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Indonesia's First Modern City Kuala Kencana Contributes To Timika's Development

Timika - Kuala Kencana City, established by PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) on December 5, 1995, sprawls across 17,078 hectares in Mimika Regency, Central Papua, is the first modern city in Indonesia built in the middle of a tropical forest. This city, strategically crafted to bolster company operations and foster the advancement of Timika, unfolds with the guiding principle of an "environmentally sound city."

The presence of Kuala Kencana has revolutionized the ambiance experienced by the residents of Mimika. Entering the Kuala Kencana area, we are greeted by a meticulously maintained natural setting. The absence of unsightly cables and electricity poles is immediately noticeable, they are seamlessly integrated underground. Lining the roadsides are trees indigenous to the tropical forest. The flora and fauna are considered invaluable assets of the city. This biodiversity is safeguarded by local residents and closely monitored by specialized officers.

In the city center, there are office buildings, public and social facilities, and places of worship. Nestled within the city center, proudly standing in the middle of the square is a statue designed by Nyoman Nuarta, an iconic symbol that defines Kuala Kencana. Not only the residents of Kuala Kencana, but the city also extends its embrace to the wider community of Timika, offering shared enjoyment and mutual benefits.

PTFI General Superintendent Facilities Management **Samsul Arifin** explained that Kuala Kencana city has consistently played a pivotal role in Timika's development from its inception to reaching its 28th milestone. One of Kuala Kencana's significant contributions is the recent inauguration of a state-of-the-art Water Treatment Plant (WTP) in October 2023. This facility, unveiled by Mimika Regent **Dr. Eltinus Omaleng, SE, M.Hum.**, stands as a testament to Kuala Kencana's commitment to ensuring access to clean water for the residents of Timika.

The Water Treatment Plant (WTP), a joint venture between PTFI and the Mimika Regency Government, involves an investment of USD 10 million (IDR 150 billion). Currently undergoing a trial phase, the WTP aims to provide clean water, contributing to the enhanced quality of life for Timika city residents.

Kuala Kencana City successfully integrates environmental sustainability principles with the contemporary needs of its inhabitants. Moreover, Kuala Kencana serves as a benchmark for the development of the *lbu Kota Nusantara* (IKN) in East Kalimantan and played a pivotal role as the venue for a marathon and fast-walk events during the XX National Sports Week (PON) in Papua.

"To date, we continue to manage Kuala Kencana well as a modern mining city in Eastern Indonesia. We aspire for Kuala Kencana's continuous positive influence, aiming not only to sustain its impact but also to elevate it in the days to come," Samsul said.

Another important fact is that Kuala Kencana has a waste control and waste management system under regular surveillance. This systematic approach has significantly reduced the incidence of malaria cases, attributed to the city's clean environment. "We work closely with Public Health & Malaria Control (PHMC) to prevent the proliferation of malaria mosquitoes in our vicinity," Samsul explains.

Samsul Arifin said that the residential concept built in Kuala Kencana combines modern and natural elements, "This city was built to harmonize with nature, ensuring ample green open spaces." Samsul also mentioned, during a stroll through the city, one can encounter various indigenous Papuan fauna living freely, including Birds of Paradise, King Cockatoos, Hornbills, Black-headed Parrots, Kuskus, and Cassowaries.

PTFI built the modern city of Kuala Kencana by preserving its natural environment before handing it back to the Government of Indonesia during the post-mining phase.

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PHOTOS DESCRIPTION
Photo 1a-d Kuala Kencana is the first modern city in Indonesia that combines modern and natural elements, established by PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) on December 5, 1995 in Mimika Regency, Central Papua.

🕶 PT Freeport Indonesia 🤤



About PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI)

PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) is a mineral mining company affiliated with Freeport-McMoRan (FCX) and Mining Industry Indonesia (MIND ID). PTFI mines and processes ore to produce copper concentrates, containing gold and silver.

PTFI markets the concentrates worldwide, and primarily to its domestic copper smelter, PT Smelting. PTFI's mining operations are located in the Grasberg mineral estate, Papua - Indonesia. The large copper and gold mineral deposits contained in the Grasberg area make PTFI's mining operations one of the largest in the world. PTFI currently operates the world's largest underground mine that emphasizes responsible business practices.

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