**June 23, 2025**

**WOMEN ENGINEERS OF ETI BAKIR**
**They Became the First in Türkiye with “Jumbo” Work**

Eti Bakır, Türkiye’s only integrated copper producer, is making a difference with the contribution of women engineers in mining, one of the most challenging sectors. On the occasion of June 23, International Women in Engineering Day, the company came together with its women engineers at the Siirt Mining Operation, drawing attention with its leading women engineers in Siirt, one of the provinces with the lowest female employment rates.

Eti Bakır, which employs Türkiye’s first and only female Jumbo drilling machine operator, has entrusted women with the roles of chief planning engineer, planning of ores extracted underground, management of underground waters in mining sites, and laboratory processes.

Mining, classified as a very hazardous occupation, is among the professions dominated by men. Yet the women engineers of Eti Bakır, the only company in Türkiye capable of producing from ore to final product, are breaking the perception that mining is a “man’s job.” On International Women in Engineering Day, the company gathered with its women engineers at the Siirt Mining Operation and entrusted women with key roles such as chief planning engineer, ore planning, management of underground waters in mining areas, and laboratory processes, while also employing Türkiye’s first and only female Jumbo drilling machine operator.

**A FIRST IN TÜRKİYE, SHE TRAINED 5 OPERATORS**
İrem Dınmaz, who crossed paths with Eti Bakır at a Mining Congress, turned her dream of becoming a Jumbo drilling operator into reality while still a university student. Today, as Türkiye’s first and only female Jumbo drilling operator, Dınmaz not only leads her department but has also trained 5 new operators. Saying “There is no such thing as a man’s job or a woman’s job,” Dınmaz plays a critical role in ensuring that underground ores are brought into the economy.

Since taking over the Siirt Mining Operation, Eti Bakır has invested a total of USD 200 million in the facility. The underground planning of this investment is carried out by Sevda Şimşek Seçkin, who serves as the chief planning engineer. Seçkin is the first woman in Türkiye to serve as a chief planning engineer in a mine, managing the entire process from drilling and blasting to ore transfer.

**CONTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ENGINEERS TO SUSTAINABILITY**
One of the most important issues to manage in mining sites is underground water. While ores located hundreds of meters deep are brought into the economy, Tuğçe Enç manages the water resources. Through her projects, Enç contributes to sustainability by ensuring that underground waters are reused within the mining site.

At Eti Bakır’s Siirt Mining Operation, Şirin Özlem Teğin, a local female engineer from Siirt, serves as the head of quality control and laboratory. Teğin stated that she has begun to break the perception in her community that “mining is a man’s job.”

After graduating from Istanbul Technical University, Process Engineer Beyza Güler began working at the Siirt Mining Operation of Eti Bakır. She explained that she first connected with the company during ITU’s Career Days event. Emphasizing that professions should not be approached with prejudice, Güler said:
“If a woman wants, she can work in any sector. If you love your profession, it doesn’t matter where you work or whether the sector is male-dominated. I believe that any woman who wants to can work in a mine.”

**A STRATEGIC CHOICE THAT INCREASES QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY**
Olcay Kotiloğlu, Plant Manager of Eti Bakır’s Siirt Operation, pointed out that according to TÜİK’s 2024 Women in Statistics data, Siirt is one of the provinces with the lowest female employment rates at 19.8%. He said:
“In Siirt, we carry the responsibility of being a pioneer in both employment and women’s employment. At Eti Bakır, which is the driving force of Türkiye’s economy with value-added production, the active participation of women engineers in the workforce is not only a reflection of the company’s approach to gender equality, but also a strategic choice that increases quality and efficiency. Here, we have visited not only a mining operation but also the reflections of inclusivity and courage in the field. As the driving force of Türkiye’s economy with value-added production, Eti Bakır adopts the principle of equal opportunity and applies it across all its facilities. Our women engineers at Eti Bakır take on the most challenging and critical roles in production. From blasting engineering to drilling operations and sustainability projects, we trust in the intelligence, labor, and courage of women.”