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The Role Of Environmental Permits As An Instrument For Regulating The Use Of The Environment

Abd. Hakim Rauf[1], Yusdiana[2], Tomic Minzathu [3]
[123]Master of Laws, Indonesian Muslim University, Makassar

ABSTRACT

Environmental permits are administrative legal instruments that play a strategic role in Indonesia's environmental protection and management system. Their existence serves not only as a formal requirement for business activities but also as a tool for controlling pollution and environmental damage, as well as a means of regulating the sustainable use of natural resources. This article aims to analyze the function of environmental permits as an instrument for environmental control and utilization within the framework of Indonesia's environmental law following regulatory reform, particularly after the enactment of the Job Creation Law. The research method used is normative legal analysis with a legislative and conceptual approach. The results of the study indicate that environmental permits serve both preventive and corrective functions in controlling environmental impacts, while also acting as a state instrument to ensure that the utilization of the environment remains within the limits of the environment's carrying capacity and resilience.

Keywords:. *environmental permits, environmental management, environmental use, environmental law*

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND

The environment is a fundamental element that supports the survival of humans and other living beings. A high-quality environment is a key prerequisite for achieving societal well-being in ecological, social, and economic dimensions. In the context of national development, the environment is understood not only as an ecological space but also as a strategic resource that supports development activities and the fulfillment of human needs. Therefore, environmental protection and management are issues that are inseparable from the national development agenda.

Indonesia, a country blessed with abundant natural resources, faces significant challenges in managing and utilizing these resources sustainably. Population growth, accelerated development, industrialization, and the expansion of business activities across various sectors have increased pressure on the environment. Mining, industrial activities, large-scale plantations, and infrastructure development often result in negative impacts such as pollution and environmental degradation, including deteriorating water and air quality, land degradation, and the loss of biodiversity. These impacts are not only ecological but also give rise to social and economic issues, particularly for communities that depend directly on natural resources. This increasing environmental pressure demands that the government and

stakeholders develop more effective management strategies, based on the principles of sustainability and public participation, so that development can proceed without sacrificing environmental conservation.

Within the framework of the rule of law, the state has a constitutional obligation to protect the environment as part of fulfilling the human right to a good and healthy environment. This obligation is realized through the formulation and enforcement of environmental laws that position the state as the primary actor in regulating activities that have the potential to cause environmental impacts. One legal instrument that plays a strategic role in Indonesia's environmental legal system is the environmental permit. An environmental permit is an administrative decision issued to business entities or activities, accompanied by specific conditions, to prevent environmental pollution and damage.

From the perspective of administrative law, a permit constitutes an exception to a general prohibition established in the public interest and is always accompanied by certain restrictions and obligations. In the context of the environment, an environmental permit cannot be understood merely as an administrative formality, but rather as a preventive state control instrument. This function is reflected in the obligation to prepare environmental documents, such as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or UKL-UPL, as the basis for issuing the permit, so that potential environmental impacts can be scientifically assessed from the planning stage. This approach reflects the application of the precautionary principle in modern environmental law. In addition to serving as a regulatory instrument, environmental permits also function as a means of regulating the use of the environment to ensure it remains within the limits of the environment's carrying capacity and resilience. Through environmental permits, the state regulates patterns of natural resource utilization while establishing obligations for businesses to maintain the sustainability of environmental functions. In practice, environmental permits also serve as the basis for environmental oversight and enforcement through the application of administrative sanctions. However, the dynamics of licensing policies following the enactment of the Job Creation Law have created new challenges in maintaining a balance between development interests and environmental protection, making a study of the role of environmental permits as instruments for environmental control and utilization increasingly relevant and important. Furthermore, increased public awareness and demands for transparency also heighten the urgency of this research, as public participation can strengthen accountability and the effectiveness of environmental permit management in the practice of sustainable development.

B. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

How does the environmental permit function as an instrument for the management and utilization of the environment within Indonesia's environmental legal system ?

C. OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH

This article aims to comprehensively analyze and explain the role of environmental permits within Indonesia's environmental legal framework, particularly as an instrument for controlling pollution and environmental damage, as well as a tool for regulating the use of natural resources to ensure they remain within the limits of the environment's carrying

capacity and resilience. Additionally, this article aims to examine the relevance and effectiveness of environmental permits in the context of changes to environmental permitting policies following the Job Creation Law.

D. SIGNIFICANT OF THE RESEARCH

Theoretically, this article is expected to contribute to the development of environmental law studies, particularly in understanding the role and function of environmental permits as strategic administrative law instruments in environmental protection and management. This study is also expected to enrich the academic literature on the relationship between permitting policies and the principles of sustainable development.

In practical terms, this paper is intended to serve as a reference for policymakers, government officials, and business operators in understanding the importance of environmental permits as a tool for controlling and regulating the use of the environment. Additionally, this article can serve as a reference for students and researchers in preparing academic papers in the field of environmental law.

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. THE ROLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION

In administrative law, a permit is understood as a concrete, individual, and final administrative decision issued by an authorized official to authorize an act that is otherwise prohibited by law, subject to certain conditions.[1] In the context of environmental law, permits serve a broader function than general administrative permits, as they act as instruments of state control over the activities of the public and businesses that have the potential to impact the environment. Environmental permits are not merely a form of administrative approval, but rather a means of restricting and regulating the legal conduct of legal entities to ensure it aligns with the objectives of environmental protection.

The concept of the environment in Indonesian environmental law is defined as a unified space comprising all objects, forces, conditions, and living beings—including humans and their behavior—that influence the sustainability of life and the well-being of humans and other living beings.[2] This definition indicates that the environment has not only ecological dimensions but also encompasses interrelated social and economic dimensions. Therefore, environmental management and protection cannot be approached in isolation but must be addressed through a holistic and sustainable approach. This perspective aligns with contemporary environmental law literature, which emphasizes the interconnection between environmental protection, social justice, and sustainable economic development.

In legal studies, the function of a legal instrument is understood as its role or purpose in achieving specific legal objectives. In the context of environmental permits, the function in question refers to the role of environmental permits as a tool for controlling environmental

[1] Philipus M. Hadjon, Administrative Law and Good Governance, Yogyakarta: UII Press, 2021.

[2] Mas Achmad Santosa, Contemporary Environmental Law, Jakarta: ICEL Press, 2022.

impacts and regulating the use of natural resources.[3] Thus, environmental permits cannot be viewed merely as an administrative procedure, but rather as a substantive instrument aimed at achieving the goals of environmental protection and management. Environmental law literature positions environmental permits as part of a public policy framework that serves both preventive and corrective functions in regulating human activities that have the potential to harm the environment.

In environmental law, instruments are defined as tools or means used by the state to implement policies for the protection and management of the environment. These instruments include various legal mechanisms, such as permitting, the establishment of environmental quality standards, environmental economic instruments, and administrative sanctions.[4] Among these various instruments, environmental permits play a crucial role as they serve as a gatekeeping mechanism for the implementation of business and development activities. Through environmental permits, the government can ensure that any activity with the potential to impact the environment meets environmental protection requirements.

In environmental law literature, environmental management is understood as a systematic effort to prevent, mitigate, and remediate environmental pollution and damage. Management is carried out through the establishment of environmental requirements, oversight of business activities, and law enforcement in the event of violations.[5] The environmental management approach emphasizes the importance of preventive measures—that is, taking steps to prevent environmental damage from the planning stage of business activities—so that serious and irreversible environmental damage can be avoided.

Meanwhile, environmental utilization is defined as the use of natural resources and environmental functions to meet human needs and support development. However, such utilization must be carried out wisely, equitably, and sustainably so as not to exceed the environment's carrying capacity and resilience.[6] Environmental law literature emphasizes that the use of the environment is always accompanied by an obligation to preserve its functions, meaning that environmental use and protection are inseparable.

Based on this conceptual understanding, environmental permits within Indonesia's environmental legal system are understood as administrative legal instruments that serve a dual function: as a control mechanism and as a means of regulating the use of the environment. Within the framework of environmental control, environmental permits function as a preventive instrument that requires any business or activity with the potential to cause environmental impacts to obtain a permit before the activity is carried out. This

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[3] Andri G. Wibisana, "Legal Instruments in Environmental Management," Journal of Law & Development, Vol. 52, No. 1, 2022.

[4] Ni Nyoman Putri Purnama Santhi, "Environmental Permits as an Instrument of Environmental Policy," Causa Law Journal, Vol. 5, No. 2, 2023.

[5] Takdir Rahmadi, Environmental Law in Indonesia, Jakarta: RajaGrafindo Persada, 2021.

[6] Absori & Kelik Wardiono, Ecological Justice in Sustainable Development, Surakarta: Muhammadiyah University Press, 2022.

requirement reflects the application of the precautionary principle, whereby potential environmental impacts must be assessed in advance before an activity is approved.[7]

From the perspective of modern environmental law, an environmental permit constitutes a form of preventive state intervention through administrative authority. The state exercises control starting from the planning stage of business activities by requiring the preparation of environmental documents such as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) as the basis for issuing an environmental permit. These documents contain scientific analyses of potential environmental impacts as well as management and monitoring measures that must be implemented by business operators. Thus, environmental permits serve as legal instruments that bind the results of scientific studies into legally binding obligations.[8]

Empirical literature indicates that the regulatory function of environmental permits is evident in industrial practices, particularly in industries that generate waste. In the textile industry, for example, environmental permits require the construction and operation of wastewater treatment facilities in accordance with environmental quality standards. If these requirements are not met, the government has the authority to impose administrative sanctions, such as government enforcement actions, suspension, or revocation of the environmental permit. Recent studies indicate that the inclusion of technical requirements in environmental permits effectively reduces pollution levels when accompanied by consistent monitoring.[9]

In addition to their preventive nature, environmental permits also serve corrective and repressive functions through administrative sanctions. In environmental law literature, administrative sanctions are considered more effective because they can be applied quickly and are focused on environmental restoration. Violations of environmental permit provisions are not merely viewed as administrative violations, but as a form of non-compliance with environmental protection obligations. [10] Therefore, environmental permits are a key instrument in the environmental law enforcement system.

On the other hand, environmental permits also serve as a regulatory tool for the use of the environment. In the mining sector, environmental permits not only regulate operational activities but also include reclamation and post-mining obligations as a form of business operators' responsibility for environmental restoration.[11] In large-scale infrastructure development, environmental permits require an AMDAL study that includes ecological and

[7] Andri G. Wibisana, "The Precautionary Principle in Indonesian Environmental Law," Indonesian Journal of Legislation, Vol. 19 No. 2, 2022.

[8] Rizki Amalia, "AMDAL as the Legal Basis for Environmental Permits," Inuu Law Journal, Vol. 9 No. 1, 2023.

[9] Siti Sundari Rangkuti et al., "Effectiveness of Environmental Permits in Industrial Waste Control," 2024

[10] Dwi Elvia Ningsih, "Administrative Sanctions in Environmental Law Enforcement," Jurnal De Jure, Vol. 14 No. 1, 2023.

[11] Salim HS, Mining and Environmental Law, Jakarta: Sinar Grafika, 2021.

social impacts, so that the use of space and natural resources can be carried out in a planned and sustainable manner.[12]

The literature review also shows that environmental permits have strong legal standing and can be tested judicially. State administrative court decisions that annul environmental permits due to procedural or substantive flaws confirm that environmental permits are an accountable instrument of state control.[13] Changes to licensing policies following the Job Creation Law have created new challenges, but recent literature confirms that the functions of environmental control and regulation can still be maintained as long as environmental approvals are based on adequate scientific assessments and effective oversight.[14] Public participation in the EIA process and the monitoring of environmental permit implementation are also considered key elements in ensuring accountability and the sustainability of environmental protection. [15]

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

A. THE ROLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION

In administrative law, a permit is understood as a concrete, individual, and final administrative decision issued by an authorized official to authorize an act that is otherwise prohibited by law, subject to certain conditions. This concept emphasizes that a permit is not merely a formal document or a routine administrative approval, but rather a legally binding legal instrument with legal consequences for the recipient. In other words, a permit is a state control mechanism that combines administrative authority with the protection of public interests, so its issuance must adhere to legally valid procedures and the principle of justice. In the context of public life, a permit serves as a sign of state intervention that balances individual freedom or that of business entities with the interests of the broader community. For example, constructing a building in a flood-prone area cannot be done without a permit from the local government because it poses potential risks to nearby residents. This demonstrates that a permit serves a function beyond the merely administrative; it acts as a legal instrument regulating societal behavior to safeguard the public interest.

In the field of environmental law, the concept of a permit has a broader scope than that of a typical administrative permit. An environmental permit serves not only as a document of approval but also as a state instrument for regulating the activities of the public and businesses that have the potential to cause negative impacts on the environment. Thus, environmental permits play a strategic role in achieving sustainable development because they directly integrate scientific, social, economic, and ecological considerations into the

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[12] Hefni Effendi et al., "Environmental Impact Assessment of Infrastructure and Environmental Protection," Journal of Environmental Policy and Law, Vol. 4, No. 1, 2024.

[13] Jeffry Halim, "The Revocation of Environmental Permits in Administrative Court Rulings," De Jure: Critical Laws Journal, Vol. 5, No. 2, 2024.

[14] Andika Wijaya, "Environmental Permits Following the Job Creation Law," 2024.

[15] Maria S.W. Sumardjono, "Community Participation in Environmental Protection," Rechtsvinding Journal, Vol. 13, No. 1, 2025.

mechanisms for regulating human activities. In this context, environmental permits are not merely formal procedures but legal instruments that are preventive, corrective, and repressive in nature, binding businesses to fulfill their legal responsibilities regarding environmental conservation.

Under Indonesian law, the environment encompasses a unified space comprising all objects, forces, conditions, and living beings—including humans and their behavior—that influence the sustainability of life and the well-being of humans and other living beings. This understanding affirms that the environment possesses interrelated ecological, social, and economic dimensions. Therefore, environmental management and protection must be holistic and sustainable. This approach aligns with contemporary environmental law literature that emphasizes the interconnection between environmental protection, social justice, and sustainable economic development. Within this framework, environmental permits serve as a means of integrating scientific analysis with socio-economic considerations, ensuring that every permitting decision balances ecological impacts, community well-being, and economic benefits. For example, a permit for the construction of a factory in a coastal area must take into account the impact of liquid waste on seawater quality, the potential damage to mangrove ecosystems, and the well-being of local fishermen, so that the issued permit reflects collective interests and environmental protection.

The function of environmental permits can be understood through several interrelated dimensions. The preventive function plays a central role because permits regulate activities that have the potential to cause negative impacts before they are carried out. This approach aligns with the precautionary principle, under which every potential environmental impact is analyzed and managed from the planning stage. Environmental documents, such as the Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA) and UKL-UPL, form the basis for permit issuance. These documents contain scientific studies regarding ecological, social, and economic impacts, as well as mitigation measures that must be implemented by business operators. Thus, environmental permits bind these scientific recommendations into legal obligations that must be complied with. Empirical studies show that the application of the preventive function effectively reduces the potential for environmental damage. For example, in the textile industry, the implementation of environmental permits requires the construction of wastewater treatment facilities in accordance with established quality standards. When oversight is conducted consistently, the technical obligations stipulated in these permits can reduce water pollution levels and negative impacts on surrounding communities.

In addition to its preventive function, an environmental permit also serves corrective and repressive functions. The corrective function comes into play when there is a violation of the permit's provisions, in which case the government may order the remediation or restoration of the affected environmental conditions. The repressive function is enforced through administrative sanctions against permit violators, which may include warnings, fines, suspension, or revocation of the permit. Administrative sanctions are considered effective because they can be applied quickly, are focused on environmental restoration, and emphasize that violations of environmental permits are not merely administrative offenses but constitute non-compliance with legal obligations to protect the environment. Practices in

the mining sector demonstrate that the revocation of permits due to the failure to conduct post-mining reclamation underscores the business operator's responsibility for environmental restoration and creates a significant deterrent effect. This example demonstrates that environmental permits are not merely regulatory instruments but also enforcement tools capable of ensuring that business operators are legally accountable for the impacts they cause.

In addition to serving as a regulatory tool, environmental permits also function as instruments for managing the use of natural resources. The use of land, water, and minerals must be carried out in a prudent, equitable, and sustainable manner. Environmental permits establish operational limits, restoration obligations, and social responsibilities for businesses, ensuring that the use of natural resources does not damage ecosystems and continues to benefit the community. In infrastructure development, environmental permits require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that addresses ecological and social impacts, ensuring that the use of land and natural resources is planned, controlled, and sustainable, while maintaining a balance between economic development and environmental conservation. For example, dam construction must consider the impacts on river flow, wildlife habitats, and the rights of affected communities, so that the permits issued reflect decisions that comprehensively consider ecological, social, and economic aspects.

Environmental permits also serve as a strategic public policy instrument. As part of the state's regulatory system, permits function preventively, correctively, and repressively, and are integrated with other legal instruments, such as the establishment of environmental quality standards, economic instruments, and participatory public oversight mechanisms. This integration makes environmental permits the entry point for regulating and controlling all activities that have the potential to impact the environment. This approach underscores that environmental management and protection cannot be separated from the utilization of natural resources; therefore, every business decision must holistically consider ecological, social, and economic impacts. In the context of urban development, environmental permits play a role in regulating the use of public spaces, preventing illegal construction, and maintaining air and water quality, thereby ensuring the quality of life for the community remains preserved.

The implementation of environmental permits faces various challenges, both legal and practical. Legally, permits have a strong legal standing, but they can still be challenged in administrative courts if there are procedural or substantive defects. Court rulings that revoke permits demonstrate that permits are an accountable instrument of state control and must comply with applicable legal procedures. Changes in permitting policies following the Job Creation Law have raised challenges regarding the harmonization of business facilitation and environmental protection. Practical challenges arise in the oversight of permit implementation, the limited technical capacity of supervisory officials, and potential conflicts of interest between businesses and the government. Empirical studies show that the effectiveness of environmental permits depends heavily on consistent oversight, public participation, and the strict enforcement of administrative sanctions. Public participation in the EIA process and permit oversight is a critical element for ensuring accountability and the sustainability of environmental protection, as the public can identify environmental impacts

not captured in formal assessments and mitigate the risk of permit abuse by business operators.

From the perspective of modern environmental law, environmental permits represent a form of preventive state intervention through administrative authority. The state regulates business activities from the planning stage by using environmental documents as the basis for issuing permits. This approach emphasizes that environmental management and protection must be integrated with the sustainable use of natural resources. Environmental permits bind the results of scientific studies into legally binding obligations, so that business operators must implement the recommended mitigation measures. Contemporary legal literature emphasizes the principles of sustainability and social justice in the application of environmental permits, in line with the global sustainable development agenda, where economic activities must be in harmony with environmental protection and public welfare.

Various empirical studies show that the implementation of environmental permits is effective across various sectors. In the textile industry, the requirement to treat wastewater in accordance with quality standards reduces water pollution. In the mining sector, environmental permits regulate post-mining reclamation and restoration obligations, reinforcing businesses' environmental responsibilities. In infrastructure development, environmental permits require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that covers ecological and social impacts, enabling controlled spatial planning and ecological risk mitigation, as well as the protection of the rights of affected communities. In the agricultural sector, environmental permits are used to regulate the use of pesticides and fertilizers, ensuring that soil and water quality are maintained and agricultural production can be carried out sustainably. In the fisheries sector, environmental permits ensure that fish farming or fishing activities do not damage aquatic ecosystems, while also safeguarding the well-being of fishermen and coastal communities.

In addition to their application in the industrial sector, environmental permits also play a crucial role in the fisheries and marine sectors, serving as a vital tool for maintaining the balance of aquatic ecosystems. Large-scale fish farming or fishing activities can affect water quality, cause coral reef damage, and impact the livelihoods of traditional fishermen. Environmental permits require an ecological impact analysis that covers feed usage, aquaculture waste, and fishing methods. For example, permits for coastal shrimp farms require effective waste management to prevent pollution of mangrove ecosystems, while also regulating the distance between farms and settlements to ensure communities are not adversely affected. This demonstrates that environmental permits serve not only as administrative regulatory tools but also as mechanisms to protect the rights of communities and sensitive ecosystems.

In the agricultural sector, environmental permits play a role in regulating the use of pesticides, fertilizers, and the management of agricultural waste. The use of land and water resources must be carried out with due regard for ecosystem conservation. For example, permits for organic farming areas require businesses to adopt environmentally friendly practices, avoid the use of hazardous chemicals, and maintain water and soil quality. With these permits in place, the government can monitor and ensure that sustainable agricultural

practices are carried out in accordance with legal and environmental standards, thereby ensuring that food production remains sustainable without damaging ecosystems.

Based on this study, it can be concluded that environmental permits play a strategic role as multifunctional administrative legal instruments. These functions include the control of environmental impacts through preventive, corrective, and repressive measures, the regulation of sustainable natural resource utilization, and serving as a public policy instrument that integrates scientific analysis, the precautionary principle, and the principle of sustainability into legally binding obligations for businesses. The effectiveness of environmental permit implementation depends heavily on consistent oversight, public engagement, and the enforcement of firm administrative sanctions. Despite facing regulatory challenges and limited oversight capacity, legal literature emphasizes that the functions of environmental control and regulation can be maintained through scientific foundations, accountable procedures, and effective oversight mechanisms. Thus, environmental permits are not merely administrative procedures but substantive instruments that are preventive, corrective, and repressive, serving as a crucial component of Indonesia's environmental legal system and a vital tool for achieving sustainable development in harmony with environmental protection.

In the context of future environmental law development, the implementation of environmental permits must continue to be improved by taking into account the dynamics of development, climate change, and public demands for accountability and transparency. Public participation, academic engagement, and the use of information technology can enhance the quality of oversight and the effectiveness of environmental permits. Conceptually, environmental permits are not merely administrative control tools but also symbols of the state's and society's responsibility to maintain a balance between economic development, social justice, and environmental sustainability. Moving forward, the integration of environmental permits with international legal instruments, the principles of sustainable development, and global best practices will further affirm the strategic role of environmental permits as modern legal instruments capable of addressing the environmental and development challenges of the 21st century.

CONCLUSION

Based on the comprehensive literature review, as well as the analysis and discussion presented above, it can be concluded that environmental permits hold a highly strategic position within the country's administrative legal system as well as within Indonesia's environmental legal framework. Environmental permits cannot be understood merely as formal administrative approvals, but rather as substantive legal instruments that are legally binding. The existence of environmental permits reflects the state's intervention in regulating human activities and business operations that have the potential to impact the environment, with the primary objective of preserving environmental sustainability and protecting the broader public interest.

Environmental permits serve as environmental control instruments that are preventive, corrective, and punitive in nature. The preventive function is reflected in the requirement that

every business plan or activity with the potential to cause environmental impacts must first undergo an environmental assessment process, such as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or an Environmental Management Plan (EMP), before a permit is issued. This mechanism demonstrates the application of the precautionary principle in environmental law, whereby potential negative impacts on the environment must be identified, analyzed, and managed from the planning stage. Thus, environmental permits play a crucial role in preventing serious and irreversible environmental pollution and damage, while ensuring that development is carried out in a planned and responsible manner.

In addition to its preventive function, an environmental permit also serves corrective and repressive functions that are equally important in environmental law enforcement. The corrective function allows the government to order repairs, restoration, or a temporary suspension of activities if violations of permit provisions or environmental impacts inconsistent with the management plan are found. Meanwhile, the repressive function is realized through the imposition of administrative sanctions, such as written warnings, government enforcement, suspension, and even revocation of the environmental permit. These administrative sanctions underscore that violations of environmental permits are not merely routine administrative offenses, but rather a form of non-compliance with the legal obligation to protect the environment. In practice, consistently applied administrative sanctions have proven effective in creating a deterrent effect and encouraging business operators to comply with environmental regulations.

Furthermore, environmental permits also serve as a regulatory instrument for the sustainable use of natural resources. The utilization of the environment—whether in the industrial, mining, agricultural, fisheries, or infrastructure development sectors—cannot be separated from the obligation to preserve environmental functions. Through environmental permits, the state establishes operational limits, environmental management and monitoring obligations, as well as restoration responsibilities that must be carried out by business operators. Thus, environmental permits serve as a means to balance economic development interests with environmental protection and public welfare, ensuring that the use of natural resources does not exceed the environment's carrying capacity and resilience.

Environmental permits also serve as accountable public policy instruments that are subject to legal review. Administrative court rulings that revoke environmental permits due to procedural or substantive defects demonstrate that such permits constitute a form of state control that must adhere to the principles of legality, transparency, and accountability. Changes to permitting policies following the Job Creation Law do present unique challenges, particularly in maintaining a balance between ease of doing business and environmental protection. However, legal analysis indicates that the functions of controlling and regulating environmental use can still be maintained as long as environmental approvals are based on adequate scientific studies, transparent procedures, and effective oversight.

Thus, it can be asserted that environmental permits are an essential legal instrument within Indonesia's environmental legal system. Environmental permits serve not only as an administrative tool but also as a mechanism for control, law enforcement, and the regulation of sustainable environmental use. The success of environmental permits in protecting the

environment is largely determined by the consistent application of the precautionary principle, the effectiveness of oversight, public participation, and the firm enforcement of administrative sanctions. Therefore, environmental permits are a crucial component in achieving sustainable development that is in harmony with environmental protection and social justice.

Based on these conclusions, several recommendations can be made to improve the effectiveness of environmental permit implementation. The government needs to strengthen oversight mechanisms and the enforcement of administrative sanctions to ensure that environmental obligations are consistently fulfilled. Public participation must be optimized in the process of preparing environmental documents and monitoring permit implementation to ensure accountability and transparency. Furthermore, the integration of environmental permits with international best practices and the principles of sustainable development needs to be expanded, and the use of information technology and data-driven monitoring systems can enhance the effectiveness of oversight, strengthen accountability, and ensure that environmental permits function as strategic instruments for achieving sustainable development and environmental responsibility.

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