

**EERE- Incubator award; 1/2015-12/2016**

# “A Disruptive Concept for a Whole Family of New Battery Systems”



Farshid Roumi, PhD  
Michael R. Hoffmann, PhD  
Parthian Energy  
California Institute of Technology

“This presentation does not contain any proprietary, confidential, or otherwise restricted information”



# SUMMARY

- **Completely Out-of-the Box!**
- **Possibly Revolutionary!**
- Novel Modular Architecture for Electrochemical Cells-Packs
- A radically unique architectural design, S-cell,
- Replaces the traditional coplanar “cell and module” designs with “scalabe modules” of higher performance
- Chemistry agnostic: Any Battery
- 5 US and International Patents, Caltech

# ROADMAP

Proof of Concept Prototypes, V.1

**Maximize Wh/kg**

**Minimize \$/Wh**

Surpassing the State of the Art, V.2

- DOE EERE Incubator
  - 1/2015- 12/2016, \$750 k
  - 5 Wh Prototypes
  - Li/Si- NMC li-ion S-cells
  - 450 Wh/kg, 500 cycles
  - Co-planar: calculations, 350 Wh/kg, 500 cycles

**Parthian  
Energy**

Scalable Fabrication, V.3

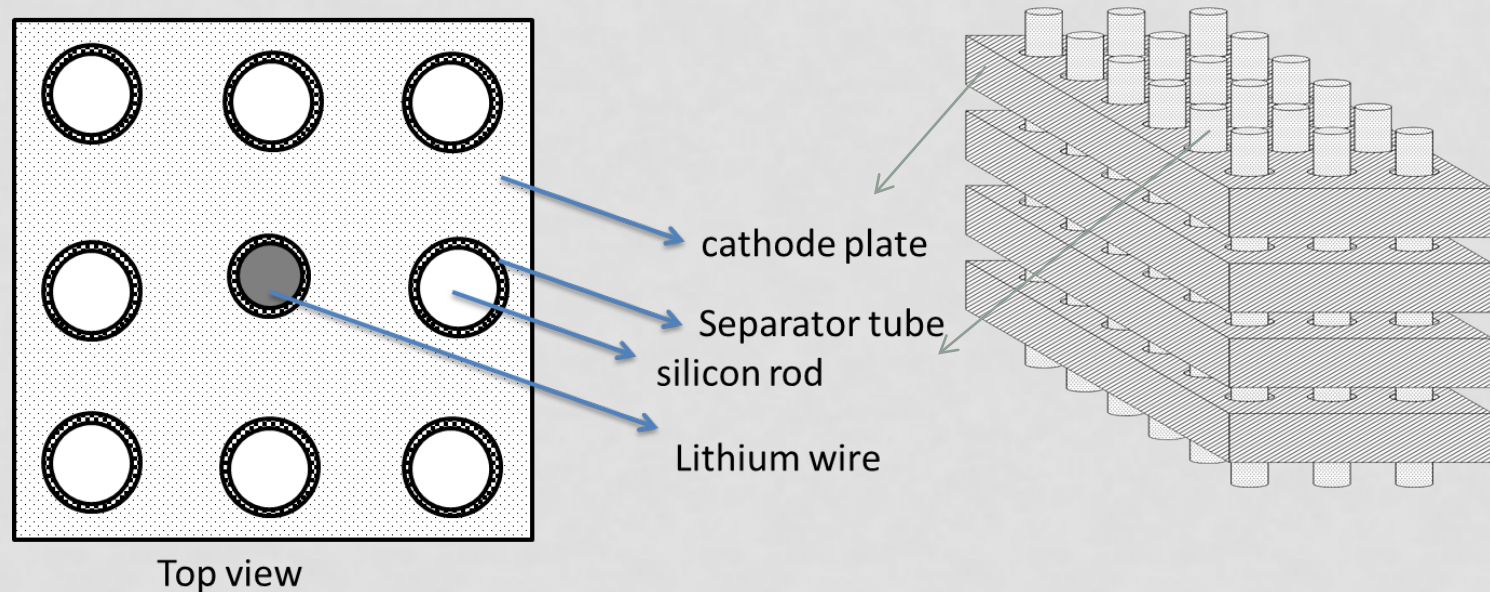
- Applying for funding
  - 4/2015- 4/2016-10/2017
  - \$0.5; 3 M
  - 1 Ah; 5 Ah
  - 10; 100 units/day
  - Pilot Plant

Low Production Manufacturing

- 10/2017- 1/2020, \$5 M

Industrial Manufacturing

# ARCHITECTURAL CONCEPT



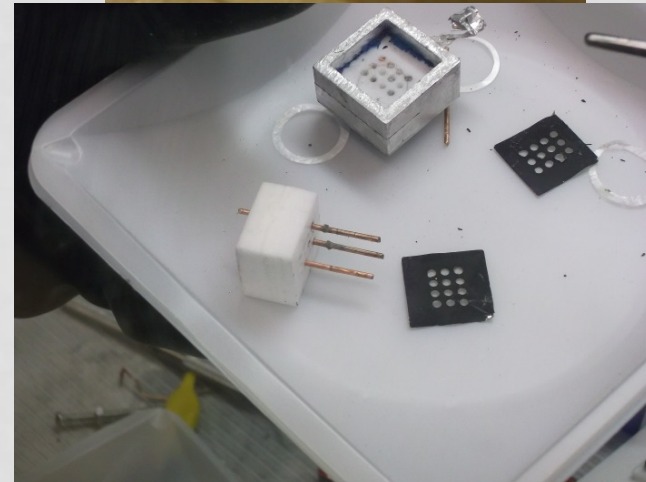
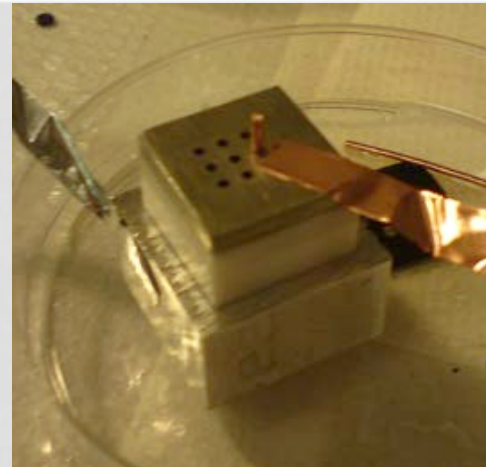
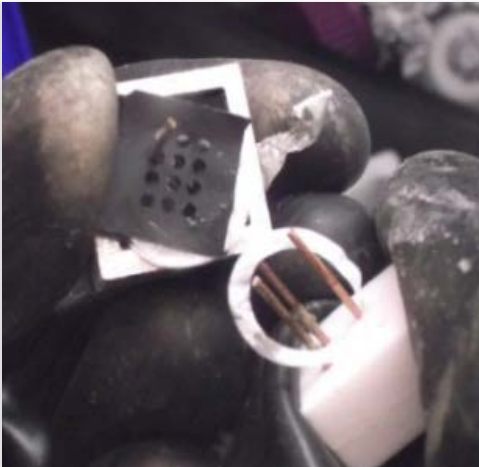
*Hybrid S-cell with silicon anode (slow discharge, fast charging) and lithium anode (fast discharge, slow charging). Also, enabling non-lithiated cathode and anode materials.*

# FABRICATION METHOD, VERSION 1

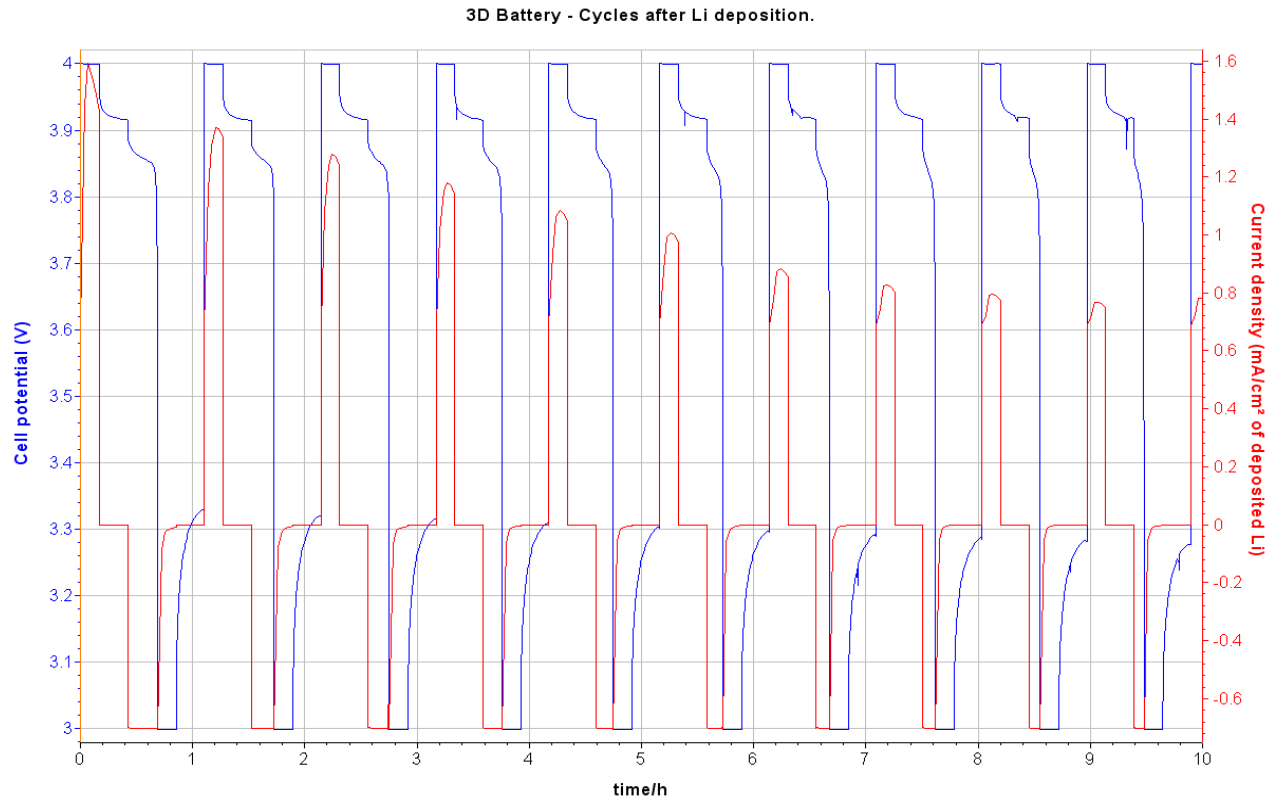




# FABRICATION METHOD, VERSION 1

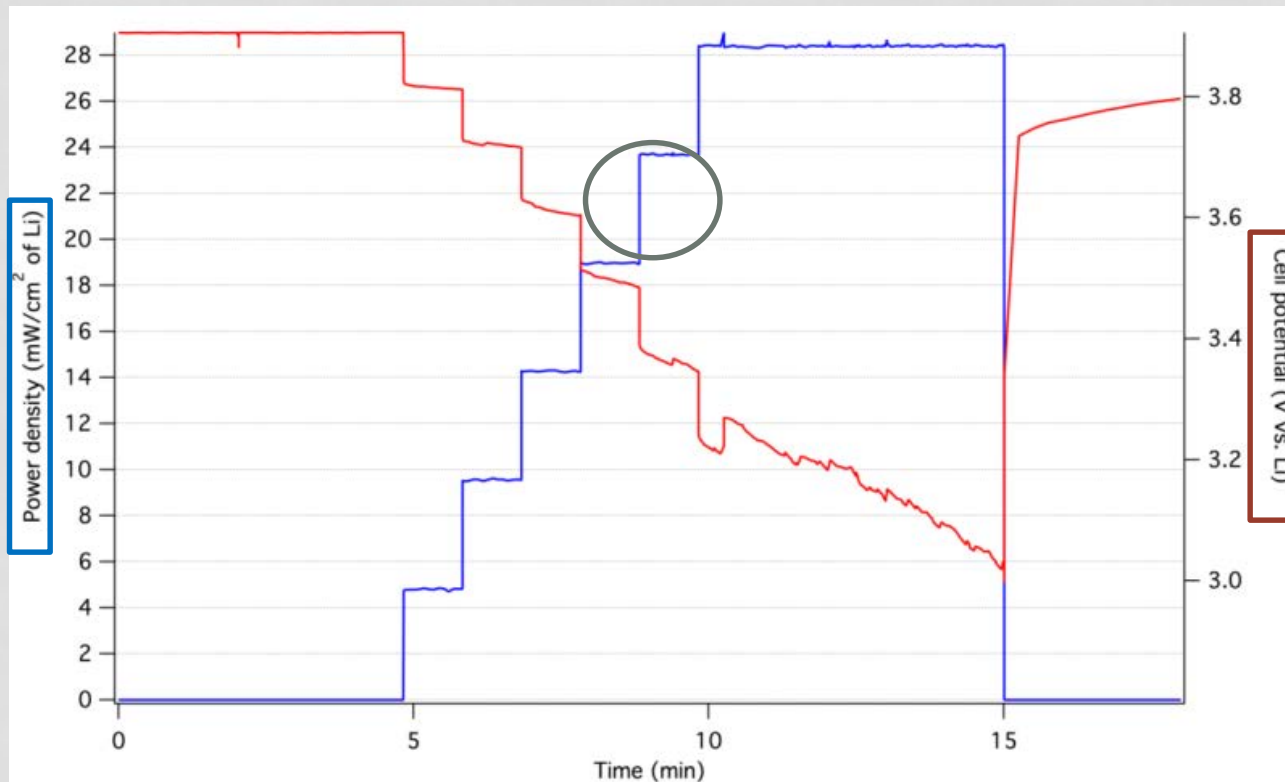


# PROOF OF CONCEPT



*Copper-LiCoO<sub>2</sub> experiment: no formation cycling was done.*

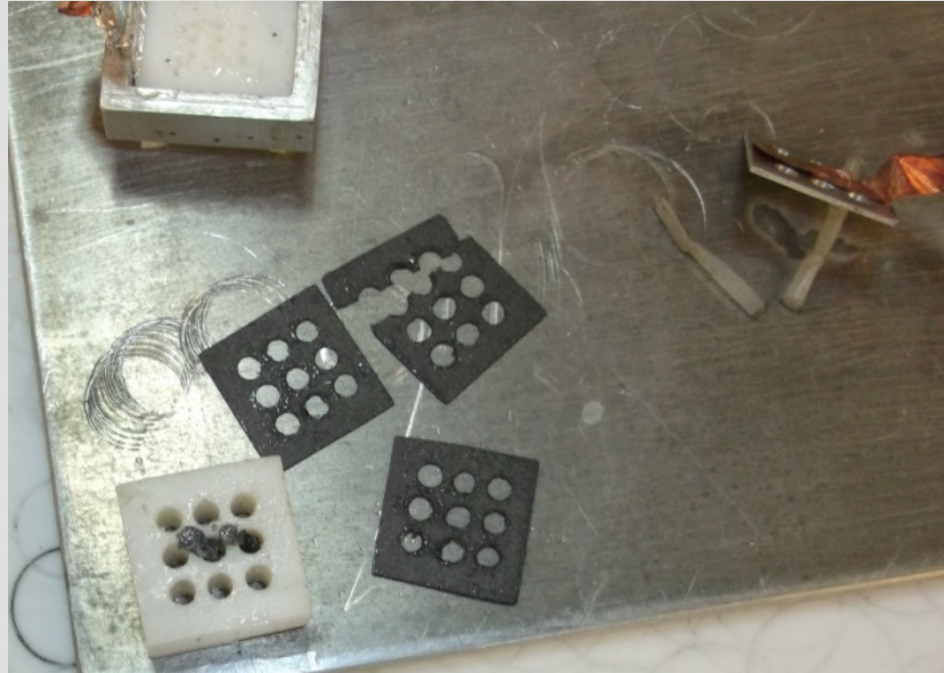
# PROOF OF CONCEPT



*Lithium–LiCoO<sub>2</sub> experiment: Discharge rate and power of about 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup> and 30 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> of anode rod was possible even though the distance between the rod and plates can be as high as 1 mm. Note: other 3d batteries: 1 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>, not scalable, only nano.*



# PROOF OF CONCEPT



*Lithium–Oxygen experiment: Electrolyte was Merck LP 71 with no additional additives, no catalysts.*

*May increase the rate of metal-air batteries by an order of magnitude.*

# CONCLUSION

**S-cell to traditional coplanar  $\equiv$  Li-ion to Alkaline**

Architecture, 2020

Chemistry, 1990

# SUMMARY

- DOE EERE Incubator
  - 1/2015- 12/2016, \$750 k
  - 5 Wh Prototypes
  - Li/Si- NMC li-ion S-cells
  - Goal: 450 Wh/kg, C/3, 500 cycles
  - Commercial silicon powder
  - Growing silicon or Silicon slurry
  - Commercial cathode plates, electrolyte

# DELIVERABLES

***D1: Final TEA results summary***

***D2: Potential next-stage funding sources engaged***

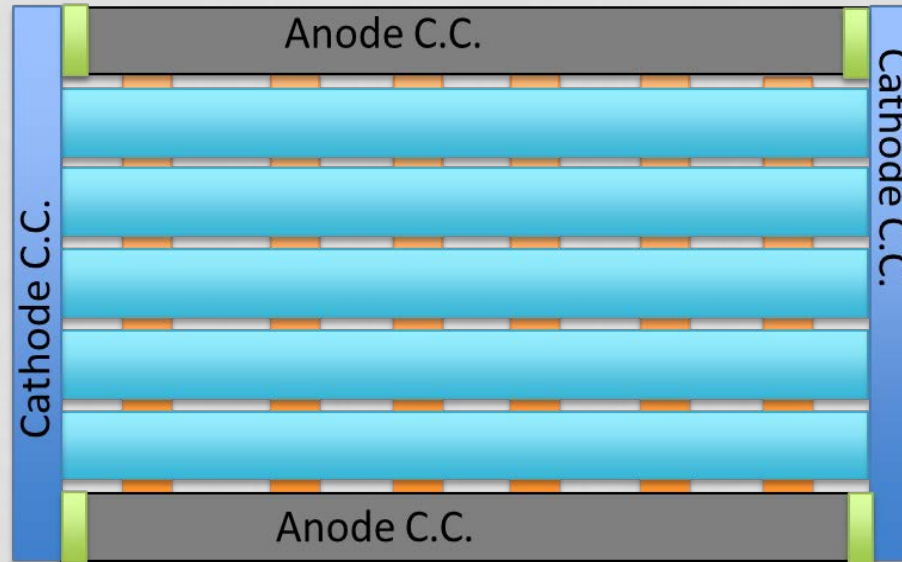
***D3: Report of perforated plate electrode fabrication and testing***

***D4: Report of rod electrode fabrication and testing***

***D5: Report of S-cell fabrication and testing + 10 Sample S-cells***

***D6: Final report and 5 Wh sample S-cells***

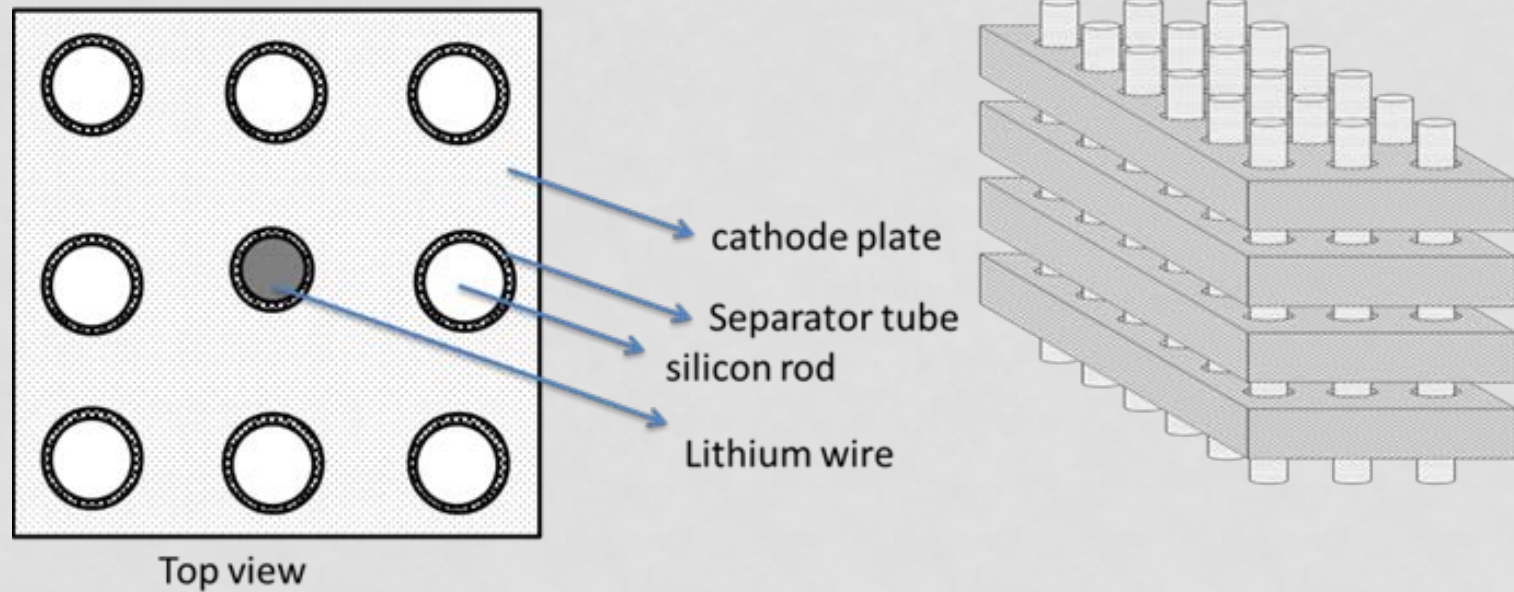
# POWERING MID-SIZE PEV



*Proposed S-cell may deliver 125 Wh, (10, 10, 1cm) (250 gr).*

**100 units of this S-cell may power a mid-size PEV to run for 50 miles  
(Total: 15 L, 30 kg).**

# LI-ION LOSS PREVENTION



*The presence of auxiliary lithium rods can compensate for the lithium-ion loss.*



# TUNABLE ARCHITECTURE

Rods Radius [cm]	Pitch (c-c) [cm]	Total holes #	Cathode mAh/ cm height	Anode mAh/cm height	Wh/cm height	Wh/L	Wh/kg
0.05	0.22	2116	33356	33221	123	1016	484
0.1	0.43	529	33356	33221	123	1016	484
0.2	0.83	144	32765	36173	121	1002	477
0.3	1.25	64	32765	36173	121	1002	477
<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>32765</b>	<b>36173</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>477</b>
0.5	2.00	25	32150	39250	119	983	468

*Proposed S-cell, assuming 1000 mAh/g for lithium-silicon anode and 200 mAh/g for NMC cathode. State of art, Panasonic 18650, is 570 Wh/L and 210 Wh/Kg.*

# 1-TECHNOLOGY TO MARKET

## **Deliverables:**

***D1: Final TEA results summary***

***D2: Potential next-stage funding sources engaged***

**1-1 Techno-Economic Analysis (TEA); FY1M1-FY1M6**

**1-2 Pursue Next-Stage Funding; FY1M6-FY1M12**

## 2-FABRICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

- Fabrication of the individual rod electrodes and perforated plate electrodes and also developing the techniques
- FY1M1-FY2M3
- Current Collectors and Case
- Rod Electrode Manufacturing
  - Silicon slurry vs. Silicon growth
  - Pick and Place; Spacer instead of separators; Guides
  - Developing “In-Situ” Techniques: separator hollow rods and electrode rods

# 2-FABRICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF S-CELL

## **Deliverables:**

***D3: Report of perforated plate electrode fabrication and testing***

***D4: Report of rod electrode fabrication and testing***

***D5: Report of S-cell fabrication and testing + 10 Sample S-cells***

**2-1 Novel Rod Electrode Fabrication; Si/Li; FY1M1-FY1M6**

**2-2 Conventional Rod Electrode Fabrication; FY1M1-FY1M6**

**2-3 Perforated Plate Fabrication; FY1M3-FY1M9**

**2-4 S-cell Fabrication and Development; FY1M3-FY1M12**

**2-5 Half S-cell: Novel Rod Electrode; Si/Li; FY1M3-FY1M12**

**2-6 Half S-cell: Lab-developed Rods; Si/Li; FY1M3-FY1M9**

**2-7 Half S-cell: Perforated Plates; NMC & LiFePO<sub>4</sub>; FY1M6-FY2M3**

### 3- FULL S-CELL TESTING, LITHIUM-SILICON/NMC-LIFEPO<sub>4</sub>

- Optimized S-cells with NMC cathode perforated plates and silicon anode rods and lithium rods
- 450 Wh/Kg; 500 cycles
- FY1M9-FY2M12

# 3- FULL S-CELL TESTING, LITHIUM-SILICON/NMC-LIFEPO<sub>4</sub>

## **Deliverables:**

***D6: Final report and 5 Wh sample S-cells***

**3-1 Testing S-cells, Lab-method Fabricated, Lithium-Silicon/NMC-LiFePO<sub>4</sub>; FY1M9-FY2M3**

**3-2 Testing S-cells, Industrially Fabricated, Lithium-Silicon/NMC-LiFePO<sub>4</sub>; FY2M3-FY2M9**

**3-3 Full S-cell testing, 450 Wh/kg; FY2M6-FY2M12**



# ESTIMATED ROADMAP TO COMMERCIALIZATION

