

Bumi to Increase Coal Prices at Least 59%, Vice President Says
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By Leony Aurora

Feb. 26 (Bloomberg) -- PT Bumi Resources, Indonesia's largest exporter of power-station coal, expects to charge at least 59 percent more for the fuel as supply disruptions in Australia and China push benchmark prices to records.

Bumi will on average get at least \$70 a metric ton for its coal this year compared with \$44 a ton in 2007, Peter Ball, vice president for marketing, said today in an interview in Singapore, where he is attending conference organized by McCloskey Group. The Jakarta-based company has priced as much as 40 percent of the 62 million tons it expects to sell this year, he said.

Prices at Australia's Newcastle port, the world's biggest export harbor for thermal coal, reached a record \$139.16 a ton this month before easing to \$134.45 a ton in the week ended Feb. 22, according to the globalCOAL NEWC Index.

Xstrata Plc, the world's biggest exporter of thermal coal, has advised customers of delays to deliveries from two mines in Queensland, and China halted exports until April after snowstorms disrupted deliveries.

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