



APP TO RESTORE BURNT PEATLAND

Picture: Peat Land in PT Satria Perkasa Agung Distrik Serapung was burnt last year. Now, started being clear for replanting. Coordinate poin: N 0°34'43.97" E102°57'52.71"

BACKGROUND

APP has launched its best management practice for peatland (Peatland Best Practice Management Program) in Jakarta on 13 August 2015.

The initiative aims to restore 7.000 ha of its productive area for peat conservation. According to Greenpeace, of those 7.000 ha that has dried due to canalization, will be re-wet to bring up its function.

If APP dare to sacrifice 7.000 ha of its productive concession to save the peat, at first place, APP should save and restore peat forest and peat land that has been depraved from fires incident happened during 2013 – 2015, in whole APP supplier concession

FINDING AND FACTS

On August 2nd 2015, Jikalahari found one excavator working to clear bushes and small trees spread out in peatland, in area concession of PT. Satria Perkasa Agung unit Serapung, Serapung village, Kuala Kampar subdistrict, Pelalawan district.



Picture: Heavy equipment of PT Satria Perkasa Agung district Serapung was found working to clear burnt peatland area. Point coordinate: N 0°34'43.97" E102°57'52.71"

Jikalahari walked along excavator path while it worked to clearing the bushes and surprisingly find previous burnt wood buried in peat soil. People say the land was burnt one year back.

On 22 February 2014, the same place while Jikalahari investigated land fires, we found also burning peatland. Jikalahari's investigator should walk along a footpath surrounded by fires and haze.

Beside working excavator, Jikalahari also found 2 others heavy equipment doing similar thing, clearing the bushes and small trees only with 200 m distance from the other one. Green carpet of peat turned into yellow land.

Jikalahari find some facts related to PT SPA in Pelalawan:

1. Fires has happened in area concession of PT. SPA unit Serapung in 2014. After some time, burnt area has been filled with bushes and small trees. In 2015, that burnt area is cleared by PT. SPA, and will be planted with acacia.
2. Other fact, concession of PT SPA located on deep peatland with more than 4 meters deep.
3. PT SPA is having conflict with Serapung community related to boundaries.
4. PT SPA is involved in corruption case of permit issuance (IUPHHKHT on natural forest) convicted persons of Tengku Azmun Jaafar and HM Rusli Zainal (RKT on natural forest) in Pelalawan.²



Picture: Area concession of PT Satria Perkasa Agung unit Serapung was burnt last year. Now, is being cleared. Point coordinate N 0°34'43.97" E102°57'52.71"

² Look Korporasi Korupsi Hutan Alam Riau Book's

Apart from PT. SPA above facts, Jikalahari also found interesting fact regarding other APP's supplier in related to land/forest fires:

Korporasi HTI Terbakar Tersangka 2013-2014 di Riau Oleh Kemenlhk				
No	Tersangka	lahan terbakar	Temuan	Lokasi
1	PT Ruas Utama Jaya	966 ha	P-19	Rohil
2	PT Bukit Batu Hutani Alam	30 ha	P-19	Bengkalis
3	PT Suntara Gajapati	1.200 ha	P-19	Dumai
4	PT Sakato Pratama Makmur	1.500 ha	P-19	Bengkalis
5	PT Sumatera Riang Lestari	1.000 ha	P-19	Bengkalis

1. Three other APP's supplier which —PT Ruas Utama Jaya, PT Suntara Gaja Pati, PT Sakato Pratama Makmur and PT Bukit Batu Hutani Alam— are being suspect for land/forest fires incident in 2013-2014 by Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF).
2. Referring to audit report of compliance on forest fires prevention and fires control done by UKP4, BP REDD, MoF and MoE in 2014; PT Sakato Pratama Makmur, PT Satria Perkasa Agung in Bengkalis, PT Ruas Utama Jaya and PT Suntara Gaja Pati classified as 'not comply' with fires prevention and control regulation.

Report on Legal Compliance for fires prevention and fires control done by UKP4, BP REDD, MoF and MoE in 2014 reveals the following:

1. Companies object to the report conduct their operation in deep peatland which prone to fires incident.
2. Forest/land fires incident strongly related to disability of companies to protect their concession.
3. Regular report were done not in comprehensive way, as consequence proper early detection cannot be done.
4. Companies yet not comply with minimum obligation of fires prevention and fires control procedures.

Based on research of forest/land fires expert Prof Bambang Hero Saharjo and DR Basuki Wasis, in the case of forest/land fires, they mentioned that:

"Land fires, at all, didn't cause loss to the companies, on the contrary companies gain economic benefit from the incident. Burnt peat land will not need extra cost to buy Calcium which usually used to increase PH of the soil. And cost for fertilizer can also be minimized since dust and charcoal

can be natural fertilizer to the soil. Moreover, it can save budget for pesticides purchasing.

Companies also benefit from less expenses for labor, fuel, and other related expenses."³

Another finding, on 3rd August 2015, Jikalahari found police line inside PT Arara Abadi (APP) concession area in Siak. Dark peat soil signed fires just occurred in that land. Information gathered from people live nearby stated the fires took place on July, 18th 2015. During led ul Fitri, fires continued, and finally it can be extinguished by RPK (Volunteer Fires Brigade). The fires has destroyed acacia trees and palm oil trees grown on that peatland.



Picture: Concession area of PT Satria Perkasa Agung unit Serapung which burnt last year still shown sign of burning. Point coordinate: N 0°34'43.97" E102°57'52.71"

³ Look monitoring trial att www.rct.or.id

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION



Picture: Burnt Concession of Lahan PT Arara Abadi in Siak.
Point coordinate: N 0°55'21" E102°11'6"

The above findings and facts reaffirm that fires on peatland occurred either by intention or carelessness.

Jikalahari consider that land clearing in PT SPA unit Serapung concession shouldn't be done. According to Permen LH No 7 year 2014 about Kerugian Lingkungan Hidup Akibat Pencemaran dan/atau Kerusakan Lingkungan Hidup SPA those burnt area is categorized as deprived area.

Referring to Prof Bambang Heru

Saharjo stated: "It is almost impossible to bring back burnt peatland to its normal condition. But, people should strive to recover deprived peat soil. One can be done is by adding material that functions as compost. Thus, some expenses need to be calculate for: buying compost, transportation, compost distribution, and recovery cost"

Based on the above findings and considerations, Jikalahari calls and recommend APP to:



Suppliers List

No	Nama Supplier	Region	No	Nama Supplier	Region
1	ARARA ABADI	RIAU	21	BUMI PERSADA PERMAI 1	SUMSEL
2	BALAI KAYANG MANDIRI	RIAU	22	BUMI PERSADA PERMAI 2	SUMSEL
3	BINA DAYA BENTALA	RIAU	23	BUMI MEKAR HIJAU	SUMSEL
4	BINA DUTA LAKSANA	RIAU	24	BUMI ANDALAS PERMAI	SUMSEL
5	BUKIT BATU HUTANI ALAM	RIAU	25	RIMBA HUTANI MAS	SUMSEL
6	MITRA HUTANI JAYA	RIAU	26	SEBANGUN BUMI ANDALAS	SUMSEL
7	MUTIARA SABUK KHATULISTIWA	RIAU	27	SUMBER HIJAU PERMAI	SUMSEL
8	PERAWANG SUKSES PERKASA INDUSTRI	RIAU	28	TRIPUPA JAYA	SUMSEL
9	RIAU INDO AGROPALMA	RIAU	29	ASIA TANI PERSADA	KALBAR
10	RIAU MANDAU LESTARI	RIAU	30	DAYA TANI KALBAR	KALBAR
11	RIAU ANDALAN LESTARI	RIAU	31	FINNANTARA INTIGA	KALBAR
12	RUAS UTAMA JAYA	RIAU	32	KALIMANTAN SUBUR PERMAI	KALBAR
13	SATRIA PERKASA AGUNG	RIAU	33	ACACIA ANDALAN UTAMA	KALTIM
14	SATRIA PERKASA AGUNG, SERAPUNG	RIAU	34	KELAWIT HUTAN LESTARI	KALTIM
15	SATRIA PERKASA AGUNG, KTH SINAR MERAWANG	RIAU	35	KELAWIT WANANA LESTARI	KALTIM
16	SEKATO PRATAMA MAKMUR	RIAU	36	SUMALINDO HUTANI JAYA	KALTIM
17	SUNTARA GAJAH PATI	RIAU	37	SUMALINDO HUTANI JAYA 2	KALTIM
18	WIRAKARYA SAKTI	JAMBI	38	SURYA HUTANI JAYA	KALTIM
19	TEBO MULTI AGRO	JAMBI			
20	RIMBA HUTANI MAS	JAMBI			

1. APP should enlarge its restoration effort, it should also consider broken peat from fires.

2. APP should publish data and information in where its supplier experienced fires, completed with total area affected by the fires.

3. APP should shows commitment and compliance to Indonesia's regulation including fires prevention and fires control, and taking part in bigger restoration effort by implementing PP 71 year 2014 about Peat Protection and Peat Best Management.