## *RE*(SO<sub>4</sub>)[B(OH)<sub>4</sub>](H<sub>2</sub>O), *RE*(SO<sub>4</sub>)[B(OH)<sub>4</sub>](H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>, and *RE*(SO<sub>4</sub>)[B(OH)<sub>4</sub>](H<sub>2</sub>O)·H<sub>2</sub>O: Rare Earth Borate-Sulfates Featuring Three Types of Layered Structures

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## **Supporting Information**

- Table S1. Compositions of the starting materials for the hydrothermal syntheses of compounds 1-16.
- Table S2. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) of  $RE(SO_4)[B(OH)_4](H_2O)$  (RE = La 1, Sm 2, Eu 3).
- Table S3. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) of  $RE(SO_4)[B(OH)_4](H_2O)_2$  (RE = Pr 4, Nd 5, Sm 6, Eu 7, Gd 8).
- Table S4. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) of  $RE(SO_4)[B(OH)_4](H_2O) \cdot H_2O$  (RE = Tb 9, Dy 10, Ho 11, Er 12, Tm 13, Yb 14, Lu 15, Y 16).
- Table S5. Hydrogen bonds in compounds 3, 7 and 15.
- Figure S1. EDS results of compounds 1-16.
- Figure S2. Experimental and simulated powder X-ray diffraction patterns of compounds 2 (a), 3 (b), 6 (c), and 7 (d).
- Figure S3. Powder X-ray diffraction patterns of the residuals of compounds 3 (a), and 6 (b) after heated at  $300 \,^{\circ}$ C.
- Figure S4. Solid state excitation spectra of compounds 2 and 6 (a), and compounds 3 and 7 (b).

Figure S5. Plots of  $\chi_{mol}T$  vs. *T* for compounds **2** (a), **3** (b), **6** (c), and **7** (d).

## **Excitation Spectra.**

The excitation spectra have been recorded by monitoring the emission at 588 nm for compound **3**, 591 nm for compound **7**, and 602 nm for both compounds **2** and **6**. The excitation spectra of both Sm-containing compounds (**2** and **6**) show identical profile, as well as these of the two Eu-containing compounds (**3** and **7**) (Figure S4). A series of excitation peaks originating from 4f intra-configurational transitions of trivalent lanthanides (Sm<sup>3+</sup> or Eu<sup>3+</sup>) are identified at 305 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{P}_{5/2}$ ), 317 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{P}_{3/2}$ ), 332 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{G}_{9/2}$ ), 344 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{D}_{7/2}$ ), 354 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{H}_{7/2}$ ), 362 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{6}\text{P}_{5/2}$ ), 375 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{6}\text{P}_{7/2}$ ), 390 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{L}_{15/2}$ ), 402 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{E}_{7/2}$ ), 416 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{6}\text{P}_{5/2}$ ), 438 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{G}_{9/2}$ ), 461 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{I}_{9/2}$ ), 477 ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{I}_{13/2}$ ) and 500 nm ( ${}^{6}\text{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{G}_{7/2}$ ) for compounds **2** and **6**, and 317 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{H}_{6}$ ), 325 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{1} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{H}_{7}$ ), 362 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{D}_{4}$ ), 376 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{G}_{6}$ ), 379 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{G}_{2}$ ), 385 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{1} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{L}_{7}$ ), 395 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{L}_{6}$ ), 415 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{1} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{D}_{3}$ ), 465 ( ${}^{7}\text{F}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{5}\text{D}_{2}$ ) for compounds **3** and **7**. Among these excitation peaks, the ones centered at 402 and 395 nm for Sm- and Eu-containing compounds, respectively, exhibit relatively larger intensity than the others, which suggests that 402 nm and 395 nm should be a suitable excitation wavelength to extract efficient luminescence for compounds **2** and **6**, **3** and **7**, respectively.

Compound	Rare earth oxide	H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub>	$H_2SO_4$	$H_2O$
Compound	(mmol)	(mmol)	( <i>µ</i> L)	(mL)
1	0.25 (La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	4.0	30	2
2	0.30 (Sm <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	3.0	30	3
3	0.25 (Eu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	4.0	30	2
4	0.15 (Pr <sub>6</sub> O <sub>11</sub> )	3.0	50	3
5	0.25 (Nd <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
6	0.25 (Sm <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
7	0.25 (Eu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
8	0.50 (Gd <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
9	0.25 (Tb <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> )	2.0	30	4
10	0.25 (Dy <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
11	0.25 (Ho <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
12	0.50 (Er <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
13	0.25 (Tm <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
14	0.25 (Yb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
15	0.25 (Lu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	2.0	30	3
16	0.50 (Y <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	3.0	50	5

Table S1. Compositions of the starting materials for the hydrothermal syntheses of compounds  $1-16^{a}$ 

<sup>*a*</sup>  $RE_2O_3$  (RE = La, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Er, Dy, Ho, Tm, Yb, Lu, Y) ( $\geq$ 99.99%),  $Pr_6O_{11}$  ( $\geq$ 99.99%), and  $Tb_4O_7$  ( $\geq$ 99.99%) were all purchased from Ruike National Engineering Research Centre of Rare Earth Metallurgy, and  $H_3BO_3$  ( $\geq$ 99.8%) and  $H_2SO_4$  (95.0-98.0%) were both from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd. All reagents were used without further purification.

	La	Sm	Eu
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(3)#1	2.456(3)	2.387(4)	2.396(3)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(5)	2.471(3)	2.386(4)	2.371(3)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(7)#2	2.480(3)	2.409(5)	2.401(3)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(4)#3	2.500(3)	2.424(4)	2.415(3)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(6)	2.485(3)	2.428(4)	2.416(3)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(8)#2	2.543(3)	2.470(4)	2.452(3)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(1W)	2.553(3)	2.477(4)	2.454(4)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(1)	2.630(3)	2.552(4)	2.541(3)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(4)	2.678(3)	2.651(4)	2.645(4)
S(1)-O(2)	1.450(3)	1.459(4)	1.454(4)
S(1)-O(3)	1.457(3)	1.468(4)	1.453(3)
S(1)-O(1)	1.489(3)	1.489(4)	1.483(4)
S(1)-O(4)	1.499(3)	1.499(4)	1.492(3)
B(1)-O(5)	1.450(5)	1.463(8)	1.457(6)
B(1)-O(6)	1.462(6)	1.452(8)	1.460(6)
B(1)-O(7)	1.474(5)	1.495(8)	1.465(6)
B(1)-O(8)	1.489(5)	1.464(9)	1.468(6)
O(2)-S(1)-O(3)	112.0(2)	111.7(3)	111.9(2)
O(2)-S(1)-O(1)	111.0(2)	110.7(3)	110.7(2)
O(3)-S(1)-O(1)	108.9(2)	109.6(3)	109.1(2)
O(2)-S(1)-O(4)	110.4(2)	110.2(3)	110.4(2)
O(3)-S(1)-O(4)	110.1(2)	110.5(3)	110.3(2)
O(1)-S(1)-O(4)	104.1(2)	103.9(2)	104.0(2)
O(5)-B(1)-O(6)	101.9(3)	101.1(5)	100.6(4)
O(5)-B(1)-O(7)	114.5(4)	113.4(5)	114.8(4)
O(6)-B(1)-O(7)	113.5(3)	114.2(5)	114.5(4)
O(5)-B(1)-O(8)	113.7(3)	114.4(5)	113.7(4)
O(6)-B(1)-O(8)	113.3(4)	115.1(5)	114.4(4)
O(7)-B(1)-O(8)	100.5(3)	99.4(5)	99.6(4)

Table S2. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) of  $RE(SO_4)[B(OH)_4](H_2O)$  (RE = La 1, Sm 2, Eu 3)<sup>*a*</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 x, y+1, z; #2 x-1, y, z; #3 -x, -y, -z+2.

	Pr	Nd	Sm	Eu	Gd
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(6)#1	2.428(3)	2.416(5)	2.392(5)	2.381(3)	2.364(4)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(6)#2	2.428(3)	2.416(5)	2.392(5)	2.381(3)	2.364(4)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(4)	2.453(5)	2.436(7)	2.407(8)	2.396(5)	2.384(6)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(1)#3	2.461(4)	2.445(7)	2.419(7)	2.412(5)	2.401(5)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(5)	2.477(4)	2.475(7)	2.441(7)	2.427(4)	2.415(5)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(1W)	2.511(4)	2.495(6)	2.457(5)	2.445(4)	2.425(4)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(1W)#4	2.511(4)	2.495(6)	2.457(5)	2.445(4)	2.425(4)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(3)#4	2.620(3)	2.607(5)	2.585(5)	2.586(4)	2.576(4)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(3)	2.620(3)	2.607(5)	2.585(5)	2.586(4)	2.576(4)
S(1)-O(1)	1.457(4)	1.458(7)	1.459(7)	1.455(5)	1.453(6)
S(1)-O(2)	1.451(5)	1.459(7)	1.471(9)	1.456(5)	1.450(6)
S(1)-O(3)#4	1.485(3)	1.474(5)	1.478(6)	1.471(4)	1.478(4)
S(1)-O(3)	1.485(3)	1.474(5)	1.478(6)	1.471(4)	1.478(4)
B(1)-O(4)	1.457(8)	1.451(1)	1.456(1)	1.449(9)	1.447(9)
B(1)-O(5)	1.456(8)	1.451(1	1.437(2)	1.459(1)	1.453(9)
B(1)-O(6)	1.449(5)	1.449(8)	1.455(9)	1.445(6)	1.458(6)
B(1)-O(6)#4	1.449(5)	1.449(8)	1.455(9)	1.445(6)	1.458(6)
O(2)-S(1)-O(1)	112.2(3)	112.0(4)	111.6(5)	112.0(3)	112.7(3)
O(2)-S(1)- O(3)/O(3)#4	110.5(2)	110.5(3)	110.6(3)	110.5(2)	110.1(2)
O(1)-S(1)- O(3)/O(3)#4	109.5(2)	109.5(3)	109.9(3)	109.4(2)	109.6(2)
O(3)#4-S(1)-O(3)	104.3(3)	104.6(4)	104.0(5)	104.6(3)	104.3(3)
O(6) -B(1)-O(6)#4	99.7(5)	99.5(7)	98.4(8)	99.4(5)	98.7(5)
O(5)-B(1)-O(6)/O(6)#4	115.3(3)	114.9(5)	115.8(6)	115.0(4)	115.9(4)
O(4)-B(1)-O(6)/O(6)#4	114.0(4)	114.5(5)	114.0(6)	114.7(4)	114.3(4)
O(5)-B(1)-O(4)	99.3(5)	99.5(7)	99.8(9)	98.9(5)	98.6(5)

Table S3. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) of  $RE(SO_4)[B(OH)_4](H_2O)_2$  (RE = Pr 4, Nd 5, Sm 6, Eu 7, Gd 8)<sup>*a*</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 x-1, y, z; #2 x-1, -y+1/2, z; #3 x, y, z+1; #4 x, -y+1/2, z.

Table S4. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) of  $RE(SO_4)[B(OH)_4](H_2O) \cdot H_2O$  (RE = Tb 9, Dy 10,

	Tb	Dy	Но	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu	Y
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(1)	2.279(5)	2.269(5)	2.264(5)	2.254(4)	2.239(6)	2.227(4)	2.219(4)	2.258(2)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(2)#1	2.336(5)	2.321(4)	2.304(4)	2.302(4)	2.283(5)	2.282(3)	2.270(3)	2.301(2)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(6)#2	2.350(4)	2.335(4)	2.331(4)	2.319(4)	2.311(5)	2.302(3)	2.290(3)	2.331(2)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(4)#3	2.352(5)	2.353(4)	2.338(4)	2.335(4)	2.330(5)	2.315(3)	2.304(3)	2.338(2)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(7)	2.364(4)	2.354(3)	2.351(3)	2.338(4)	2.331(5)	2.320(3)	2.310(3)	2.345(2)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(5)	2.374(4)	2.372(3)	2.358(4)	2.347(4)	2.336(5)	2.331(3)	2.324(3)	2.357(2)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(8)#2	2.398(4)	2.390(4)	2.382(4)	2.377(4)	2.357(5)	2.355(3)	2.345(3)	2.384(2)
<i>RE</i> (1)-O(1W)	2.475(4)	2.441(4)	2.444(4)	2.424(4)	2.412(5)	2.415(3)	2.382(4)	2.431(2)
S(1)-O(1)	1.460(5)	1.456(5)	1.452(5)	1.451(4)	1.455(6)	1.458(4)	1.453(4)	1.456(2)
S(1)-O(2)	1.462(5)	1.464(4)	1.468(5)	1.463(4)	1.469(5)	1.462(3)	1.467(3)	1.468(2)
S(1)-O(3)	1.466(4)	1.472(4)	1.470(4)	1.464(4)	1.470(5)	1.468(3)	1.469(3)	1.466(2)
S(1)-O(4)	1.479(5)	1.470(4)	1.477(4)	1.475(4)	1.461(5)	1.476(3)	1.475(3)	1.478(2)
B(1)-O(5)	1.464(8)	1.464(7)	1.457(7)	1.459(7)	1.468(9)	1.459(6)	1.453(5)	1.463(4)
B(1)-O(6)	1.449(8)	1.455(8)	1.460(7)	1.455(7)	1.459(9)	1.449(6)	1.456(6)	1.446(4)
B(1)-O(7)	1.461(8)	1.462(7)	1.467(7)	1.458(7)	1.453(9)	1.459(6)	1.460(5)	1.463(4)
B(1)-O(8)	1.502(8)	1.486(7)	1.489(7)	1.497(7)	1.491(9)	1.488(6)	1.490(6)	1.495(4)
O(1)-S(1)-O(2)	109.9(3)	109.8(3)	109.6(3)	110.3(3)	109.9(4)	110.4(2)	110.4(2)	109.8(1)
O(1)-S(1)-O(3)	110.1(3)	110.9(3)	110.5(3)	110.7(2)	110.2(3)	110.7(2)	110.2(2)	110.5(1)
O(2)-S(1)-O(3)	110.3(3)	110.3(2)	110.3(2)	110.0(2)	110.5(3)	109.8(2)	110.0(2)	110.2(1)
O(1)-S(1)-O(4)	109.1(3)	109.3(3)	109.3(3)	109.3(3)	109.2(3)	109.3(2)	109.5(2)	109.3(1)
O(2)-S(1)-O(4)	107.0(3)	106.9(2)	107.0(2)	106.4(2)	107.0(3)	106.7(2)	106.7(2)	107.0(1)
O(3)-S(1)-O(4)	110.4(3)	109.6(2)	110.1(2)	109.9(2)	110.0(3)	109.9 (2)	110.0(2)	110.1(1)
O(6)-B(1)-O(7)	115.6(6)	115.2(5)	114.7(5)	115.3(5)	115.5(6)	115.2(4)	115.0(4)	115.4(3)
O(6)-B(1)-O(5)	115.5(6)	114.8(5)	115.1(5)	114.7(5)	114.7(6)	115.4(4)	115.5(4)	115.0(2)
O(7)-B(1)-O(5)	100.8(4)	101.2(4)	101.3(4)	101.1(4)	101.1(5)	100.4(3)	100.5(3)	100.6(2)
O(6)-B(1)-O(8)	101.5(4)	101.6(4)	101.6(4)	101.4(4)	101.2(5)	101.7(3)	101.1(3)	102.1(2)
O(7)-B(1)-O(8)	112.7(5)	113.3(5)	112.4(5)	113.2(5)	113.4(6)	113.1(4)	113.3(4)	112.7(2)
O(5)-B(1)-O(8)	111.2(5)	111.3(5)	112.2(5)	111.7(5)	111.6(6)	111.6(4)	112.0(4)	111.5(2)

Ho **11**, Er **12**, Tm **13**, Yb **14**, Lu **15**, Y **16**)<sup>*a*</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 -x, -y, -z+1; #2 x-1, y, z; #3 -x, -y+1, -z+1.

D-H···A	<i>d</i> (D-H) (Å)	$d(\mathbf{H}^{\cdots}\mathbf{A})(\mathbf{\mathring{A}})$	$d(\mathbf{D}\cdots\mathbf{A})$ (Å)	$\angle$ (DHA) (°)				
Eu(SO <sub>4</sub> )[B(OH) <sub>4</sub> ](H <sub>2</sub> O) ( <b>3</b> )								
O(5)-H(5)···O(2)#1	0.85	2.00	2.851(5)	175.6				
O(8)-H(8)····O(2)#2	0.85	1.95	2.752(5)	156.2				
O(1W)-H(1WB)···O(8)#3	0.85	2.07	2.905(5)	168.7				
$Eu(SO_4)[B(OH)_4](H_2O)_2$ (7)								
O(4)-H(4)···O(2)#1	0.85	1.93	2.690(8)	148.5				
O(5)-H(5)···O(2)#2	0.85	2.10	2.871(7)	151.4				
O(6)-H(6)···O(3)#3	0.85	2.03	2.829(5)	155.6				
O(1W)-H(1WB)····O(3)#3	0.85	2.02	2.856(5)	166.6				
	Lu(SO <sub>4</sub> )[B(OH) <sub>4</sub> ](H <sub>2</sub> O)·H <sub>2</sub> O ( <b>15</b> )							
O(6)-H(6)···O(3)	0.85	1.99	2.817(5)	162.3				
O(8)-H(8)…O(2W)	0.85	1.87	2.688(5)	162.0				
O(1W)-H(1WA)…O(2W)	0.85	2.08	2.906(5)	164.2				
O(5)-H(5)···O(3)#1	0.85	2.03	2.830(4)	157.1				
O(7)-H(7)···O(3)#2	0.85	1.95	2.767(4)	161.2				
O(1W)-H(1WB)····O(8)#3	0.85	1.98	2.815(5)	167.6				
O(2W)-H(2WA)…O(4)#4	0.85	2.01	2.811(5)	156.3				

Table S5. Hydrogen bonds in compounds 3, 7 and 15.

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

For Eu(SO<sub>4</sub>)[B(OH)<sub>4</sub>](H<sub>2</sub>O): #1 -x+1, -y, -z+2; #2 x, y+1, z; #3 -x+1, -y+1, -z+1;

For Eu(SO<sub>4</sub>)[B(OH)<sub>4</sub>](H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>: #1 x+1, y, z+1; #2 x+1, y, z; #3 -x+1, y-1/2, -z+1;

For Lu(SO<sub>4</sub>)[B(OH)<sub>4</sub>](H<sub>2</sub>O)·H<sub>2</sub>O: #1 -x+1, -y+1, -z+1; #2 -x+1, -y, -z+1; #3 -x+1, -y+1, -z; #4 x+1, y, z-1.



Figure S1. EDS results of compounds 1-16.



Figure S2. Experimental and simulated powder X-ray diffraction patterns of compounds 2 (a), 3 (b), 6 (c), and 7 (d).



Figure S3. Powder X-ray diffraction patterns of the residuals of compounds 3 (a), and 6 (b) after heated at 300 °C.



Figure S4. Solid state excitation spectra of compounds 2 and 6 (a), and compounds 3 and 7 (b).



Figure S5. Plots of  $\chi_{mol}T$  vs. T for compounds 2 (a), 3 (b), 6 (c), and 7 (d).