## **Supplementary Materials**

**Figure S1.** (a) Real part of the complex dielectric spectra (Re  $\varepsilon$ ); (b) Imaginary part of the complex dielectric spectra (Im  $\varepsilon/M$ ) normalized by molar concentration; (c) Absorption coefficients ( $\alpha/M$ ) normalized by molar concentration, obtained by THz-TDS; and (d) Absorption coefficients ( $\alpha/M$ ) normalized by molar concentration, obtained by FIR for the ionic liquids [C<sub>6</sub>mim<sup>+</sup>][I<sup>-</sup>], [C<sub>4</sub>mim<sup>+</sup>][I<sup>-</sup>], and [C<sub>3</sub>mim<sup>+</sup>][I<sup>-</sup>].



**Figure S2.** Calculated vibrational spectra for the alkyl-methyl-imidazolium cations ( $C_3mim^+$ ,  $C_4mim^+$ ,  $C_6mim^+$ ,  $C_8mim^+$ , and  $C_{10}mim^+$ ) in the low, mid and high THz frequency regions. Density functional theory (DFT) calculations were performed. The geometry was optimized at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level of theory with a charge of +1 and a multiplicity of singlet, and then the infra-red vibrational spectra were calculated at the same level of theory. The absorption bandwidth was set at 10 cm<sup>-1</sup> for all absorption bands to make them easy to see.



**Figure S3.** (a) Real part of the complex dielectric spectra (Re  $\varepsilon$ ); (b) Imaginary part of the complex dielectric spectra (Im  $\varepsilon/M$ ) normalized by molar concentration; (c) Absorption coefficients ( $\alpha/M$ ) normalized by molar concentration, obtained by THz-TDS; and (d) Absorption coefficients ( $\alpha/M$ ) normalized by molar concentration, obtained by FIR for the ionic liquids [C<sub>6</sub>mim<sup>+</sup>][Br<sup>-</sup>], [C<sub>8</sub>mim<sup>+</sup>][Br<sup>-</sup>], and [C<sub>10</sub>mim<sup>+</sup>][Br<sup>-</sup>].



**Figure S4.** (a) Real part of the complex dielectric spectra (Re  $\varepsilon$ ); (b) Imaginary part of the complex dielectric spectra (Im  $\varepsilon/M$ ) nomrlized by molar concentration; (c) Absorption coefficients ( $\alpha/M$ ) normalized by molar concentration, obtained by THz-TDS; and (d) Absorption coefficients ( $\alpha/M$ ) normalized by molar concentration, obtained by FIR for the ionic liquids [C<sub>6</sub>mim<sup>+</sup>][Cl<sup>-</sup>] and [C<sub>8</sub>mim<sup>+</sup>][Cl<sup>-</sup>].



**Figure S5.** (a) Calculated vibrational spectra for the alkyl-methyl-imidazolium cation,  $[C_6 \text{mim}^+]$  in the region between 700 and 1000 cm<sup>-1</sup>; (b) Vibrational mode at 746 cm<sup>-1</sup>; and (c) Vibrational mode at 825 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The absorption bandwidth was set at 10 cm<sup>-1</sup> for bands to make them easy to see.

