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## Article

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## Oil Price and Leverage for Mining Sector Companies in Indonesia

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### ABSTRACT

The research was conducted to prove empirically the impact of oil prices, interest rates, profitability, company size, and liquidity on leverage in mining sector companies in Indonesia. The study population was 47 companies in the mining sector, using the purposive sampling method, the research sample was selected as many as 32 companies in a period of 5 years from 2014 to 2018 so that 160 observations were obtained. The data analysis method used a random-effects model selected from panel data regression. The empirical findings show that profitability, liquidity, world oil prices, and interest rates have a negative effect on leverage, while firm size has no impact. The empirical findings of this study can help the mining sector industry in Indonesia in making decisions about corporate debt policies that are significantly influenced by oil prices, profitability, liquidity, and interest rates to create optimal debt policies.

**Keywords:** Oil Price, Leverage, Mining Sector Companies, Indonesia

**JEL Classifications:** G22, E22, E44, Q43

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The drop in world oil prices has created high uncertainty for mining companies, which is reflected in their financial performance, particularly concerning the level of debt held by companies. Based on data released from the OJK (2019), the total debt of mining sector companies in 2014 amounted to 141.82 trillion rupiahs, experiencing a decrease to 115.62 trillion rupiahs, but in 2018 it experienced a sharp increase of 53% to 137.97 trillion rupiahs. The high increase in debt has implications for increasing the company's financial burden to fulfill its obligations and has the potential to cause financial distress (Endri and Yeriarto, 2019). Based on the debt performance of mining sector companies, the average Debt to Total Assets Ratio (DAR) of this sector has decreased since 2015. The DAR average started to increase in 2017 and is consistently increasing until it reached the highest point in the past 5 years in 2018 with 54,01%. The

lowest DAR average value in this period happened in 2016, with the average value at 50,21%.

Research on the leverage response to changes in oil prices in mining sector companies has not been widely conducted. Many previous studies have proven that changes in stock returns are due to fluctuations in oil prices (Endri et al., 2021; Sivilianto and Endri, 2019; Endri and Nugraha, 2019; Gupta, 2016; Kang et al., 2016; Al-hajj et al., 2018). Aboura and Chevallier (2013) found the opposite effect of leverage due to changes in oil prices. Salisu and Fasa (2013) found evidence of the effect of persistence and leverage on oil price volatility. Narayan and Nasiri (2020) found that oil market activity affects leverage. Domanski et al. (2015) reveal that the drop in oil prices has led to a rapid decline in asset value and greater leverage. Korotin et al. (2017) found the optimal debt portfolio under oil price uncertainty. An optimal portfolio can reduce financial risk in the event of oil price uncertainty.

Apart from the price of oil, the company's leverage is also determined by other factors such as; interest rates, profitability, liquidity, and company size. Endri et al. (2019), Widyawati and Endri (2018), and Shambor (2017) concluded that an increase in profitability can reduce debt. These results differ from studies of Alipour et al. (2015) and Saleem et al. (2013) which prove that an increase in profitability can increase the company's leverage. Viriya and Suryaningsih (2017) prove that profitability does not affect leverage. For company size, Widyawati and Endri (2018), Gómez et al. (2016) and Alipour et al. (2015) found that a larger company size can reduce leverage, while the findings of Shambor (2017) and Saleem et al. (2013) prove otherwise. Lumapow (2018) found that firm size is independent of debt policy. Research on liquidity was conducted by Shambor (2017), Viriya and Suryaningsih (2017), and Alipour et al. (2015) concluded that an increase in liquidity could increase corporate debt, while Sabir and Malik (2012) proved otherwise.

Mokhova and Zinecker (2014) revealed that in the decision-making process regarding the leverage and sources of financing it is also determined by macroeconomic variables. The interest rate varies as a macroeconomic variable has an impact on leverage, Dell'Araccia et al. (2014) found that a reduction in interest rates led to greater leverage. Bokpin (2009) proved that expectations of an interest rate increase positively influence companies to make changes to debt policy. With the phenomenon of a drop in world oil prices and a gap in empirical research, the study identifies the determinants of leverage for mining sector companies in Indonesia, which consist of; oil prices, financial performance, and macroeconomic variables.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Leverage or also known as the capital structure is influenced by three groups of factors, namely; company-specific factors, industry-specific variables, and macroeconomic variables. Capital structure theory developed quite rapidly after Modigliani and Miller (1958) first disclosed the proposition of leverage. Leverage is an important decision for companies because they have an impact on company value both through the share price channel and the cost of capital (Ahmed and Sabah, 2021). Therefore, in debt policy, companies must be able to create optimal capital structures that maximize share prices or minimize the cost of capital. The trade-off theory (TOT) (Jensen and Meckling, 1976) states that the company's capital structure is achieved through a balance between agency costs and bankruptcy, tax benefits, and others. Agency costs can determine the optimal capital structure, so to reduce agency costs, debt structures and ownership must be determined. TOT proves that with the tax benefits of large debt and/or bankruptcy costs associated with small debt, profit, size, and growth have a positive impact on leverage.

Ross (1977) and others developed a leverage theory with information asymmetry between investors and managers, better known as signal theory. Ross (1977) and others developed a leverage theory with information asymmetry between investors and managers, which is called the signaling theory. Signaling

theory says that leverage provides information to investors about cash flow because managers make changes to debt policy to convey profitability and risk to external users. The pecking order theory (POT) expressed by Myers (1984) uses a hypothesis of information inequality between shareholders, creditors, and managers when debt or equity is taken. POT does not require an optimal capital structure but companies usually follow a sequence of funding options; that is, companies prefer funding from retained earnings to third party funding and prefer debt financing to stock funding. The theory of free cash flow (FCFT) was revealed by Jensen (1986) states that companies face a conflict of interest with shareholders and managers by using substantial free cash flow. When a company is leveraged, it creates an obligation to pay regular interest. This has an impact on decreasing the available cash balance for the company, thereby reducing the incentive for misuse of company cash (Stretcher and Johnson, 2011). Agency costs can be lowered with debt through saving free cash flow and pressuring managers operating at the lowest cost to pay off leverage and avoid bankruptcy.

### 2.1. Profitability and Leverage

Profitability is an indicator of the company's success in generating profits from the production process that is carried out. A company with high profit will have a capital overflow, so there is a high chance that the company will have a low level of debt. As explained in the POT, it states that "the company with high profitability must have a low level of debt." The company will prioritize using their internal fundings compared to using external fundings. Shahnian et al. (2020), Doku et al. (2016), Shambor (2017), and Sabir and Malik (2012) concluded that the profitability variable has a negative influence on corporate debt policy. The research result of Saleem et al. (2013) concluded that the ROE variable has a positive effect on corporate leverage. Meanwhile, the research result of Viriya and Suryaningsih (2017) concluded that the ROE variable does not affect corporate debt policy.

H<sub>1</sub>: Profitability affects the leverage of mining companies

### 2.2. Firm Size and Leverage

According to the TOT hypothesis, the bigger the company, the higher amount of debt the company can use, which is related to the risks of a big company. Low company risk may also cause the cost of debt to be lower than smaller companies, therefore pushing the big companies to borrow bigger in debt. Gómez et al. (2016) stated that size has a negative effect on company leverage, contrary to the results of Shambor (2017) who found that size has a positive impact on leverage. Lumapow's research (2018) found that the measure is independent of the company's debt policy.

H<sub>2</sub>: Company size affects the leverage of the mining company

### 2.3. Liquidity and Leverage

The liquidity of a company represents an idle balance so that the company can use internal funds as a source of financing. POT explains why companies have preference orders in choosing the source of fundings. With high liquidity, the company doesn't need external funding as the internal funding is enough. Research is done by Shambor (2017) and Harahap et al. (2020) concluded that liquidity has a negative effect on corporate leverage. However, a contradictory finding was proposed by Sabir and Malik (2012)

and Endri et al. (2020b) that states that liquidity has a positive effect on leverage.

H<sub>3</sub>: Liquidity affects the leverage of mining companies

#### 2.4. Oil Price and Leverage

The increase in oil prices will increase the chance for mining companies that produce oil to obtain a higher profit. On the other hand, for companies in other mining sectors, the increase of world crude oil prices will increase their operational cost, especially on fuel usage. The operational cost for fuel has a pretty big portion in the mining industry, therefore if world oil prices increase, companies will find alternative funding, one of which includes increasing debt to fulfill their operational needs. This is in line with the POT which explains how companies with large profits have lower leverage. Companies with large profits have abundant internal sources of funds. Thus, the company will prioritize the use of their internal funding compared to their external funding. Research is done by Onguka (2019) and Kelikume and Muritala (2019) state that the world oil price has a negatively significant influence on leverage. A contradictory conclusion is made by research done by Wattanatorn and Kanchanapoom (2012), Gupta (2016), and Dadashi et al. (2015) which concluded that world oil price has a positive significant influence on corporate debt policy.

H<sub>4</sub>: The price of oil affects the leverage of mining companies

#### 2.5. Interest Rate and Leverage

Rationally, companies tend to increase debt if interest rates fall because the impact is low-interest expenses. Conversely, high-interest rates will have an impact on increasing opportunity costs. POT theory states that if there are external funds in the funding of a company, therefore the first alternative of external data chosen is using debts, compared with having to issue new shares. If interest rates decline, this will further encourage companies to use debt to meet their funding. Conversely, if interest rates increase, this can make companies reconsider using debt because interest costs will be even greater. The research was done by Endri et al. (2020a), Riaz et al. (2014), and Chadegani et al. (2011) concluded that the interest rate has a negatively significant impact on corporate debt policy. Mokhova and Zinecker (2014) found an opposite relationship between interest rates and capital structure, both long and short term. Nejad and Wasiuzzaman (2015) and Memon et al. (2015) stated that the company gets more debt if low-interest rates. Rehman (2016) found that high interest rates lead to fewer tax benefits than the cost of difficulties arising from the use of debt. However, Khémiri and Noubbigh (2018) state that when the interest rate increases, companies tend to increase is followed by the expected increase in inflation. Bokpin (2009) found that companies prioritize short-term debt over long-term debt. Research conducted by Endri et al. (2020), Riaz et al. (2014), and Chadegani et al. (2011) concluded that an increase in interest rates causes a decrease in corporate leverage. Muthama et al. (2013) stated that an increase in interest rates can increase long-term debt but has the opposite effect on short-term debt. However, the findings of Muthama et al. (2013) found that an increase in interest rates increases corporate debt.

H<sub>5</sub>: Interest rates affect the leverage of mining companies

### 3. METHODOLOGY

The research population is mining sector companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange from 2014 to 2018. This type of research is causation, which aims to prove hypotheses and analyze the influence between two or more variables on other variables. This study aims to estimate the impact of the variable oil price, interest rates, profitability, size, and liquidity on the dependent variable of capital structure. The definitions of the research variables and measurements are shown in Table 1.

This research uses the data panel, regression model. In this model, there are three approaches made up of the random effect model (REM), common effect model (CEM), and fixed-effect model (FEM). The data is processed using the 10<sup>th</sup> version of EViews software. The research model that is estimated is:

$$\text{DAR}_{it} = \alpha + \beta_1 \text{ROE}_{it} + \beta_2 \text{SIZE}_{it} + \beta_3 \text{CR}_{it} + \beta_4 \text{WTI}_{it} + \beta_5 \text{SBI}_{it} + \epsilon_{it};$$

Which are : DAR= Debt to Asset Ratio, ROE = Return on Equity, SIZE = Firm Size, CR = Current Ratio, WTI = Oil Price, SBI = BI interest rate,  $\epsilon$  = error component,  $\beta$  = slope,  $\alpha$  = intercept, N = amount of observation, T = time, N x T = amount of data panel

### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1. Statistical Description

The result of the statistical data description of the research variables using EViews 10 can be seen in Table 2. ROE variable shows the average of mining companies at -0.013179 with a standard deviation (SD) of 0.857314. This shows that mining companies can generate an operating profit of -1.318% of total equity on average. The average value shows that for every rupiah from the shareholder's equity, there is a loss of 0.1 rupiahs. With the average value far from 100%, the company can be said to not yet effectively and efficiently produce a profit. The maximum ROE value is 2.181546 from PT Apexindo Pratama Duta Tbk in 2017 while the minimum value is -9.560980 from PT Energi Mega Persada Tbk in 2016.

The SIZE variable shows that the average mining company is 16.58927 with a standard deviation of 3.615376. An average value that is greater than the standard deviation indicates that there is no large fluctuation of the SIZE variable in mining companies. The highest SIZE score was 22.02344 from PT Indika Energy Tbk in 2018 while the minimum value was 7.889009 from PT Medco Energi Internasional Tbk in 2014. The independent variable of CR shows that the average of mining companies is 1.818922 with a standard deviation of 1.214403. With every 1 rupiah of current liabilities, the company can fulfill the liability 1.8 times from the actual values. This condition reflects that the mining company is in good financial health. The maximum value of CR is 6.913598 from PT Harum Energy Tbk in 2015 and the minimum value of CR is 0.052391 from PT Astrindo Nusantara Infrastruktur Tbk in 2016.

The oil price variable (WTI) shows an average of -0.087360 and an SD of 0.331222. An average value that is smaller than the SD indicates a large fluctuation in the WTI variable. During the

research period, this variable had the highest value of 0.450300 in 2016 and the lowest value of -0.458700 in 2014. The interest rate variable (SBI) shows an average of 0.060500 and an SD of 0.014133. An average value that is greater than the SD indicates that there is no large fluctuation in the SBI variable. During the study period, the highest variable value was 0.77500 in 2014 and the lowest value was 0.042500 in 2017. The debt variable (DAR) shows an average of 0.514659 and an SD of 0.226820. The average value means the company has assets that are 51% financed through debt and 49% by equity. The highest DAR value was 1.292000 from PT Apexindo Pratama Duta Tbk in 2018 and the lowest DAR value was 0.097800 from PT Harum Energy Tbk in 2015.

## 4.2. Panel Data Regression Model Analysis

Panel data regression analysis is applied to identify the factors that influence the company's debt policy, by selecting one of the models, namely fixed effect, random effect, and common effect. The model chosen is based on the paired test using the Hausman test, Chow test, and Lagrange multiplier test.

**Table 1: Variable definition and measurement**

| Var. | Definition   | Measurement   |
|------|--|---|
| ROE  | The ability of a company in obtaining profit in conjunction with total equity  | $ROE = \frac{\text{Profit after Tax}}{\text{Total Equity}}$ |
| SIZE | Total wealth owned by a company (total asset)  | $SIZE = \ln(\text{Total Asset})$                            |
| CR   | Company's ability to fulfill their short term responsibility when due  | $CR = \frac{\text{Current Asset}}{\text{Current Debt}}$     |
| WTI  | World Oil Price. The price used is the crude oil price on sale in West Texas Intermediates (WTI) taken monthly from 2014 to 2018. Calculation units are \$/barrel  | $\% \Delta WTI = \frac{WTI_t - WTI_{t-1}}{WTI_{t-1}}$       |
| SBI  | The interest rate used is the SBI interest rate with monthly data from 2014 to 2018. Starting from 19 August 2016, BI 7-Day Repo Rate is used as a reference interest rate. Calculation units are percentage (%) | SBI=Interest Rate of SBI                                    |
| DAR  | The company's ability to fulfill its long-term responsibilities  | $DAR = \frac{\text{Total Debt}}{\text{Total Asset}}$        |

Source: Processed by researcher (2020)

**Table 2: Statistical data description of research variables**

| Measurement  | DAR      | ROE       | SIZE      | CR       | WTI       | SBI       |
|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Mean         | 0.514659 | -0.013179 | 16.58927  | 1.818933 | -0.087360 | 0.060500  |
| Median       | 0.489150 | 0.065650  | 16.52115  | 1.629550 | -0.248400 | 0.060000  |
| Maximum      | 1.292000 | 2.181500  | 22.02340  | 6.913600 | 0.450300  | 0.077500  |
| Minimum      | 0.097800 | -9.561000 | 7.889000  | 0.052400 | -0.458700 | 0.042500  |
| Std. Dev.    | 0.226820 | 0.857314  | 3.615376  | 1.214403 | 0.331222  | 0.014133  |
| Skewness     | 0.551183 | -8.883479 | -0.332384 | 1.506386 | 0.551781  | -0.004827 |
| Kurtosis     | 3.042078 | 98.51314  | 2.063823  | 6.207786 | 1.808988  | 1.326133  |
| Jarque-Bera  | 8.113212 | 62922.83  | 8.788971  | 129.1112 | 17.57573  | 18.67949  |
| Probability  | 0.017308 | 0.000000  | 0.012345  | 0.000000 | 0.000153  | 0.000088  |
| Sum          | 82.34550 | -2.108600 | 2654.283  | 291.0292 | -13.97760 | 9.680000  |
| Sum Sq. Dev. | 8.180090 | 116.8629  | 2078.280  | 234.4891 | 17.44357  | 0.031760  |

Source: Data processed with Eviews 10 (2020)

The calculation result showed in Table 3, the chow-test showed that the prob. value of the F-test and the chi-square test is equal to  $0.0000 < \alpha = 5\%$ , so that  $H_0$  is rejected. It can be concluded that the FEM is better used to estimate the determinants of firm leverage.

Table 4 shows the calculation results of the LM-BP test 152.6416 is greater than the chi-square table with  $\alpha = 0.05$  and  $df = 9$ , which is 4.321, or the LM-test Breusch-Pagan probability is  $0.0000 < \alpha = 0.05$ . Therefore, it can be concluded that the REM is more appropriate in estimating the determinants of the company's debt policy at mining companies.

Table 5 shows the Hausman test results which conclude that the Chi-Square prob. the value of 1.0000 is greater than  $\alpha = 5\%$ , so the random-effect model is used to estimate the determinant of firm leverage. Based on the paired test results of the three-panel data regression models, the right choice is the REM used to estimate the determinants of debt policy for mining companies.

## 4.3. Panel Data Regression Model Estimation

Table 6 shows the estimation results of the determinants of corporate debt policy in mining companies in Indonesia during 2014-2018 with the independent variables Return on Equity (ROE), Company Size (SIZE), Current Ratio (CR), World Oil Price (WTI), and interest rates. (SBI) using a random model in the model equation is as follows:

$$DAR = 0.671723240706 - 0.0264512144758 * ROE + 0.00295913479845 * SIZE - 0.066776348631 * CR - 0.045309472942 * WTI - 1.47105643447 * SBI$$

Based on the coefficient test of the data panel regression random effect partially using the t-test, it was found that 4 out of 5 of the independent variable that is used in the research of evaluating the determinant of corporate debt policy of mining companies in Indonesia during 2014-2018 has a significant effect. Meanwhile, the evaluation of the overall independent variable inputted into the regression panel model using random effect is evaluated using F-test. The F-Test result is seen in Table 6, which showed that the F-stat value is at 8.184827 with the prob. value of 0.000001 or smaller than  $\alpha = 0.05$  meaning that  $H_0$  is rejected. This states that the variables which are made up of ROE, SIZE, CR, WTI, and SBI altogether influence the corporate debt policy of companies in the period of 2014-2018 significantly, with a confidence level at 95%.

**Table 3: Chow test results**

| Effects test          | Stat.      | d.f.     | Prob   |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|--------|
| Cross-sec. F          | 15.978065  | (31,123) | 0.0000 |
| Cross-sec. Chi-square | 258.371484 | 31       | 0.0000 |

Source: Data processed with Eviews 10 (2020)

**Table 4: LM test result**

| Null          | Cross-sec.           | Period                | Both                 |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Alternative   | One-sided            | One-sided             |                      |
| Breusch-Pagan | 150.3701<br>(0.0000) | 2.271510<br>(0.1318)  | 152.6416<br>(0.0000) |
| Honda         | 12.26255<br>(0.0000) | -1.507153<br>(0.9341) | 7.605214<br>(0.0000) |
| King-Wu       | 12.26255<br>(0.0000) | -1.507153<br>(0.9341) | 2.727080<br>(0.0032) |
| GHM           | --                   | --                    | 150.3701<br>(0.0000) |

Source: Data processed with Eviews 10 (2020)

**Table 5: Hausman test result**

| Test summary      | Chi-Sq. Stat. | Chi-Sq. d.f. | Prob.  |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|--------|
| Cross-sec. random | 0.000000      | 5            | 1.0000 |

Source: Data processed with Eviews 10 (2020)

**Table 6: Estimated determinants of leverage (DAR)**

| Var.                    | Coeff.    | SD            | t-Stat.   | Prob.    |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| C                       | 0.671723  | 0.116521      | 5.764828  | 0.0000   |
| ROE                     | -0.026451 | 0.007610      | -3.475655 | 0.0007   |
| SIZE                    | 0.002959  | 0.004444      | 0.665933  | 0.5065   |
| CR                      | -0.066776 | 0.015274      | -4.371864 | 0.0000   |
| WTI                     | -0.045309 | 0.022291      | -2.032620 | 0.0438   |
| SBI                     | -1.471056 | 0.570234      | -2.579743 | 0.0108   |
| R <sup>2</sup>          | 0.209949  | Mean dep. var |           | 0.128241 |
| Adjusted R <sup>2</sup> | 0.184298  | S.D. dep. var |           | 0.100969 |
| S.E. of regression      | 0.091191  | SS resid      |           | 1.280634 |
| F-stat.                 | 8.184827  | D-W stat      |           | 1.118056 |
| Prob (F-stat.)          | 0.000001  |               |           |          |

Source: Data processed with Eviews 10 (2020)

To evaluate the goodness-of-fit which is measured with the determination coefficient ( $R^2$ ) showed that the value is 0.209949, meaning that the variation of the increase and decrease of corporate debt policy of mining companies in Indonesia can be explained by ROE, SIZE, CR, WTI, and SBI by 21%, while the remaining 79% can be explained by variables outside. The determination coefficient that is adjusted ( $R^2$  adjusted) resulted in the value of 0.184298 meaning that after considering the degree of freedom of the REM, the independent variables used in this research can explain the changes that happened within the mining companies in Indonesia, which is at 18.43%.

## 5. DISCUSSION

Empirical evidence showed that the ROE variable has a negative influence on corporate leverage. This states that companies with high profitability will have an abundance of capital, therefore it is highly unlikely that they have high leverage. Empirical findings support the POT which states that the company with high profitability will have low leverage because they have lots

of internal funding sources, so the company will prioritize using their internal funding compared to using external funding. This research result is relevant to previous researches done by Sabir and Malik (2012), Doku et al. (2016), and Shambor (2017) which concluded that the profitability variable has a negative effect on corporate leverage. In contrast, these results do not support the findings of Saleem et al. (2013) and Viriya and Suryaningsih (2017) who concluded that the ROE variable has a significant positive effect on company debt policy.

Based on the research result, showed that SIZE has a positive but insignificant effect on corporate leverage. These results find that size does not affect the company's debt policy. However, the positive direction in which the SIZE variable has towards the policy is in line with the TOT hypothesis which states that the bigger the company, the higher the chance that the company can use a higher debt, with the low risk of big companies. The low risk of big companies causes the debt cost to be lower compared to smaller companies. This is what drives big companies to use bigger debts. This result supports existing researches done by Cortez and Susanto (2012) and Lumapow (2018). These researchers concluded that the size of the company doesn't have any effect on corporate debt policy. On the contrary, the result of this research doesn't support the result of researches done by Shambor (2017) and Gómez et al. (2016), which states that the SIZE variable influences the corporate debt policy positively and significantly.

Empirical evidence showed that the CR has a negative effect on the corporate debt policy of mining companies in Indonesia. This indicates that companies with average liquidity levels have a relatively low debt level. The level of liquidity that a company has describes the amount of idle balance so that the company can use their internal fundings for the operational costs. This research result is in line with the POT that explains why companies have levels of preference in choosing a source of funding. With high liquidity levels, companies don't need external funding as internal funding is enough. This result is consistent with the research done by Karacaer et al. (2016) and Shambor (2017). These researchers found that the CR has a negative influence on the corporate debt policy. However, it doesn't support the research done by Sabir and Malik (2012) which concluded that the CR variable influences the corporate debt policy positively and significantly.

Research results find that the WTI has a negative effect on the corporate debt policy. The increase in oil price will of course increase the chance of mining companies that produce oil to gain more profit. However, other companies that produce alternative energy like coal also have a chance to increase their profit because consumers will look for other alternative forms of fuel. This causes the negatively significant effect of WTI on the corporate debt policy. Even though the increase in oil price will significantly increase the operating costs and make the company find other additional funding sources, this doesn't apply to 27 out of 32 companies that are used as a sample of companies that produce energy. This research result is in line with the POT that explains why companies with high profitability will have a lower level of debt, as they have a higher source of internal funding. Therefore, the company will prioritize the use of internal funding compared

to external funding. Research results by Onguka (2019) and Kelikume et al. (2019) also state that the world oil price has a negative effect on corporate debt policy. Contradicting results are found by Wattanatorn and Kanchanapoom (2012), Gupta (2016), and Dadashi et al. (2015) as they concluded that the world oil price has a positive effect on corporate debt policy.

The research results found that the SBI variable has a negative effect on the corporate debt policy of mining companies in Indonesia. This explains that if the SBI interest rate is experiencing a decline, it will push companies to increase the use of debts to fulfill their funding needs. However, if the SBI interest rate is increasing, it will make companies re-think whether to use debts as one of the funding sources because the cost of interest rate will become bigger. This research result is in line with POT which states that if the external funds are used for funding, therefore the first alternative external funding chosen will be debt, compared to having to introduce new shares. This result is in line with research done by Riaz et al. (2014) and Chadegani et al. (2011), which states that the level of interest rate has a negatively significant effect on corporate debt policy. On the other hand, this isn't supported by the research result of Muthama et al. (2013) which concluded that the level of interest rate has a positively significant result towards corporate debt policy. Widyawati and Endri (2018) empirical findings prove that interest rates do not affect company debt policy.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

This study examines the effect of world oil prices, interest rates, profitability, size, and liquidity on the leverage of mining sector companies in Indonesia. Based on the analysis and discussion of leverage determinants, it can be stated that the variable Return on Equity (ROE), Current Ratio (CR), world oil prices (WTI), and SBI interest rates have a negative effect on corporate leverage (DAR), while the variable size company (SIZE) has no impact on the company's leverage. The empirical findings of this study provide managerial implications for companies that the decline in oil prices can increase corporate debt. Therefore, companies must strive to maintain good and smooth liquidity and continue to increase profitability as an alternative source of internal financing and reduce debt financing. Changes in interest rates must also be anticipated by the company against the possibility of a high increase that can burden the company to pay for it.

Suggestions for further research can be made on companies from other sectors and add leverage determinants that have not been covered in this research, for example; asset structure, sales growth, costs, taxes, or external variables, such as; inflation and exchange rates.

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