

Press Release

Harita Nickel Officially Operates a-780,000 metric ton per year capacity ferronickel smelter

PULAU OBI, 18th October 2022 -- Harita Nickel officially operates the operation of PT Halmahera Jaya Ferronickel (PT HJF), a ferronickel smelter business unit located in the village of Kawasi, sub-district of Obi, Obi Island, South Halmahera, North Maluku, Tuesday (10/18).

Head of External Relations of Harita Nickel Stevi Thomas said PT HJF is targeted to produce 780,000 metric tons of ferronickel per year. PT HJF's ferronickel smelter is planned to be in full production capacity by 2023

Stevi said the operation of PT HJF, despite only one production line at this stage, demonstrated excellent cooperation of Harita Nickel production Obi site team. "Employees of PT HJF have diverse backgrounds so that they can work collaboratively with full dedication and thus the first production of PTHJF can be delivered today," said Stevi.

Stevi added, a year ago, Harita Nickel has officially operated PT Halmahera Persada Lygend (PT HPL) producing Mixed Hydroxide Precipitate (MHP), the main raw material for electric vehicle batteries. "16 months later we managed to operate PT HJF producing ferronickel," said Stevi.

Harita Nickel management, added Stevi, appreciated all the dedication and cooperation of PT HJF employees at this point. "We certainly have to cope with technical and non-technical challenges in the past three years. Such challenges however, have not been over yet. Only one line is operating whilst we still have 7 lines, we have to work hard. We expect all production lines will operate safely next year, " said Stevie.

Head of Technical Support Harita Nickel Rico Windy Albert confirmed that at this time, during the first production, the plant only operated one line of eight production lines. He further said the production target of the plant's several lines would be delivered in phases. It is planned that the operation of eight production lines of PT HJF will be performed in 1st semester of 2023.

Rico said the total manpower required during full operation of PT HJF is approx. 5,000 workers. "Currently, with only one production line, PT HJF has employed 2,600 employees," said Rico.

The manpower required to run the plant are from local workforces of South Halmahera in particular and generally from North Maluku. We conducted recruitment roadshow held in Labuha, South Halmahera and Laiwui village, sub-district of Obi, Obi Island. "About 65% of the hired workers are the origins of North Maluku," said Rico.

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Photo 1 : Inauguration of PT Halmahera Jaya Feronikel (PT HJF) operation located at Kawasi village, Obi Island, South Halmahera, Tuesday (18/10)



Photo 2: Head of Technical Support Harita Nickel, Rico Windy Albert delivered his remarks in the sidelines of official operation of PTHJF.



Photo 3: Some of first production of PTHJF ferronickel

About arita Nickel

HARITA Nickel is part of the HARITA Group, operating in Obi Island, South Halmahera, North Maluku. In addition to securing Mining Business Permit (IUP), the Company has owned a saprolite-nickel smelter in 2016 and since 2021 it has also operated a limonite-nickel refinery plant in the similar operation area. The two constructed facilities are to fulfill the downstream processing obligation as required by the Government of Indonesia by utilizing nickel mining products from Trimegah Bangun Persada (TBP) and Gane Permai Sentosa (GPS).

Through Halmahera Persada Lygend (HPL), HARITA Nickel has become the pioneer company in Indonesia operating a processing and refining limonite nickel (low-grade) by adopting High Pressure Acid Leach (HPAL) technology. This technology is able to process limonite nickel that has not been processed into valuable-strategic products called mixed hydroxide precipitate (MHP) products. Harita Nickel is currently developing a plant to process MHP into Nickel Sulfate (NiSO_4) and Cobalt Sulfate (CoSO_4), which are raw materials for electric vehicle batteries.