

## **Additional Disclosure: Adherence to the Copper Mark Interim Guidance on Criterion 19: Tailings Management (Interim Guidance)**

### **Overview**

In July 2021, the Copper Mark was asked to provide further guidance regarding its position on the practice of riverine, lake and ocean tailings systems. In response, the Copper Mark developed **The Copper Mark Interim Guidance on Tailings Management** (Interim Guidance). The process to develop the Interim Guidance included:

- Desk-based research on existing requirements for riverine, lake and ocean tailing systems,
- Consultation of industry experts,
- Limited consultation of the Copper Mark participants, partners, working,
- Review by the Copper Mark Advisory Council,
- Review and approval by the Copper Mark Board of Directors.

The Interim Guidance defines the requirement to manage tailings “in line with internationally recognized standards” in the case of riverine, lake and ocean tailings systems. It became effective on 1 October 2021 and must be implemented by all Copper Mark participants.

The Copper Mark recognizes the challenges associated with riverine tailings and requires this additional disclosure related to the management of riverine tailings at **PT-Freeport Indonesia** to support the determination made through the Copper Mark Assurance Process.

In addition, the Copper Mark is developing further guidance related to expectations for sites identified to have significant long-term environmental or social impact issues. Once finalized, PT-Freeport Indonesia will be required to demonstrate conformance with these additional requirements and complete onsite, third-party assurance in order to maintain the Copper Mark. This is expected to take place in 2023.

PT-FI has a Tailings Management System (TMS) review and approval by the Government of Indonesia. PT-FI is able to demonstrate that

- The riverine tailings system results in less risk of and less actual environmental and social impact than all tailings system alternatives; and
- The adverse impacts on riverine, marine, or coastal resources and on local communities are minimized and managed using best available practices

PTFI respects the rights of affected stakeholders and meaningfully engages them at all phases of the tailings system lifecycle, including closure.

PTFI can demonstrate that

- There is long-term monitoring of environmental, social, and local economic impacts, including cumulative impacts and implementation of a mitigation plan.
- The tailings system is periodically reviewed by external experts.
- They refine the tailings technologies, design, and management strategies to minimize risk and improve outcomes for people and the environment.

PTFI developed and maintains an interdisciplinary knowledge base to support safe tailings management throughout the tailing's lifecycle, including closure. This knowledge shall capture uncertainties due to climate change. This is evident from the public consultation on mine closure and the mine closure plan.

PTFI publicly discloses and provides access to information about the tailings system to support public accountability [here](#).

Detailed information on the controlled riverine tailings management, dated 2016, is available [here](#). The purpose of the disclosure is to provide information on:

- *How tailings transport and deposition are managed in a controlled, engineered system;*
- *Why it is the best management option for the physical and environmental setting;*
- *What the impacts of the tailings management system are, and how they are monitored and managed; and*
- *How PT-FI is preparing for eventual mine closure and reclamation of the tailings deposition area. ("Controlled Riverine Tailings Management at PT Freeport Indonesia, p.2)*

The assessment was conducted by EY. Its conclusion is supported by interviews with management, interviews with workers, interviews with community members, on-site observation, and a review of documents including historical and on-going research and monitoring controls to continual assess PT-FIs controlled riverine tailings management, the tailings management system, and the tailings management system SOPs. For more information about EY please visit their website: [EY US - Home | Building a better working world](#).

## Contact

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