

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Eti Bakır sells cobalt produced in Mardin to the world**

**Pyrite concentrate, a byproduct of copper production at Eti Bakır’s Kastamonu Küre plant, is put back into production at Mardin Mazıdağı Metal Recovery and Integrated Fertilizer Plant. The cobalt thus recovered is exported to 8 countries around the world. The plant in Mazıdağı alone accounts for 2 percent of global cobalt production.**

*January 6, 2022 –* Mardin Mazıdağı Metal Recovery and Integrated Fertilizer Plant, the largest private sector investment made by Eti Bakır in the region, single-handedly produces 2 percent of the cobalt produced worldwide, an element used especially in technology-intensive industries. The world's first and only facility to recover cobalt from pyrite concentrate, Mazıdağı produces 2,500 tons of cobalt annually.

Stating that the plant in Mazıdağı is Türkiye's first integrated fertilizer plant, **Emre Kayışoğlu, General Manager of Eti Bakır A.Ş. Mazıdağı Metal Recovery and Integrated Fertilizer Plant**, said: “Mazıdağı is where pyrite concentrate, which is a byproduct of the production at our Küre plant, is brought back into the economy. Eti Bakır is the only company in Türkiye that can produce cathode copper from ore. Copper concentrates found in different regions of Türkiye go to our facility in Samsun, where they are converted into copper. After the copper concentrate extracted in Küre is separated, we transfer the remaining pyrite concentrate to our plant in Mardin. Here, the pyrite concentrate is put through a specific production process, which converts the concentrate into byproducts like cobalt, iron cake, and sulfuric acid. While sulfuric acid is used in fertilizer production, the cobalt we recover is sold to the world. Cobalt is an element mostly used in the production of cells, batteries, and catalysts in technology-intensive sectors and to produce special paints for the ceramic industry. Up to 90% of the cobalt we produce in Mardin is exported to more than 10 countries worldwide, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Spain, Korea, and China.”

**RAILROAD WILL REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT**

To recover cobalt, pyrite, a byproduct of the production at Eti Bakır's Küre plant, is transported by road from Küre to Çankırı-Kurşunlu. From there, it is transferred to Diyarbakır by rail and from there to Mazıdağı plant again by road. With Eti Bakır's latest investment, the railroad has been extended from Diyarbakır to the plant. Thus, Küre's pyrite will be transported from Çankırı to Mardin Mazıdağı via a 1,200-kilometer railway. This will provide operational convenience in production processes and reduce the company’s carbon footprint.