: Submission of Manuscripts • Appx D: Guidelines for Video Production

Review-Ready Submission

Beginning in 2018, all ACS journals have simplified their formatting requirements in favor of a streamlined and standardized review-ready format for an *initial* manuscript submission. This change allows authors to focus on the scientific content needed for efficient review rather than on formatting concerns. It will also help ensure that reviewers are able to focus on the scientific merit of a submission during the peer review process. Review-Ready Submission will also reduce the effort needed to revise formatting should a manuscript be transferred as a submission to a different ACS journal. Authors will be asked to attend to any journal-specific formatting requirements during manuscript revision.

Manuscripts submitted for initial consideration **must** adhere to these standards:

- Submissions must be complete with clearly identified standard sections used to report original research, free of annotations or highlights, and include all numbered and labeled components.
- Figures, charts, tables, schemes, and equations should be embedded in the text. Separate graphics can be supplied at revision.
- When required by a journal's structure or length limitations, manuscript templates should be used.
- References can be provided in any style, but they must be complete, including titles.
- Supporting Information should be submitted as a separate file(s).
- Author names and affiliations on the manuscript must match what is entered into ACS Paragon Plus.

Journal Scope

ACS Energy Letters is dedicated to publishing new and original experimental and theoretical results dealing with all aspects of energy conversion and storage that report **significant advance and/or insight** such that rapid publication is essential.

Manuscript Types

Letters are short articles that report results whose immediate availability to the scientific community is deemed important. Letters are limited to 2500 words or the equivalent (8–10 double-spaced typewritten pages of text, 3–4 figures, and 1–2 schemes/illustrations). A brief abstract of fewer than 150 words should be included. Special effort is made to expedite the reviewing and the publication of *ACS Energy Letters* papers. Thus, Authors should ensure that manuscripts are in final, error-free form when submitted.

Energy Express articles allow authors to publish breakthrough preliminary findings with great speed. Papers considered as Energy Express articles are peer-reviewed communications that represent major breakthroughs, urgency, and broad interest. Energy Express are short (**1–2 printed pages, ~1000 words**), consist of no more than **two graphics** (one scheme, one figure and/or a table) with a **brief discussion of results/analysis**. Authors must present their breakthrough advance in a **1–2-sentence (max) abstract** and highlight the broader appeal in the first paragraph of the introduction. The number of **references should not exceed 15**. It is important to adhere to these guidelines to avoid significant editing or requests to cut content at the galley stage. The TOC graphic should be a scheme or illustration. A brief statement explaining how the manuscript meets the criteria of rapid communication should be included in the author's cover letter.

Perspectives (by invitation only) are brief, peer-reviewed reports (4–6 journal pages) highlighting an emerging topic of broad interest to energy researchers. These reports are not intended to be a comprehensive look at the field but rather to place a particular research finding into broader context. The emphasis should be on the future outlook of an emerging topic rather than a historical overview of it. Perspectives should include a brief abstract (150 words max), approximately 50 references, and a TOC/Abstract graphic, short Author biographies, and selected quotes to highlight key topics in the Perspective. The quotes **must be unique to the current work being reported and not from previously cited work**. Authors of Perspectives are encouraged to also submit a video (3–5 min clip) highlighting the theme of their Perspective.

Reviews (by invitation only) are similar to Perspectives but offer a more comprehensive look at an emerging topic (6–10 journal pages). Authors of Reviews are encouraged to also submit a video (3–5 min clip) highlighting the theme of their Review.

Viewpoints (by invitation only) are short Editorial Features that comment on a specific research topic, provide educational insight into a research problem, or express scientific analysis/views on an energy topic (2–3 journal pages). If you have a topic that you think should be considered for publication as a Viewpoint article, please contact the Editorial Office (eic@energylett.acs.org).

Energy Focus articles (by invitation only) are short Editorial Features (1–3 journal pages) that alert the readership to interesting energy-related developments from around the world. They focus on scientific meetings, policy, education, or interviews with distinguished scientists. If you have a topic that you think should be considered for publication as an Energy Focus article, please contact the Editorial Office (eic@energylett.acs.org).

Additions and Corrections are Authors' corrections to published manuscripts and are limited to the length required to correct the errors. **Once an article appears on the Web as ASAP, no changes can be made to the original published manuscript. An Addition and Correction must be submitted to incorporate any changes.** The corresponding author should obtain approval from all of the article Coauthors prior to submitting an Addition and Correction. All Additions and Corrections are subject to final approval by the Editor.

Retractions. Articles may be retracted for scientific or ethical reasons. Articles that contain seriously flawed or erroneous data such that their findings and conclusions cannot be relied upon may be retracted in order to correct the scientific record. Retractions may be requested by the article author(s) or by the Journal Editor(s) but are ultimately published at the discretion of the Editor. The American Chemical Society follows guidance from the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) when considering retractions; for more information see: <http://publicationethics.org/>.

Expressions of Concern. The American Chemical Society (ACS) follows guidance from the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) when considering expressions of concern; for more information see: <http://publicationethics.org/>. In accordance with COPE guidelines, expressions of concern may be issued if:

- there is inconclusive evidence of research or publication misconduct by the authors;
- there is evidence that the findings are unreliable but the authors' institution will not investigate the case;
- an investigation into alleged misconduct related to the publication either has not been, or would not be, fair and impartial or conclusive;
- an investigation is underway but a judgment will not be available for a considerable time.

Expressions of concern are published at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief. Upon completion of any related investigation, and when a final determination is made about the outcome of the article, the expression of concern may be replaced with a retraction notice or correction.

Manuscript Preparation (See [Appx. A](#) for additional information)

Manuscript Format

Manuscripts must be prepared using accepted word-processing software. All pages must be numbered consecutively starting with the title page and including tables and figures. A standard font, in a size of 12 points or greater, must be used. Templates and instructions for software, including TeX/LaTeX, are available on the Web. An Editorial with useful advice on constructing an effective scientific paper can be found at DOI: [10.1021/jz4006916](https://doi.org/10.1021/jz4006916).

[*The ACS Style Guide*](#) (3rd ed., 2006; ISBN13: 9780841239999) is available. The Third Edition is the definitive source for all information needed to write, review, submit, and edit scholarly and scientific manuscripts. Refer to a current issue of the Journal for general style.

Authors are encouraged to use a [Document Template](#) when preparing their manuscript. If authors would like to use their own document, the various sections of the manuscript should be **assembled in the order listed below without section headers**, with the exception of a header for the Experimental Section and/or Computational Methods, which should be included at the end of the main text of the manuscript.

- Title, Authorship, Affiliations, and Corresponding Author(s) e-mail address(es) (single page)
- Abstract, Table of Contents Image (in this order, preferably on a single page)
- Main text: Introductory paragraph(s) – without “Introduction” header followed by discussion of Results – without “Results” header. Figures, Figure Captions, and Tables should be embedded within the text and not at the end of the manuscript (Paragraph headers may be used, as needed)
- Experimental Methods
- Supporting Information description, if any Supporting Information, in Supporting Information paragraph
- Author Information and Notes
- Acknowledgment
- References
- Supporting Information (for Publication or for Review Only), if any, each in separate files and uploaded separate from the manuscript

Supporting Information for Publication

Supporting information (SI) should be uploaded as separate files, with track changes off and no highlights. SI will be made available free of charge on the Web and can be accessed separately on the Web by readers. A paragraph must appear at the end of the manuscript (before the Acknowledgments and References) briefly describing the material available in SI. The following format should be used:

Supporting Information. Brief statements in nonsentence format listing the contents of the material supplied as Supporting Information.

Supporting Information for Review Only

Include copies of references that are unpublished or in press. Supporting Information for Review Only files are available only to the Editors and the Reviewers.

References

References to the literature should be numbered in **one consecutive series** by order of appearance in the text, with the text citations presented as unparenthesized superscript Arabic numbers.

Authors should consult [The ACS Style Guide](#) for the appropriate style to use in citations of journal papers, books, and other publications. References with more than 10 authors must list the first 10 authors, followed by “et al.” References will be linked to various electronic sources (e.g., the corresponding abstract from Chemical Abstracts Service, full text from other American Chemical Society Journals, etc.); therefore, the accuracy of references is critical. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of the references.

Unnecessarily long lists of references, including excessive self-citation, are to be avoided; however, authors must provide references to all relevant publications in which portions of the present work have appeared. URLs are not preferred references since Website content can be modified and, consequently, the reference information may lack permanence.

Journal references should contain author names, article title (preferably written in title case), abbreviated journal title, year, volume, and pages (first–last). An example is provided below.

Markevich, E.; Salitra, G.; Aurbach, D. Fluoroethylene Carbonate as an Important Component for the Formation of an Effective Solid Electrolyte Interphase on Anodes and Cathodes for Advanced Li-Ion Batteries. *ACS Energy Lett.* **2017**, *2*, 1337-1345.

The use of title case is preferred, but authors may choose to write the titles of their journal articles and books in sentence case. All references should be written either entirely in title case or in sentence case.

For work published online (ASAP) and work submitted for publication (e.g., submitted; in press), the DOI should be furnished in addition to the standard bibliographic information. DOI is an accepted form of citation before the article appears in an issue.

Long, X.; Lin, H.; Zhou, D., An, Y.; Yang, S. Enhancing Full Water-Splitting Performance of Transition Metal Bifunctional Electrocatalysts in Alkaline Solutions by Tailoring CeO₂-Transition Metal Oxides-Ni Nanointerfaces. *ACS Energy Lett.* **2018**, DOI: 10.1021/acsenergylett.7b01130.

Book references should contain author names, book title (preferably written in title case), publisher, city, and year. An example is provided below.

Kholevo, A. S. *Probabilistic and Statistical Aspects of Quantum Theory*; Springer Link: Pisa, Italy, 2011.

In literature references, journal abbreviations should be those used by Chemical Abstracts Service [see [Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index \(CASSI\) 1907–2004](#)].

Additional comments should be placed in the Supporting Information (SI) rather than in references. Supplementary references may be placed in SI; however, any reference that is used in the SI only should not be cited in the paper. Submitted papers should not depend on unpublished material, and excessive reference to material in press or reports not readily found in research libraries is discouraged. If pertinent references are in press or unpublished for any reason, upload copies of the references as Supporting Information for Review Only to enable Reviewers to evaluate the manuscript. Papers accepted for publication are cited as “in press”; the journal abbreviation should be provided, and the DOI should be given if the paper is published online.

Unpublished references or private communication should not be included in the reference list. Place “(unpublished results)” in the manuscript text immediately following the information. (This is because readers will not have access to unpublished references.) Written permission is needed from the communicant(s) to use information discussed in private conversations.

Funding Sources

Authors are required to report ALL funding sources and grant/award numbers relevant to this manuscript. Enter all sources of funding for ALL authors relevant to this manuscript in BOTH the Open Funder Registry tool in ACS Paragon Plus and in the manuscript to meet this requirement. See http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/funder_options.html for complete instructions.

Institution Identification

Many Funders and Institutions require that institutional affiliations are identified for all authors listed in the work being submitted. ACS facilitates this requirement by collecting institution information during manuscript submission under Step 2: Authors and Affiliations in ACS Paragon Plus.

Preparing and Submitting Manuscripts Using TeX/LaTeX

Authors who submit manuscripts composed in TeX/LaTeX should submit a PDF file of the manuscript along with the native TeX/LaTeX manuscript package as a ZIP Archive. Use of the freely available **achemso style package** to help prepare your submission is strongly encouraged. The achemso package provides the official macros (achemso.cls) and BibTeX styles (achemso.bst and biochem.bst) for submission to ACS journals. The package and instructions are available from [CTAN, the Comprehensive TeX Archive Network](#). For complete information on submitting TeX/LaTeX files, see [Preparing and Submitting Manuscripts Using TeX/LaTeX](#).

ACS Math Style

Authors including math, display or in-text, in their manuscripts are encouraged to consult the [ACS Guidelines for Presenting Mathematical Information](#). This style sheet provides brief discussion of formatting related to the presentation of mathematical formulas, complete with examples of ACS style and layout. This document was developed to help authors anticipate how mathematical expressions will be formatted in the published version of the paper.

Data Management and Reporting of Raw Data

Authors are encouraged to report all data that are either necessary for reproduction of results or are reported in the manuscript's figures, charts, and tables as Supporting Information (SI). Per ACS policy, the SI is immediately publicly available free of charge on the internet upon publication, regardless of whether or not the accompanying article is made open access.

Manuscript Revision

Before submitting your revision, be sure your manuscript is publication-ready and that you have:

- Addressed the reviewer comments and provided a point-by-point response to their comments
- Addressed the editorial comments (formatting issues, figure captions, etc.)
- Uploaded "clean" and "marked" copies of your manuscript file and Supporting Information for Publication file, if any. Designate the "clean" (unmarked) copies as Manuscript file and Supporting Information for Publication, respectively. Upload the annotated ("marked") copies showing the changes you made using the file designation "Other Files for Editors Only"

Artwork (See [Appx. B](#) for additional information)

Figures and tables that will appear in the published article are to be inserted directly in the main body of the manuscript and not included in the Supporting Information. Authors should review the [Acceptable Software](#) for graphic formats and guidelines for [Preparing Manuscript Graphics](#). All graphics must be created in digital format. In general, graphics should be copied from the graphics program window and pasted directly into the manuscript. The Author should make sure that the graphic is at the appropriate resolution (see below) before copying and pasting. The graphics should be resized in the graphics program and then pasted into the manuscript. The Author should not resize graphics after they are pasted into Word. This instruction is true regardless of the graphic format (cds, tif, eps, pdf, etc.). Text in graphics should be readable when the image is viewed actual size (100%).

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Submission of Manuscripts (See [Appx. C](#) for additional information)

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically via the ACS Paragon Plus Environment (<https://acs.manuscriptcentral.com/acs>). Platforms, word processing packages, and instructions for submitting TeX/LaTeX are available via the Submission and Review page of the Website.

Due to security features, only Editors and assigned Reviewers will be able to access the manuscript once it is submitted.

All manuscripts must be accompanied by a **cover letter** that contains **clear and precise** information about the submission and **highlights the significance** of the work. Please use official letterhead of the Author's affiliation that lists the mailing address and e-mail address.

Prior Publication Policy/Preprint Servers

ACS Energy Letters authors are allowed to deposit an initial draft of their manuscript in a preprint repository such as [ChemRxiv](#), arXiv, or bioRxiv. It is recommended that authors check with the editorial office prior to the deposition of their paper on a preprint server. Please note that any use of a preprint server needs to be disclosed in the cover letter during submission and, as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission.

Publication of a preprint or extended abstract in an ACS division meeting preprint book, in either print or electronic format, does not preclude consideration of a manuscript for publication, provided that the manuscript includes significant new information and data beyond what was in the preprint or extended abstract. It is the author's responsibility to provide the Editor with copies of any relevant preprint(s).

The Editors will make the decision on the suitability of the paper for publication. Upon publication in *ACS Energy Letters*, authors are advised to add a link from the preprint to the published paper via the citation and Digital Object Identifier (DOI).

Assistance with English Language Editing

Standard American English usage is required. Authors who are not familiar with standard American English are urged to seek assistance; deficiencies in grammar may be a serious hindrance during the review process. Authors may want professional assistance with improving the English, figures, or formatting in their manuscript before submission. ACS ChemWorx Authoring Services can save you time and improve the communication of research in your manuscript. You can learn more about the services offered at <http://es.acschemworx.acs.org>.

Review Process

There are basically three steps in the review process:

Step 1 – Administrative Review

The manuscript submission is checked for completeness; e.g., complete author information provided, all files are present, no missing graphics, correct format.

Step 2 – Editorial Review

All manuscripts are reviewed and handled by one of the Editors. The Editors may reject a manuscript after Editorial review if that paper is judged to be outside the scope of the Journal, poorly written or formatted, fragmentary and marginally incremental, or not demonstrating new or significant advance.

Step 3 – Peer Review

Papers that clear both the Administrative review and Editorial review are sent for Peer review. The Editors request the scientific advice of Reviewers who are active in the area of research covered by the manuscript. The Reviewers act only in an advisory capacity, and the final decision concerning a manuscript is the responsibility of the Editors. The Reviewers are asked to comment not only on the scientific content but also on the manuscript's suitability for *ACS Energy Letters* and **urgency of publication**. The Reviewers are asked to evaluate the following: (1) originality and new scientific advance of the work, (2) broad appeal to energy researchers, (3) how well the conclusions are supported by the data, (4) clarity of the paper, and (5) how well the paper provides new scientific insights. All reviews are anonymous to the authors, and the reviewing process is most effective if Reviewers do not reveal their identities to the Authors.

When revisions are requested by the Editor, the Author should provide a cover letter with the revised manuscript to detail how the Author responded to the Reviewers' comments.

Just Accepted Manuscripts

Just Accepted manuscripts are peer-reviewed, accepted manuscripts that are posted on the ACS Publications Website prior to technical editing, formatting for publication, and author proofing—usually within 30 minutes to 24 hours of acceptance by the Editorial office. During the manuscript submission process, Authors can choose to have their manuscript posted online as a *Just Accepted* manuscript. To ensure rapid delivery of the accepted manuscript to the Web, Authors must adhere carefully to all requirements in the Journal's Author Guidelines. For further information, please refer to the [Just Accepted FAQ](#). Note that publishing a manuscript as Just Accepted is not a means by which to comply with the [NIH Public Access Mandate](#).

Ethics

The complete document "Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research" is available at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/policy/ethics/index.html>.

Multiple Reporting of Research

It is improper for an Author to submit manuscripts describing essentially the same research simultaneously to more than one journal.

Plagiarism

The Editors of *ACS Energy Letters* will not tolerate plagiarism. This includes the verbatim copying of previously published work from other Authors and by the same Author. Please contact the Editors if there are questions about avoiding plagiarism.

Coauthorship

The submitting Author must obtain consent of Coauthorship from all Coauthors listed prior to submitting the manuscript and include as Coauthors all individuals who made significant scientific contributions to the work. Any disagreement between the Corresponding Author and Coauthor(s) after submission will cause review of the manuscript to cease.

Removal, addition, or rearrangement of Coauthor(s) after submission of the manuscript requires confirmation in writing (e-mail or fax) by all Coauthor(s) and approval by the Editor. The corresponding author must provide a valid reason for the requested change in authorship.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

A statement describing any financial conflicts of interest, or lack thereof, is published with each manuscript. During the submission process, the corresponding author must provide this statement on behalf of all authors of the manuscript. The statement should describe all potential sources of author bias, including affiliations, funding sources, and financial or management relationships, that may constitute conflicts of interest (please see the [ACS Ethical Guidelines](#)). The statement will be published in the final article. If no conflict of interest is declared, the following statement will be published in the article: "The authors declare no competing financial interest."

Professional Ethics

In publishing only original research, ACS is committed to deterring plagiarism, including self-plagiarism. ACS Publications uses CrossCheck's iThenticate software to screen submitted manuscripts for similarity to published material. Note that your manuscript may be screened during the submission process. Further information about plagiarism can be found in Part B of the [Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research](#).

Author List

During manuscript submission, the submitting author must provide contact information (full name, e-mail address, institutional affiliation, and mailing address) for all of the Coauthors. Because all of the author names are automatically imported into the electronic Journal Publishing Agreement, the names must be entered into ACS Paragon Plus in the same sequence as they appear on the first page of the manuscript. The author who submits the manuscript for publication accepts the responsibility of notifying all Coauthors that the manuscript is being submitted. For more information on ethical responsibilities of authors, see the [Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research](#).

Patent Activities and Intellectual Property Issues

Authors are responsible for ensuring that all patent activities and intellectual property issues are satisfactorily resolved prior to first publication (Just Accepted, ASAP, or in issue). Acceptance and publication will not be delayed for pending or unresolved issues of this nature.

General Information

Best Practices in Reporting Experimental Results

Teams of ACS editors have identified best practices in certain fields to guide Authors in the reporting of experimental results. Please refer to them, as needed:

- Best Practices for the Reporting of Colloidal Inorganic Nanomaterials (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.chemmater.5b02323>)
- Best Practices for Reporting on Energy Storage (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acsami.5b06029>)
- Best Practices in Perovskite Solar Cell Efficiency Measurements. Avoiding the Error of *Making Bad Cells Look Good* (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.jpcllett.5b00289>)
- Best Practices for Reporting on Heterogeneous Photocatalysis (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/am504389z>)
- Best Practice in Photocatalysis: Comparing Rates of Apparent Quantum Yields? (<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.jpcllett.5b00521>)

Nomenclature

Registered trademark names should be capitalized whenever used. Please note that the trademark symbol is not used per ACS style. Trade and trivial names should not be capitalized. Usually, the chemical name or composition should be given in parentheses or in a reference at the first occurrence of such a name. Nomenclature should conform with current American usage. Insofar as possible, Authors should use systematic names similar to those used by Chemical Abstracts Service and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

Chemical Abstracts (CA) nomenclature rules are described in Appendix IV of the *Chemical Abstracts Index Guide*. For CA nomenclature advice, consult the Manager of Nomenclature Services, Chemical Abstracts Service, P.O. Box 3012, Columbus, OH 43210-0012. A name generation service is available for a fee through CAS Client Services, 2540 Olentangy River Road, P.O. Box 3343, Columbus, OH 43210-0334; phone, (614) 447-3870; fax, (614) 447-3747; or e-mail, answers@cas.org.

Journal Publishing Agreement

A properly completed and signed Journal Publishing Agreement must be submitted for each manuscript. ACS Paragon Plus provides an electronic version of the Agreement that will be available on the **My Authoring Activity** tab of the Corresponding Author's Home page once the manuscript has been assigned to an Editor. A PDF version of the Agreement is also available, but **Authors are strongly encouraged to use the electronic Journal Publishing Agreement**. If the PDF version is used, **all pages of the signed PDF Agreement must be submitted**. If the Corresponding Author cannot or should not complete either the electronic or PDF version for any reason, another Author should complete and sign the PDF version of the form. Forms and complete instructions are available at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/copyright/journals/index.html>.

Proofs

The corresponding author of an accepted manuscript will receive e-mail notification and complete instructions when page proofs are available for review via a secure Website. Authors will access the secure site through ACS ChemWorx and will need an ACS ID. To obtain an ACS ID or to reset your password, go to www.acschemworx.org. No paper is released for publication until an Author's corrected proof has been returned. The attention of the Authors is directed to the instructions that accompany the proof. Proofs should be checked against the manuscript and returned as soon as possible. Authors should provide proof changes within 48 hours of receiving the proofs via the secure Website given in the notification e-mail. Additionally, authors can submit their corrections by phone ((614) 441-3665), fax ((614) 447-3745), or e-mail (acsproof@acs.org).

Once proof corrections have been made and all Author concerns are resolved, the document will be immediately posted on the Journal's Website. Authors should take this into account when planning their intellectual and patent activities related to the document. Once published on the Web, no further changes can be made to the manuscript. After publication, all changes to a manuscript must be made through "Additions and Corrections."

ACS Policies for E-prints

Under the ACS Articles on Request policy, the Society will provide (free of charge) to all contributing authors a unique URL within the ACS Website that they may e-mail to colleagues or post on external Websites. These author-directed links are designed to facilitate distribution of an author's published work to interested colleagues. The ACS Articles on Request policy allows 50 downloads within the first year after Web publication and unlimited access via the same author-directed links 12 months after Web publication. For more details on ACS Articles on Request, please visit <http://pubs.acs.org/page/policy/articlesonrequest/index.html>. The Corresponding Author will be notified via e-mail of the ACS Articles on Request link when the paper is published ASAP (As Soon As Publishable).

Open Access

Open access options are available under the ACS AuthorChoice program for all ACS journals. Authors, institutions, or funding agencies can provide open access for any article that has been peer-reviewed by paying an article publishing charge once the article has been accepted for publication. ACS offers a wide range of options, including the ACS' license, ACS AuthorChoice (a noncommercial reuse license), and Creative Commons license options CC-BY and CC-BY-NC-ND. ACS also offers the option to choose immediate open access or delayed open access (12 months delayed at a reduced price). With open access, authors can request that ACS deposit the final published article to funder or government repositories, such as PMC, European PMC, and DOE PAGES. For more information, see <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/authorchoice/index.html>.

To purchase open access, ACS authors should first sign the Journals Publishing Agreement prior to acceptance. After an article has been peer-reviewed and if it is accepted, the corresponding author receives an email from ACS with instructions and a link into the Copyright Clearance Center's RightsLink ecommerce system to choose and purchase an open access license. For some funders, special arrangements have been made, and alternate processes may be provided in the email to the corresponding author (see http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/funder_options.html for details). Significant discounts are available for authors who are affiliated with an All Publications subscribing institution and for ACS members. For assistance with open access, please contact support@services.acs.org.

Manuscript Transfer

If your submission is declined for publication by this journal, the editors might deem your work to be better suited for another ACS Publications journal and suggest that the authors consider transferring the submission. Manuscript Transfer simplifies and shortens the process of submitting to another ACS journal, as all the coauthors, suggested reviewers, manuscript files, and responses to submission questions are copied by ACS Paragon Plus to the new draft submission. Authors are free to accept or decline the transfer offer.

Once a transfer is accepted, authors will then complete the submission to the new journal in ACS Paragon Plus. During the submission process, they will have the opportunity to revise the manuscript and address comments received from editors or reviewers. Requirements of the new journal may be different, so authors should also check the Author Guidelines for the new journal and

make any needed revisions in order to conform to those requirements. Please keep in mind that the reviews, reviewer identities, and decision letter will all be transferred to the new journal. Authors are encouraged to identify changes made to the manuscript in a cover letter for the new journal.

Note that transferring a manuscript is not a guarantee that the manuscript will be accepted, as the final publication decision will belong to the editor in the new journal. For complete details, see http://pubs.acs.org/page/policy/manuscript_transfer/index.html.

Multimedia

Multimedia is a creative way of further disseminating your work, gaining international exposure, and communicating with the scientific community at large.

Videos (for Perspectives and Review articles)

Videos provide authors the opportunity to communicate their involvement in a particular research theme and discuss issues related to an emerging topic. Videos provide increased visibility for the Perspective or Review and can be used as educational tools and for outreach activities (e.g., NSF grants). Perspective and Review authors are invited to submit a short, 3–5 minute video highlighting the theme of their article. (See [Appendix D](#) for instructions.) These videos can be viewed on the journal Website and on the ACS channel of YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/AmerChemSoc#p/c/DEE0898E6A1CE852>).

Appendix A – Additional Information on Manuscript Preparation

Title

The title should be specific, informative, concise, and accurately reflect the scientific content. Avoid using common phrases such as “investigation”, “study”, “demonstration”, or “performance evaluation”, uncommon acronyms, and words such as “First”, “Novel”, “Facile”, and “One-Pot” in the title and abstract. The title, authorship, and institutional affiliations should be included on the first page.

Authorship

Be consistent in authorship designation on the manuscript and on all correspondence. Authors’ names should be given in as complete a form as possible: first names, initials, and surnames. Give the complete mailing addresses of the institutions **where the work was conducted** and identify the affiliation of each Author. If the current address of an Author is different, include it in a footnote on the title page. The Corresponding Author(s) to whom inquiries about the paper should be addressed must be marked with an asterisk; provide the complete mailing address and e-mail address of this correspondent(s). **Note:** More than one Author may be designated as a co-corresponding Author in the published paper. Only one Author, however, may be designated as the corresponding Author while the manuscript is under review and revision in Paragon Plus.

ORCID

Authors submitting manuscript revisions are required to provide their own personal, validated ORCID iD before completing the submission, if an ORCID iD is not already associated with their ACS Paragon Plus user profiles. This iD may be provided during original manuscript submission or when submitting the manuscript revision. All authors are strongly encouraged to register for an ORCID iD, a unique researcher identifier. The ORCID iD will be displayed in the published article for any author on a manuscript who has a validated ORCID iD associated with ACS when the manuscript is accepted.

With an ORCID iD, you can create a profile of your research activities to distinguish yourself from other researchers with similar names and make it easier for your colleagues to find your publications. If you do not yet have an ORCID iD, or wish to associate your existing ORCID iD with your [ACS Paragon Plus](#) account, you may do so by following the ORCID-related links in the Email/Name section of your [ACS Paragon Plus](#) account. Learn more at <http://www.orcid.org>.

Abstract

The abstract for Letters, Perspectives, and Reviews should be a clear, concise, one paragraph summary (100–150 words) that appeals to energy researchers. The abstract should be informative rather than descriptive, giving scope, purpose, and significant results/conclusions. Reference citations should be avoided.

The abstract for Energy Express (1-2 sentence max.) should identify the breakthrough advance.

Abbreviations and acronyms should be defined upon first usage. Authors’ abstracts are used directly for *Chemical Abstracts*. Follow the recommended format when preparing the abstract.

Table of Contents (TOC) Graphic

A TOC graphic is required* and will be published with the Web Table of Contents and next to the Abstract. The illustration should capture the reader's attention and, in conjunction with the manuscript title, **give the readers a quick visual impression of the essence of the paper without providing specific results**. The graphic for the TOC should not be a duplicate of a graphic already used in the manuscript and should be in the form of a color scheme or image, structure, photograph, or reaction scheme. Color graphics are highly encouraged, with text kept to a minimum. The graphic must be submitted in the actual size to be used for the TOC, fitting in an area 2 in. high by 3 in. wide (5 cm × 7.5 cm). The type size of labels and other symbols within the graphic must be legible when the graphic is viewed at actual size. Tables, spectra, unprofessional images (cartoon characters, smiley faces, etc.), and copyrighted material without prior written permission are not acceptable. The TOC graphic should be submitted in the manuscript file **on the same page as the Abstract**.

*Note: Editorial Matter (Viewpoints and Energy Focus) does not have abstracts or TOC graphics.

Main Text (without section headers)

Limit the introductory section to one to two paragraphs (without headings). Discuss relationships of the study to previously published work, but do not reiterate or attempt to provide a complete literature survey. The purpose or reason for the research being reported and its significance, originality, or contribution to new knowledge in the field should be clearly and concisely stated. Do not include or summarize current findings in this section.

The Author should discuss the significance of observations, measurements, or computations and should also point out how they contribute to the scientific objectives indicated in the introductory portion of the paper.

Complicated chemical equations, schemes, and structures should be supplied as graphic images, ready for publication. Figures, schemes, and charts, along with their captions, **should be placed in the text where they are first mentioned** and numbered consecutively with Arabic numbers. Mathematical expressions and chemical formulas with uncommon symbols and letters should be clearly identified. Capital, lowercase, and Greek letters should be easily discernible or identified if ambiguity might result. Complicated superscripts and subscripts should be avoided.

Authors should consult recently published manuscripts on the [Journal home page](#) and [The ACS Style Guide](#) for examples of style and general recommendations. See also: Mills, I., et al.

Quantities, Units and Symbols in Physical Chemistry, 2nd ed.; Blackwell Scientific Publications: Oxford, U.K., 1993.

Tables

Tables should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numbers. Each table must have a brief title that describes its contents. The title should be understandable without reference to the text. Details should be put in footnotes, not in the title. Tables should be used when the data cannot be presented clearly as narrative, when many numbers must be presented, or when more meaningful interrelationships can be conveyed by the tabular format. Tables should supplement, not duplicate, information presented in the text and figures. Tables should be simple and concise and should be included in the text.

Define nonstandard abbreviations in footnotes. Footnotes in tables should be given letter designations and be cited in the table by italic superscript letters. The sequence of letters should proceed by row rather than by column. If a reference is cited both in the text and in a table, a lettered footnote that refers to the numbered reference in the text should be inserted in the table.

In setting up tables, Authors should keep in mind the area of the Journal's page (7 in. × 8.7 in. or 17.8 cm × 22.1 cm) and the column width (3.4 in. or 8.5 cm) and should make tables conform to the limitations of these dimensions.

Figures

All figures must be mentioned in the text in consecutive order and must be numbered with Arabic numbers. If symbols are used, it is preferable to place a key in the artwork itself, not in the caption. Ensure that any symbols and abbreviations used in the text agree with those in the figures. See more detailed information on submission of graphics under [Artwork](#) below. Figures and figure captions must be placed in the text where they are first mentioned.

An earlier editorial, "Graphical Excellence", provides tips for creating effective graphics and may be found at DOI: [10.1021/jz500997e](https://doi.org/10.1021/jz500997e).

Figure Captions

A caption giving the figure number and a brief description, preferably only one or two sentences, must be included for each figure.

Schemes

Sequences of reactions are called schemes. Schemes should have titles describing their contents and footnotes, if needed, for further detail. Schemes should be numbered with Arabic numbers in consecutive order.

Charts

Groups of structures that do not show reactions are called charts and should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numbers. Charts should have titles describing their contents and footnotes, if needed, for further detail.

Conclusions

Concluding remarks, principle findings, and future scope of the work should be summarized in the last paragraph of the results and discussion.

Experimental Methods

General Information. Provide a brief description of the experimental methodology in the manuscript. Detailed experimental procedures can be provided in Supporting Information, as needed.

Hazards. Any unusual hazards in the chemicals, equipment, or procedures used in an investigation should be clearly identified. Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work. This information should be in the Experimental Methods section.

Acknowledgment

Acknowledgments of financial assistance for the conduct of research, citations of theses, or indications of presentation at a research meeting should be brief and placed in this section.

Supporting Information for Publication

Extensive tables, graphs, spectra, calculations, detailed experimental methodology, and other material beyond a modest content in the published paper may be submitted as Supporting Information for Publication. SI is uploaded as a separate file (file designation Supporting Information for Publication) at the time the manuscript is submitted. The manuscript title and authors' names and affiliations should be provided on the first page of SI. All pages should be numbered consecutively starting with page S1. The list of supported file types for SI can be found at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/software.html>. Zip compression may be used on large files prepared in the acceptable formats to speed transfer time. Files prepared in any other software must be provided in .pdf format. If the SI is written in Microsoft Word, please remove all "tracked changes" from the SI and turn off the "Track Changes" feature before uploading into ACS Paragon Plus. Please Note: **The Supporting Information for Publication file is published as-is.** Proof it carefully.

Web-Enhanced Objects

The Journal encourages the submission of Web-enhanced objects (WEOs) for the presentation of graphical results that go beyond conventional publication capabilities, including 3D rotatable figures, animations, spectra, video, and sound. Links to WEOs will appear in the Web HTML version of the paper. Files suitable for this form of publication should be viewable with commonly available Internet plug-ins (e.g., Chime) or helper applications (Rasmol, Mercury, etc.). Authors should submit WEOs via the ACS Paragon Plus Website as part of their submissions and clearly indicate to the Editor that the material is WEO material. Descriptions of WEOs should be noted in the appropriate places within the graphic caption or text of the paper, noting the type of file and format. Example: "A 3D rotatable image in xyz format is available." For more information, including acceptable software for WEOs, go to <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/weo.html>.

Appendix B – Artwork

Quality

The quality of the graphics in the Journal depends on the quality of the files provided by the Author. Figures cannot be modified or enhanced by the Journal production staff. Images produced from continuous-tone graphics such as photographs should have high contrast.

Resolution

Digital graphics pasted into manuscripts should have the following minimum resolutions:

- Black and white line art 1200 dpi
- Grayscale art 600 dpi
- Color art 300 dpi

Size

Graphics must fit a one- or two-column format on the Journal page.

	single (preferred)	Double
width minimum	–	10.5 cm (4.13 in.)
maximum	8.25 cm (3.25 in.)	17.78 cm (7 in.)
maximum depth	24 cm (9.5 in.)	24 cm (9.5 in.)

For best results, **submit graphics in the actual size at which they should appear in the PDF version of the paper.** Original graphics that do not need to be reduced to fit a single or double column will yield the best quality. Lettering should be no smaller than 4.5 points in the final published format. Helvetica or Arial fonts work well for lettering. **The text should be legible when the graphic is viewed full-size.** Lines should be no thinner than 0.5 point. Lettering and lines should be of uniform density and the lines unbroken. If the submitted artwork must be reduced, larger lettering and thicker lines should be used so that, when reduced, the artwork meets the above- mentioned criteria.

Color

The use of color to enhance the clarity of complex structures, figures, spectra, schemes, and so forth is highly encouraged. Color graphics will be published **at no cost to the Author.** Graphics intended to appear in black and white or grayscale should not be submitted in color.

Chemical Structures

Structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw. Authors using the current versions of ChemDraw will find the necessary parameters incorporated into this program ("ACS Document 1996"). Authors using older versions of ChemDraw should use the following settings:

1. As drawing settings select:

chain angle	120°
bond	18% of width
fixed length	14.4 pt (0.508 cm, 0.2 in.)
bold width	2.0 pt (0.071 cm, 0.0278 in.)
line width	0.6 pt (0.021 cm, 0.0084 in.)
margin	1.6 pt (0.056 cm, 0.0222 in.)
hash spacing	2.5 pt (0.088 cm, 0.0347 in.)

2. As text settings select:

font	Arial/Helvetica
size	10 pt

3. Under the preferences choose:

units	points
tolerance	3 pixels

4. Under page setup choose:
paper US Letter
scale 100%
5. Use the ChemDraw ruler or appropriate margin settings to create charts, equations, and schemes with maximum widths of 8.25 cm (one-column format) or 17.8 cm (two-column format). If the foregoing drawing-setting lengths and widths are selected in centimeters rather than in points or inches, the ChemDraw ruler will be calibrated in centimeters.
6. Copy and paste the graphics into the manuscript text file at the appropriate locations. Do not use the "insert" function.

Authors using other drawing packages should set the program parameters to match the above values as closely as possible.

Cover Art

Cover art images are selected from Perspectives and Reviews manuscripts. Editors will invite authors to submit their artwork for consideration as cover art. Because of the rapid nature of publication of research articles, it is not possible to coordinate cover art with them.

Cover images must capture the importance and excitement of the science discussed within the manuscript while also being "eye-catching" and aesthetically appealing. Text should be minimal and legible when viewed full-size. In general, simple designs tend to make better cover art graphics.

Suggested images are judged by the Editors. Cover images approved for publication may be modified by the ACS graphics staff pending the Author's final approval. Images to be considered for the cover must be approximately 8.5 in. (21.4 cm) wide × 10.0 in. (25.7 cm) high with a minimum of 300 dpi resolution (2530 × 3040 pixels). Larger artwork is fine; it will just need to fit within those dimensions. Cover art files should be e-mailed directly to the Editorial Office. Preferred formats are PSD, AI, TIF, PNG, EPS, JPG. A short, 13-word or less descriptive caption (no full sentences) and a longer caption for the "About the Cover" description in the Table of Contents should be provided. Images chosen for the cover will be printed at **no cost to the author.**

Appendix C – Submission of Manuscripts

The cover letter must include all of the following points:

- Manuscript title and Authors, including the full names, titles, and positions of ALL Authors (undergraduate or graduate student, post-doc, professor, etc.).
- All Authors must have accounts in ACS Paragon Plus. The Corresponding Author must be a Senior Author (Professor, Research Associate, or similar), not a student. Please list the Corresponding Author's name, address, telephone number, and current institution e-mail address.
- Explanation of the manuscript's significance, including its originality and its contribution to new knowledge in the field.
- Submission history, if previously submitted to another ACS journal. Provide the previous manuscript number and Editor's name. To help expedite the processing of your manuscript, also indicate whether the manuscript was sent for peer review or not. If the manuscript has already been reviewed by another ACS journal, inclusion of your response to Reviewers' comments will speed up the review process.
- Statement that the manuscript is not being considered by any other journal.

When submitting manuscripts in ACS Paragon Plus, Authors should follow these steps:

- List all authors on the manuscript correctly with current and accurate e-mail addresses for each. It is important to provide the correct e-mail addresses for all Coauthors because ACS Paragon Plus will notify these authors that the manuscript has been submitted. Author ACS Paragon Plus account information should be current. Avoid creating duplicate accounts for the Coauthors. User names should include a complete first and/or middle name. Entering inaccurate or fictitious e-mail addresses is inadvisable because it may result in the rejection of the manuscript without review.
- Make sure that all Coauthors are aware of the submission.
- List at least three recommended Reviewers for the manuscript; include the address and e-mail address for each suggested Reviewer. Authors may request certain individuals not be used as Reviewers.
- Upload copies of unpublished work as Supporting Information for Review Only. [Not citing prior work in press by the same Authors can constitute an ethical violation.]
- If the manuscript is written in Microsoft Word, please remove all "tracked changes" and comments from the manuscript and turn off the "Track Changes" feature before uploading into ACS Paragon Plus.
-
- Select funding sources from the list of agencies included in the FundRef Registry <http://www.crossref.org/fundref/>.
- Remember to check the pdf proof of your manuscript after its upload in ACS Paragon Plus to make sure that no errors are present.

Ensure that you have completed the requirements by consulting the [author checklist](#).

***If you have questions about the submission requirements,
please contact: eic@energylett.acs.org***

Appendix D: Guidelines for Video Production (Perspectives and Reviews)

The final, edited video should be about 3 to 5 minutes in length. We recommend you contact your institution's video and multimedia production services department. Most universities and many companies have a team that will help you shoot a high-quality video – often at no cost to your lab.

Some areas to cover in your discussion could include:

1. Introduce yourself and give your position at your institution.
2. What is the motivation behind this work?
3. What are the major findings of your research (in layman's terms)?
4. What are the new techniques or approaches that you have implemented in your research?
5. What are the major hurdles or challenges that need to be tackled?
6. How is this work likely to impact other disciplines? The energy research community?

For examples of what your video should include, please take a look at the previously published ACS *Energy Letters* videos. We would like to keep the discussion at a level that could be understood by undergraduate chemistry students.

The interviews should be shot using high definition camera equipment and lavalier clip-on mics. It doesn't have to be professional level equipment; an inexpensive consumer-level HD camera is fine. For microphones, these lavalier mic models could work:

[Olympus ME-15 Microphone](#)

[Audio-Technica ATR-3350 Lavalier Omnidirectional Condenser Microphone](#)

Here are some other suggestions:

- Place the camera on a tripod.
- If at all possible, don't use the built-in microphone on the camera; use a clip-on lavalier mic (like the ones listed above).
- Make sure there is plenty of light on the speaker. A room with lots of windows or plenty of overhead light should be fine, but make sure the subject's face is not too dark.
- Check the background around the speaker because it will be part of your video.
- Don't leave too much space around the speaker in the shot. Don't clip the top of their head in the camera frame, but keep it closely cropped around the subject. Generally, you want the subject's eyes one-third of the way down from the top of the frame.
- Consider using more than one person in the video. A team of two can offer some change in pace and narration.
- A sample or model in hand can make the video content livelier. Be creative in the way you introduce your video.

Important: **If you shoot the video in a lab, please wear eye protection!** A lab coat is also recommended.

Also important: **Do not** provide files in a Microsoft video format (.wmv). The ACS video staff can work with virtually any other format.

If your video does not include captions identifying the speakers, please provide that information to ACS so that we can add those title graphics to your video.