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(54) **DESULFURIZATION USING A MOLTEN CARBONATE FUEL CELL**

(71) Applicant: EXXONMOBIL TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING COMPANY,

Annandale, NJ (US)

(72) Inventors: Fan HE, ANNANDALE, NJ (US); Lu HAN, Beaumont, TX (US); Jonathan Rosen, Morristown, NJ (US); Timothy

A. BARCKHOLTZ, Whitehouse

Station, NJ (US)

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(57)ABSTRACT

Systems and methods are provided for maintaining and/or improving operating lifetime for molten carbonate fuel cells that contain reforming catalyst in the anode when processing cathode input flows that contain sulfur oxides. The systems and methods can include a serial arrangement of molten carbonate fuel cells, where a first fuel cell includes a reduced or minimized amount of reforming catalyst in the anode. A second molten carbonate fuel cell can include reforming catalyst in the anode.

