

Media Update
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Supporting Infrastructure Development in Papua, Freeport Utilizes Tailings as Asphalt Mix Material

Timika PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) is demonstrating a strong commitment to utilizing mining waste sand (SIRSAT), commonly known as tailings. In line with this commitment, PTFI, through its Tailing Utilizations Division, continues to take initiatives to optimize the use of tailings as a raw material for asphalt mixture (filler). These tailings are utilized in the asphalt foundation layer as a substitute for sand.

The General Superintendent of Tailing Utilization at PTFI, Sastro Samser Siburian, stated that tailing asphalt is used for paving in several PTFI facilities in Timika. "In 2020, we sent tailing material as infrastructure road aggregate material to Merauke. We are undertaking a similar project this year to help accelerate the development of Papua's infrastructure," said Sastro.

Currently, asphalt with tailings mixture is already being used at various points in the lowland area of PTFI's work area. These include roads around the OB building offices, Nemangkawi Mining Institute (IPN), Water Processing Facility in Kuala Kencana, Rimba Papua Hotel (RPH), Kuala Kencana checkpoint, and the entrance road to Rimba Papua Golf.

Sastro added that tailing waste has undergone research and trials to determine the safety of this tailing asphalt. "We have collaborated with the Ministry of Public Works and Spatial Planning (PUPR) for asphalt tailing trials in Merauke Regency, and the results are very recommended for asphalt mixtures," explained Sastro.

Laboratory test results indicate a mixture density with a minimum value of 99.23 percent and a maximum of 102.35 percent, meeting the AASHTO T 166 quality standards. Furthermore, these results also comply with the technical specifications issued by the Directorate General of Highways No.02/SE/DB/2018 and the special specification SKh-2.6.28 related to the Special Specification for Hot Mix Asphalt Mixtures Using Tailing.

Supranoto, Project Manager of PT Karya Mandiri Permai, the contractor for the tailing asphalt project in PTFI's work area, explained that the tailing asphalt developed by PTFI is suitable for use in construction work as it has passed laboratory tests. "This tailing asphalt has proven to be suitable for road paving projects for the Mimika Regency Government through the Department of Public Works and Spatial Planning. In addition, this tailing asphalt has also passed asphalt material tests, including the Indonesian National Work Competency Standards (SKKNI) set by the government. This indicates that tailing asphalt has met quality standards, both in terms of quality and budget," clarified Supranoto.

There are several types of asphalt used in this project. One example is the Hot Rolled Sheet-Wearing Course (HRS-WC), which is used on the road to Rimba Papua Golf. This type of asphalt uses tailings in a composition of 40 percent. "If the production of HRS-WC asphalt requires 1,000 kilograms of sand, then 40 percent of the composition, or 400 kilograms of sand, can be replaced with tailings," explained Supranoto.

The utilization of tailings as a component in asphalt mixtures (filler) is one of PTFI's efforts to demonstrate that tailings are a resource with value and can be beneficial for construction projects, particularly in the development of infrastructure in Papua.

FOTO

KETERANGAN

Foto 1a-b



PT Freeport Indonesia, through its Tailing Utilizations Division, is paving roads using tailing asphalt in the lowland area of PTFI's work area in Timika, Papua.

Foto 2a-c

Tailing asphalt has been used at various points in the lowland area of PTFI's work area in Timika, Papua, including at the Nemangkawi Mining Institute (IPN) and the entrance road to Rimba Papua Golf.



Tentang PT Freeport Indonesia

PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) merupakan perusahaan tambang mineral afiliasi dari Freeport-McMoRan (FCX) dan Mining Industry Indonesia (MIND ID). PTFI menambang dan memproses bijih menghasilkan konsentrat yang mengandung tembaga, emas dan perak.

PTFI memasarkan konsentrat ke seluruh penjuru dunia, dan terutama ke smelter tembaga dalam negeri, PT Smelting. Operasi penambangan PTFI berlokasi di kawasan mineral Grasberg, Papua – Indonesia. Saat ini PTFI mengoperasikan tambang bawah tanah dengan metode block caving terbesar di dunia. Dalam menjalankan kegiatan operasinya, PTFI mengedepankan praktik bisnis yang bertanggung jawab.

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