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(54) **NEGATIVE ELECTRODE AND SECONDARY BATTERY INCLUDING THE NEGATIVE ELECTRODE**

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ABSTRACT

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A negative electrode whose rapid charging performance and lifetime characteristics are excellent and a secondary battery including the negative electrode. The negative electrode includes a current collector and a negative electrode active material layer on the current collector. The negative electrode active material layer includes a negative electrode active material, and the negative electrode active material includes first uncoated artificial graphite particles and second uncoated artificial graphite particles in a weight ratio of 4:6 to 6:4. The first uncoated artificial graphite particles are single particles having an average particle diameter (D_{50}) of 5 μm to 7 μm , and the second uncoated artificial graphite particles are secondary particles formed by agglomerating a plurality of primary particles. The second uncoated artificial graphite particles have an average particle diameter (D_{50}) of 20 μm to 25 μm .