

The Effect of The New Subsidized BBM Policy (Pertalite) on The Welfare of The General Community

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Abstract

Fuel oil (BBM) is a product of natural resources originating from oil and natural gas. Oil and natural gas are very important and non-renewable resources, which are controlled by the government. Both have a crucial role for society in the country's economy. Therefore, oil and natural gas management needs to be done well to provide welfare and prosperity for the community. The government has implemented policies related to subsidized fuel to save the state budget, and it is hoped that more people will choose public transportation to reduce congestion in Indonesia. Apart from that, the government launched the My Pertamina application to make it easier to purchase Pertamina products such as fuel, but in its implementation, this application received many positive and negative responses from the public.

INTRODUCTION

Fuel oil or familiarly known as BBM, is a raw material obtained from natural resources such as oil and natural gas. Petroleum and natural gas are strategic natural resources that are fully controlled by the government. Based on Law no. 8 of 1971, Pertamina is the only state-owned company tasked with carrying out oil and gas management starting from processing, providing and serving fuel oil needs throughout Indonesia.

Petroleum and natural gas are important raw materials that affect people's lives. Especially for everyday life. Natural gas that has been processed can be used for anything, especially cooking, fuel for motor vehicles, etc. Moreover, petroleum that has been processed in this way can certainly make all activities carried out by the community easier. Therefore, the petroleum and natural gas industry must be able to provide optimal results, to meet the needs and prosperity and well-being of the wider community.

As we know, Indonesia is one of the five countries with the largest population in the world. With Indonesia's large population, this has an impact on the high level of community activity. High mobility using private vehicles often means that the use of private vehicles, both cars and motorbikes, still dominates at every level of society. As a result, currently using subsidized fuel has had a significant impact on increasing the government's burden on APBN expenditures. This is a concern that subsidy recipients are not on target.

Public policy refers to the wishes of the ruler or government which ideally in a democratic society is a reflection of general opinion (public opinion). To realize this desire and make the policy effective, a number of things are needed. First, there is a legal instrument in the form of statutory regulations so that the public can know the policies that have been decided. Second, this policy must also have a clear implementation and financing structure. Third, there is a need for public control, namely a mechanism that allows the public to know whether this policy has experienced deviations or not.

The nature of public policy as a direction of action can be better understood if this concept is broken down into several categories. These categories include policy demands (policy decisions), policy statements (policy statements), policy outcomes (policy outputs), and policy impacts (policy outcomes). Eiaoston provides a definition of public policy as the authoritative allocation of values for the whole society or as a forced allocation of values to all members of society. Lasweill and Kaplan also define public policy as a projected program of goals, values, and practices or a program of achieving goals, values in directed practices.

An example that can explain this theory is the fuel subsidy policy, where in fact this policy does have a dimension of social welfare, but in fact the ones who benefit the most are the conglomerates who own industry, they are actually the ones who benefit the most from this policy. The public has been manipulated in their understanding of fuel subsidies, there has been a distortion of information in the public's understanding. The government has made a new policy regarding the purchase of officially subsidized fuel oil (BBM) Pertalite products with the MyPertamina program. The hope is that only eligible people can buy subsidized fuel. The first day of testing was carried out on Friday (1 July 2022) and apparently encountered several obstacles. Namely, the registration server website down for a while due to the problem of uneven use of the MyPertamina application when

buying fuel, and not everyone can use the application at smartphone when buying fuel oil (BBM), this practice is not recommended. The previous recommendation directed by Pertamina to prohibit the use of cellphones when recharging fuel was considered worrying for the public while the purchasing process was in progress.

And the government itself has held a coordination meeting regarding this issue (CNBC Indonesia 2024). The result is that the government will begin socializing the distribution of subsidized fuel oil (BBM) according to targets on September 1 2024. Previously, Member of the Downstream Oil and Gas Regulatory Body (BPH Migas) Saleh Abdurrahman revealed that his party had carried out a simulation of fuel oil (BBM) restrictions. subsidized in Indonesia, especially for the Special Assignment Fuel (JBKP) Peralite (RON 90), and according to (KOMPAS.com, 2024), Rachmat explained, the government wants to ensure that the distribution of subsidized fuel is more targeted, namely that only vulnerable groups can enjoy it, not well-off groups, aka the rich. So far, many luxury vehicles still use subsidized fuel. Based on 2022 data, 95 percent or more than 15 million kiloliters (KL) of subsidized diesel is enjoyed by the top 60 percent of income earners. Meanwhile for Peralite, 80 percent or more of the 19 million KL is enjoyed by the top 60 percent of income earners.

The government's mechanism for implementing this policy is that the government is not permitted to arbitrarily follow its own wishes. However, the government must carry out negotiations, discussions and consultations with various related parties, including suppliers and distributors of goods.

METHODS

This research is qualitative research with a literature study approach (library research), which is research by collecting scientific writings related to the object of research discussion and/or the nature of the literature, or conducting fundamental research that is carried out to solve problems that are basically focused on critical and in-depth study of library materials and references to scientific works other relevant. Study refers to books and works scientific work related to sharia business. The data collection techniques used in this research are:

1. Data Primer Is a source of research data obtained directly from the original source in the form of: Interviews, opinion polls from individuals or groups (people) or observation results from an object, event or test result (object).

2. Data Seconds Is a source of research data obtained through intermediary media or indirectly in the form of books, notes, existing evidence, or archives, both published and not generally published. According to Siyoto, (2015: 109) Data analysis is a series of activities of reviewing, grouping, systematizing, interpreting and verifying data so that all phenomena have social, academic and scientific value.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

The plan to launch the MyPertamina application on July 1 invites various opinions in the community. A survey conducted by the Indonesian Survey Institute (LSI) revealed that around 70 percent of city governments rejected the government's policy of purchasing Peralite fuel through the MyPertamina program. Based on the survey, only 25 percent of respondents said they agreed with the policy, while the other 5 percent did not provide an answer or said they did not know. The MyPertamina application usage policy is effective from July 1. All Peralite users can register their vehicles. Later, after the fuel price increases, this application will be linked to National Police data. to plan synchronization aimed at improving fuel subsidies. BUMN first plans to use the MyPertamina application to shop for Peralite and Solar to find solutions to community aspirations or obstacles before starting the application.

Many people in Indonesia are complaining about Pertamina's new policy regarding the purchase of subsidized fuel, Peralite and Diesel. Citizens consider this practice to be annoying for people who are still technologically illiterate or don't even have a valid cellphone to register online via the MyPertamina application. Apart from that, registering for subsidized fuel on this website or application also requires an internet connection and can create queues at gas stations because buyers have to scan first. Apart from that, not all consumers and gas stations in Indonesia are connected to the internet. This is shown by data published in 2022 by

Association of Indonesian Internet Service Providers (APJII), that around 35% of Indonesians do not have Internet access. Control of subsidized fuel oil (BBM) is regulated in Law No. 22 of 2011, which applies to the 2012 State Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBN). According to Article 7 paragraph (4) of this law, control of subsidies for types of fuel and the allocation of 3 kg LPG gas cylinders in the 2012 budget year will be implemented with a more targeted policy. This is confirmed in paragraph (4) point 1, which states that the allocation of subsidized fuel will focus on limiting the consumption of premium fuel for private four-wheeled vehicles, starting on April 1 2012. To support this policy, the government also made changes to the Presidential Decree No.55/2005, especially Article 2 paragraphs (3) and (4), which stipulates that all types of land transportation vehicles that use rivers, lakes and the like are entitled to subsidized fuel.

Controlling fuel use, either through savings options or gradual price increases, aims to reduce subsidized fuel

consumption which is increasing along with the increasing number of motorized vehicles which is difficult to manage. This increase in fuel subsidies places an increasing burden on the state's revenue and expenditure budget, while most of the benefits of subsidies are actually enjoyed by wealthier groups. By limiting consumption of subsidized fuel or increasing the price of subsidized fuel, the state can allocate these savings to the development of comfortable, safe and affordable public transportation infrastructure to encourage people to switch from using private vehicles to public transportation. This is expected to reduce traffic jams and chaos on the roads.

Apart from that, it is important to remember that this policy is also a step to encourage the transition from fuel oil (BBM) to fuel gas (BBG), followed by a motor vehicle fuel conversion program. With the rising cost of energy subsidies, there will be limits to this new instrument, the Indonesian government must respond and increase it to IDR 520 trillion, the highest subsidy value in Indonesian history due to the increase in world oil prices.

The results of the interview that we got from Mr. Sastra Maulud, an active user of the MyPertamina application who uses Peralite fuel in Medan City, said that "It's quite complicated for me to follow. Have to go to the gas station first to ask for help. Register to bring an Android cellphone just to fill up petrol, even though you're not allowed to play with your cellphone, you should, I'm confused too. "Yes, again, we as a society can only follow orders." (interview, 03 December 2024). Furthermore, in an interview with Mr Mugi Heryanto also in Medan City, he said that "For me, it's quite a hassle, especially if I go out of town one day. If you don't have that, you can't buy Peralite. Not to mention network problems. It's also quite strange considering that the government does not recommend using gadgets during charging but now you have to use them instead. "Hopefully the government will make other policies that will make things easier for people."(interview, 03 December 2024).

The importance of reaching the public when using the MyPertamina application to purchase subsidized fuel (BBM) for four-wheeled vehicles. This socialization can be carried out through media synergy and collaboration with various stakeholders, both city/provincial governments and district governments. There, until now, the lack of socialization has made the community even more rowdy. In addition, using MyPertamina requires people to use mobile phones or cell phones when refueling, which was previously thought to be dangerous, which is why outreach is considered important for the public to understand. However, this PKB politician appreciates the digitalization steps that have been taken by Pertamina. However, he emphasized continuing to prepare good systems, infrastructure, synergies with various parties. So that the public is more aware when implementing this policy, working together with the city government is also considered important for socialization to be accepted by the lower class

Discussion

The journal titled "The Effect of the New Subsidized BBM Policy (Peralite) on the Welfare of the General Community" offers an in-depth examination of the Indonesian government's recent initiatives concerning subsidized fuel, particularly focusing on the introduction of the My Pertamina application. This application is designed to streamline the distribution of fuel subsidies, ensuring that they reach the intended beneficiaries, particularly vulnerable groups, while also encouraging a shift from private vehicle use to public transportation. This shift is seen as a crucial step in alleviating traffic congestion and optimizing state budget allocations, as the government aims to redirect savings from fuel subsidies towards the development of affordable and efficient public transportation infrastructure.

However, the implementation of this policy has elicited a range of responses from the public. While some segments of the population appreciate the digitalization efforts and the potential for a more equitable distribution of fuel subsidies, a significant portion of the community expresses concerns regarding technological barriers. Many individuals, particularly those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, lack access to smartphones or the internet, which are essential for utilizing the My Pertamina app. This digital divide raises questions about the inclusivity of the policy and whether it truly serves the needs of all citizens.

The journal emphasizes the critical importance of effective socialization and outreach programs to educate the public about these changes. It argues that without proper communication and support, many community members may struggle to adapt to the new system, potentially leading to frustration and resistance. The need for collaboration with local governments and stakeholders is highlighted as a means to ensure that the policy is accepted and understood by all, particularly those who may be less technologically literate.

Furthermore, the journal discusses the broader implications of the new subsidized fuel policy on the welfare of the general community. It posits that while the My Pertamina application has the potential to enhance efficiency and transparency in fuel distribution, it must be accompanied by measures that address the concerns of those who may be marginalized by the transition to a digital platform. The study calls for a balanced approach that considers both the advantages of technological advancements and the challenges faced by segments of the population that may be left behind in this transition. Ultimately, the journal advocates for a comprehensive strategy that not only focuses on the implementation of new technologies but also prioritizes the welfare and accessibility for all citizens, ensuring that the benefits of such policies are equitably shared across society.

CONCLUSION

The My Pertamina application that will be used has its pros and cons. There are advantages and disadvantages that we can feel, namely, in terms of advantages, namely that the My Pertamina application can evenly distribute fuel subsidies among Indonesian people, and can also save on fuel subsidies which will be used to build comfortable, safe and cheap public transportation infrastructure. , so that people will be encouraged to switch from private cars to

public transportation and can also reduce traffic jams that occur in Indonesia. Meanwhile, the drawback is that there are still too many people who do not use cellphones or Androids for daily life and people are still afraid to use telephones at gas stations because of the regulations, has been around for a long time. Therefore, the government can provide outreach to the public regarding the My Pertamina application so that all people can use this application easily and reliably.

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