

Esplorasaun manganés iha Lautein hatudu kategoría klase mundiál ho rezerva tonelada rihun 30



*Empreza Murak Rai Timor ho nia joint venture Estrella Resources halo atividade ke'e manganés iha munisípiu Lautein.
Foto/mídia MPRM*

DILI, 09 Marsu 2026 (TATOLI) – Empreza estatál Murak Rai Timor (MTR) hamutuk ho nia konsóriu *Estrella Resources Limited* (ESR) esplora hela rekursu manganés iha bloku tolu, iha munisípiu Lautein. Rezultadu explorasaun ne'e hatudu katak rekursu manganés ne'e klasifika hanesan kategoría “klase mundiál” ho medida rezerva ne'ebé ke'e sai ona hamutuk tonelada rihun 30.

Prezidente Konsellu Administrasaun no Prezidente Komisaun Ezekutiva MTR, José Manuel Gonçalves, hateten atividade ne'e parte husi *market assesment* ka *market approach*, ne'ebé importante atu asesu ba kualidade manganés no hetan dadus kona-ba apresiasaun sira husi merkadu internasionál.



*Rekursu manganés iha munisípiu Lautein.
Foto/mídia MPRM*

“Ita-nia manganés iha ona. Agora, presiza bá merkadu hodi bele koko rezultadu ein termu nia kualidade no merkadu nia apresiasaun ba ita-nia manganés nia folin oinsá. Informasaun sira ne'e mai mak ita foin halo desizaun atu trasa planu no estratéjia atu kontinua halo atividade sira ne'ebé buka manganés ne'e hodi bele halo desizaun ba faze pré-viabilidade ba fali viabilidade, antes halo dezvoltamentu”, José Manuel Gonçalves esplika ba Tatoli, ohin.

Nia salienta katak faze ida agora ne'e importante liu tanba sei determina karik rekursu manganés iha Lautein bele prodús ba eskala komersializasaun, ho konsiderasaun infraestrutúra sira hanesan portu hodi fasilita transporta rekursu manganés ne'e.

“Entaun saida mak agora ita halo ne'e hola parte esforsu boot ida atu komprende kustu investimentu no merkadu nia apresiasaun ba ita-nia manganés”, dehan.

Nia akresenta katak daudaun iha merkadu boot rua ne'ebé manifesta interese atu koko manganés husi Timor-Leste mak Índia no Xina, enkuantu MTR ho nia konsórsiu Estrella seidauk iha kontratu ida ne'ebé definitivu atu haruka manganés ne'e ba nasaun ida ne'ebé.

“Ha'u fiar katak la'ós nasaun ida de'it, maibé bele iha rua ka tolu ne'ebé ita hakarak haruka manganés ne'e ba hodi bele hetan respost husi merkadu. Ita hakarak tinan ne'e tenke haruka ona tanba lakohi husik kle'ur iha ne'ebá. Agora serbisu eskavasaun hodi foti ka rekolla tonelada rihun 30 ne'e la'o hela”, dehan.

Aleinde ne'e, ekipa mós serbisu ho *joint venture* sira atu buka dalan oinsá tau lalais ekipamentu sira ne'ebé importante hodi fasilita esportasaun rekursu manganés.

Lembra katak iha loron, 27 Juñu 2024, MRT, E.P ho *Estrella Resources Limited* kinta ne'e, asina akordu pra-sósiu ka *Shareholder Agreement* hodi halo peskiza ba manganés iha bloku tolu iha munisípiu Lautém.

Nune'e, iha loron 17 Juñu 2025, gruu investidór internasionál na'in-12 husi Austrália Osidental vizita Timor-Leste hodi avalia poténsia manganés ho “klase mundiál” ne'ebé deskobre iha munisípiu Lautein no Baukau.

Jornalista: Arminda Fonseca Editora: Maria Auxiliadora

Timor-Leste Eyes global buyers after discovering major manganese resource in Lautém

DILI, 09 March 2026 (TATOLI) — State-owned mining company Murak Rai Timor (MTR) is assessing international market demand for a newly discovered manganese resource in the municipality of Lautém, following exploration results that indicate the deposit could be of “world-class” quality.

MTR is conducting the exploration in partnership with Australian mining firm Estrella Resources across three exploration blocks in Lautém. Initial findings suggest the manganese reserves are estimated at around 30,000 tons.

According to José Gonçalves, chairman of MTR’s board of directors, the current phase of the project focuses on market evaluation, aimed at assessing the quality of the manganese and gathering feedback from potential buyers in international markets.

About 30,000 tons of manganese already extracted are being prepared for potential shipment to refineries or prospective buyers. The samples will help determine the mineral’s commercial value and market acceptance.

“We have manganese available and need to place it on the market to evaluate its quality and understand how buyers assess its price,” Gonçalves said. “Based on that information, we will be able to decide the next steps, including whether to proceed with pre-feasibility and feasibility studies before making a final decision on developing the project.”

He described the current stage as a crucial moment in the project’s development cycle, noting that drilling activities and technical studies have already confirmed the presence of the resource.

The next step, he said, will be to analyze the reaction of international markets to determine whether the project can advance toward large-scale commercial production. Such development would require significant investment in infrastructure, particularly in coastal areas, to facilitate the transportation and export of the ore.

“At the moment, we are focused on gaining a better understanding of the investment costs and the market valuation of our manganese internationally,” Gonçalves added.

He noted that India and China are among the countries showing interest in testing Timor-Leste’s manganese, although no export contracts have yet been finalized.

“It is possible that we will send samples to two or three different countries to obtain responses from several markets,” Gonçalves said. “Our plan is to carry out these shipments within this year, as we do not want the ore to remain in storage for too long.”

In 2024, Murak Rai Timor and Estrella Resources signed an agreement to conduct preliminary mineral exploration, focusing specifically on manganese resources in Lautém.

Journalist: Camilio de Sousa Editor: Filomeno Martins