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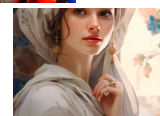
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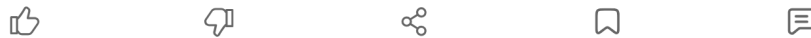
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The Beginning of Wadas Residents' Resistance Against Andesite Mining for the Bener Dam Project

Kompas.com - 02/09/2022, 17:02 IWST

Fitria Chusna Farisa Editor



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Residents' action to close the access road in Wadas Village, Purworejo, Friday (24/4/2021) (KOMPAS.com/istimewa)

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JAKARTA, KOMPAS.com - The conflict between joint TNI and Polri officers and residents in Wadas Village, Bener District, Purworejo Regency, Central Java, is in the spotlight.

On Tuesday (8/2/2022), there were many videos circulating on social media of hundreds of officers with full weapons coming to Wadas Village. From the video, it can also be seen that a number of residents were arrested and taken away by the authorities.

The attorney for the residents of Wadas Village, Julian Dwi Prasetya, said that around 60 residents were arrested by the authorities in this incident.

"Currently I am at Purworejo Police. "In total there were 60 (Wadas residents arrested)," said Julian to Kompas.com, Wednesday (9/2/2022).

Also read: National Police Says Wadas Village Residents Arrested Have Been Returned

Since yesterday, social media has been filled with hashtags #WadasMelawan, #SaveWadas, and #WadasTolakTambang.

A petition "Stop Andesite Mining Plans in Wadas Village" also appeared on the change.org page.

So, what really happened in Wadas Village? How did the conflict start in the village?

It started with a dam construction project

The conflict between officials and residents in Wadas Village stems from plans to build the Bener Dam in Purworejo Regency.

Quoted from the petition page, Bener Dam is one of the national strategic projects (PSN) which will supply most of the electricity to Yogyakarta International Airport (YIA) in Kulon Progo Regency, Yogyakarta.

Also read: Wadas, a development blemish that always recurs

Meanwhile, according to data recorded on the Committee for the Acceleration of Priority Infrastructure Provision (KPIP) website, the Bener Dam is planned to have a capacity of 100.94 cubic meters.

With this capacity, this dam can irrigate 15,069 hectares of land and reduce flood discharge by up to 210 cubic meters per second.

This dam can also provide a raw water supply of up to 1.60 meters per second, and produce 6 MW of electricity.

The Bener Dam was built using the APBN with a total project value of IDR 2,060 trillion.

The development project is under the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing (PUPR) and involves three state-owned companies, namely PT Brantas Abipraya (Persero), PT Pembangunan Perumahan (Persero) Tbk, and PT Waskita Karya (Persero) Tbk.

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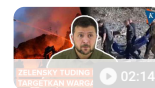
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Residents reject stone mining

The Bener Dam project requires a supply of andesite rock as construction material. The government requires this rock to be taken from Wadas Village.

From the petition page, it is revealed that the area of land in Wadas Village that will be dredged for andesite mining reaches 145 hectares.

Also read: [Police claim that land measurement security activities in Wadas Village did not result in violence](#)

Some residents also rejected the mining plan. Because, it is feared that this will damage the 28 water sources of the village residents.

Damage to water sources will result in damage to agricultural land and further loss of livelihoods for residents.

It is also feared that the mining will make Wadas Village increasingly prone to landslides.

Moreover, based on the Regional Regulations concerning Purworejo Regency Spatial Planning 2011-2031, Bener District, including Wadas Village, is part of an area prone to landslides.

Quoted from the official website of the Indonesian Forum for the Environment, walhi.or.id, the mining project in Wadas Village is a *quarry* mine or open-pit mining (dredged without residue) which is planned to run for 30 months.

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The stone mining was carried out by drilling, dredging and exploding using 5,300 tons of dynamite or 5,280,210 kilograms, to a depth of 40 meters.

The andesite rock quarry in Wadas Village is targeting 15.53 million cubic meters of andesite rock material for the construction of the Bener Dam.

If that happens, according to Walhi, the natural landscape in the village will disappear and the ecosystem will be damaged.

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Chronology of conflict

Konflik antara aparat dengan warga Desa Wadas sebenarnya bukan sekali ini saja terjadi. Terbaru, ratusan aparat mendatangi Desa Wadas pada Selasa kemarin.

Kabid Humas Polda Jawa Tengah, Kombes Pol M Iqbal Alqudusy, mengatakan, ada 250 petugas gabungan TNI, Polri, dan Satpol PP. Mereka disebut mendampingi pihak pemerintah yang hendak melakukan pengukuran tanah di desa tersebut.

"Mendampingi sekitar 70 petugas BPN (Badan Pertanahan Nasional) dan Dinas Pertanian yang melaksanakan pengukuran dan penghitungan tanaman tumbuh," kata Iqbal Alqudusy dikutip dari Kompas TV, Selasa.

Baca juga: [Pimpinan DPR Minta Polri Kedepankan Langkah Humanis Hadapi Konflik di Wadas](#)

Iqbal mengklaim, pendampingan oleh polisi dilakukan setelah Kepala Kanwil BPN Jateng beraudiensi dengan Kapolda Jateng pada Senin (7/2/202).

"Kepala BPN menyatakan kepada Kapolda bahwa Proyek Pembangunan Waduk Bener tercantum dalam Perpres Nomor 109 Tahun 2020 tentang Perubahan ke 3 atas Perpres Nomor 3 Tahun 2016 tentang Percepatan Pembangunan Proyek Strategis Nasional. Untuk itu, Polda Jateng dan stakeholder terkait diminta membantu," ujar Iqbal.

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"Ada juga surat dari Kementerian ATR/BPN Kabupaten Purworejo Provinsi Jateng Nomor AT.02.02/344-33.06/II/2022 tanggal 4 Februari 2022 perihal Permohonan Personil Pengamanan Pelaksanaan Inventarisasi dan Identifikasi di Desa Wadas Kabupaten Purworejo Provinsi Jateng," tambahnya.

Baca juga: [Moeldoko Sebut Akan Ada Evaluasi soal Keberadaan Aparat di Desa Wadas](#)

Atas dasar surat tersebut, pihak kepolisian berkoordinasi dengan stakeholder terkait untuk melaksanakan pengukuran tanah di desa tersebut.

Namun kemudian, menurut Iqbal, di lapangan terjadi ketegangan dan adu mulut antara warga yang pro dengan kontra terhadap proyek penambangan batuan.

"Adu mulut dan ancaman kepada warga yang pro. Aparat kemudian mengamankan warga yang membawa senjata tajam dan parang ke Polsek Bener," kata dia.

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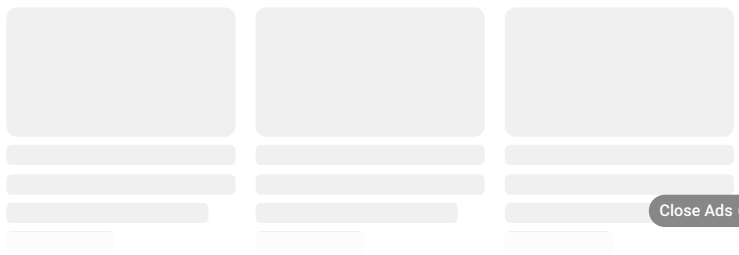
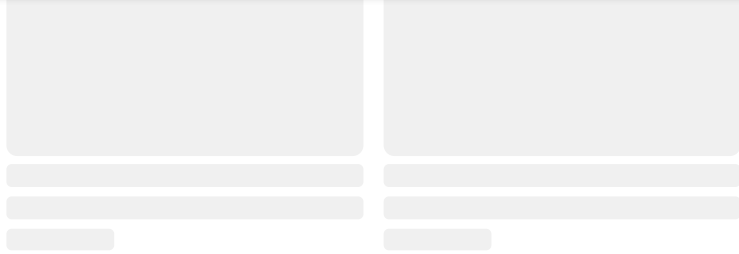
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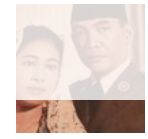
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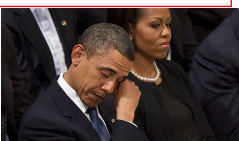
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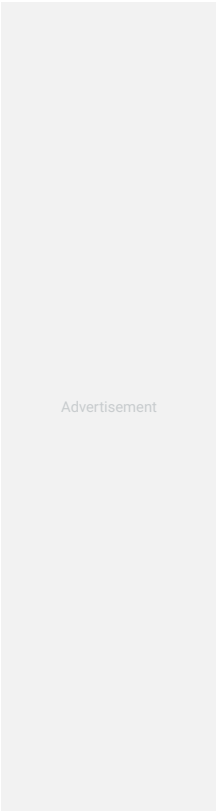
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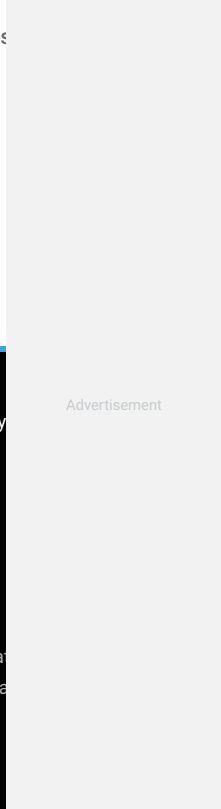


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