


The Effect of Leverage, Profitability, Liquidity, Firm Size, and RETA on Dividend Policy

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Article Info	ABSTRACT
<p>Keywords: Leverage, Profitability, Liquidity, Company Size, RETA, Dividend Policy</p>	<p>The study aims to obtain empirical evidence regarding the influence of leverage, profitability, liquidity, firm size, and RETA as independent variables on dividend policy as the dependent variable. The population used in this study consists of energy sector companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange during the years 2021–2023. The sample consists of 51 companies, comprising 17 companies over a three-year study period. The model used in this study is Microsoft Excel software, processed using the E-views 10 program.</p>
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INTRODUCTION

A company needs funds to run its operations. One source of these funds is investors who put money into a company and expect future profits. These profits come in the form of dividends. Dividends can be in the form of cash or shares. The value of a cash dividend is of course in accordance with the percentage of the investor's share ownership. Most investors will receive returns in the form of cash dividends rather than share dividends, because cash dividends are certain and the results can be felt by investors.

Dividend policy is a policy to determine how much profit will be distributed to shareholders who have provided funds to the company. With this dividend policy, the company can determine whether the shares will be distributed to shareholders or retained in the form of retained earnings for future investment financing. The theory of optimal dividend policy is defined as a dividend policy that achieves a balance between current dividends and future growth while maximizing stock prices (Brigham and Houston, 2006). The importance of this dividend policy lies in its direct impact on shareholder welfare and its ability to influence company performance, company value, and stock prices. There are two reasons why this dividend policy is so important for companies. The first reason is that dividend policy can influence company value, as seen in the company's stock price. If the dividends paid by the company increase, the company's stock price will also increase, thereby increasing the company's value. Conversely, if the dividends paid by a company are small, the company's share price will also be small. The second reason is that dividend policy is very important because the largest source of internal funds for company growth comes from retained earnings. Dividend distribution will reduce the company's cash, thereby reducing the funds available for financing operations and investments.

Leverage is a ratio used to measure a company's level of debt financing. If internal funds are insufficient to finance the company's operations, external financing is needed, one of which is debt. Therefore, leverage allows companies to pay dividends to maintain performance and send positive signals to investors.

Profitability is one of the factors influencing dividend policy. Profitability is used as a measure of financial performance that is useful for investors to demonstrate a company's success in generating profits. Potential investors will carefully analyze a company's financial health and its ability to generate profits (profitability) because they expect dividends and market prices for its shares. Profitability is a company's ability to generate profits. These profits will determine whether they are distributed as dividends to shareholders or retained as retained earnings for the company's operational needs. Since dividends are taken from the company's net profit, the profit will influence the proportion of dividends to be distributed, so that the greater the profit earned by the company, the greater the company's ability to pay dividends.

Liquidity is a company's ability to meet its short-term financial obligations on time. Such circumstances attract investors to invest their capital in order to share profits in the form of dividends. Debt ratios can be detrimental in difficult economic situations and high interest rates, where companies with high debt ratios can experience financial problems. However, during good economic times and low interest rates, they can increase profits.

Firm size refers to the size of a company in terms of both assets and liabilities. Firm size determines the amount of cash dividends to be paid, as a larger firm size means higher income. If profits increase, dividends for investors will also be higher.

Another factor influencing dividend policy is Retained Earnings to Total Assets (RETA). Companies with higher growth potential tend to retain their profits for reinvestment in operational activities. On the other hand, companies with high retained earnings are typically mature firms that can generate cash but have lower growth potential, making them good candidates for distributing cash to shareholders in the form of dividends.

Leverage and Dividend Policy

According to Mayo (2011), leverage is a company's effort to acquire assets using borrowed funds or company debt. Leverage can be measured by the debt ratio. There are two ratios used to measure the debt ratio, namely the debt to company's net income. This results in a decrease in the dividends distributed to shareholders. H1: Leverage has a negative effect on tax aggressiveness.

Profitability and Dividend Policy

Profitability, according to (Kasmir, 2015), is a measure of a company's ability to generate profits or earnings over a specific period. There are several types of profitability ratios that can be used, according to (Kasmir, 2015), including Gross Profit Margin, Operating Income Ratio, Return on Equity ratio and the debt to asset ratio (Mayo, 2011). If a company's debt increases, the company's profits will be used to pay off the debt, thereby reducing Return on Investment (ROI), Return on Equity (ROE), and Earnings per Share (EPS). If the profits generated by a company are higher, this will also influence the company's dividend

policy. The higher the profits obtained, the greater the profits that can be distributed to shareholders in the form of dividends. H2: Profitability has a positive effect on dividend policy.

Liquidity and Dividend Policy

According to Mayo (2011), liquidity is the ease with which a company can convert its assets into cash without incurring losses. If a company's liquidity level is high, it means that the company is increasingly able to meet its debt obligations when they fall due. There are three types of ratios to measure liquidity according to (Kasmir, 2015), namely the current ratio, cash turnover ratio, and debt-to-equity ratio. The higher the liquidity level, the more capable the company is of settling current liabilities at maturity without needing to use retained earnings from previous periods, thereby increasing the company's profits. Higher profits will increase the dividend payout ratio to shareholders. H3: Liquidity has a positive effect on dividend policy.

Firm Size and Dividend Policy

Firm size. (Riyanto, 2008) states that the size of a company can be determined by the value of its assets, equity, and sales. The larger the company, the larger the value of assets, equity, and sales, which is typically accompanied by higher profits. If the company's profits increase, the dividends distributed to shareholders will also be higher. H4: Firm size has a positive effect on dividend policy.

RETA and Dividend Policy

De Angelo et al (2006) show that the proportion of RETA has a positive relationship with the likelihood of dividend payments. Companies with low retained earnings balances are more ideally categorized as companies that tend to distribute dividends. Fama and French (2002) explain that the financial life cycle influences dividend policy in companies. This theory explains that companies with higher growth opportunities tend to retain their profits for reinvestment in the company's operational activities. Meanwhile, companies with high retained earnings are usually mature companies, making them good candidates for distributing cash to shareholders in the form of dividends.

Table 1. Previous Research Results

Variable	Previous research results (the effect of dividend policy)	
	Influence	No Effect
Leverage	Aryani (2020) Sendow, Nangoi and Pontoh (2017)	Victoria and Viriany (2019) Anindyajati and Anwar (2021)
Profitability	Victoria and Viriany (2019) Aryani (2020) Laraswati and Sha (2022)	
Liquidity	Aryani (2020) Laraswati and Sha (2022)	Sendow, Nangoi and Pontoh (2017) Victoria and Viriany (2019) Anindyajati and Anwar (2021)
Firm Size	Victoria and Viriany (2019) Aryani (2020)	Anindyajati and Anwar (2021) Laraswati and Sha (2022)
RETA	Sendow, Nangoi and Pontoh (2017)	

Based on previous research results, the author intends to examine how leverage, profitability, liquidity, firm size, and RETA affect dividend policy in energy sector companies listed in Indonesia.

METHODS

The population of this study is all energy sector companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) from 2021 to 2023. Sampling was conducted using purposive sampling. The data samples were selected based on specific criteria because not all companies in the population met the criteria relevant to the objectives of this study. The criteria used were companies listed on the IDX consecutively from 2021 to 2023, submitted financial reports for the years 2021 to 2023, did not incur losses in any of the research periods, and had all the data to be tested in this study. This study used secondary data, which means historical reports published by the Indonesia Stock Exchange.

Operationalization of Research Variables

Dependent Variables

In this study, dividend policy is proxied by the Dividend Payout Ratio (DPR), which compares dividends per share with earnings per share using the following formula:

$$\text{Dividend Payout Ratio} = \frac{\text{Dividend per Share}}{\text{Earnings per Share}}$$

Independent Variables

Independent variables, also known as treatment variables, are variables that influence and cause changes in other variables. Independent variables are measured in research to examine the relationship between factors and observed phenomena. There are five independent variables selected in this study, namely leverage, profitability, liquidity, firm size, and RETA.

a. Leverage

Leverage in this study is proxied by the Debt to Asset Ratio (DAR), which compares total debt to total assets using the formula:

$$\text{Debt to Asset Ratio} = \frac{\text{Total Debt}}{\text{Total Asset}}$$

b. Profitability

Profitability in this study is proxied by Return on Equity (ROE), which compares Earnings After Tax to Equity using the formula:

$$\text{Return on Equity} = \frac{\text{Earnings After Tax}}{\text{Total Equity}}$$

c. Liquidity

Liquidity in this study is proxied by the Current Ratio (CR), which compares Current Assets with Current Liabilities using the formula:

$$\text{Current Ratio} = \frac{\text{Current Assets}}{\text{Current Liabilities}}$$

d. Firm Size

Firm Size in this study is proxied by the log of total assets using the following formula:

$$\text{SIZE} = \text{Log of Total Assets}$$

e. RETA

RETA can be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{RETA} = \frac{\text{Retained Earnings}}{\text{Total Assets}}$$

Data Collection Technique

The data used is secondary data in the form of financial statements of manufacturing companies listed on the IDX from 2021 to 2023. All data used was accessed through the companies' websites and the IDX website, namely www.idx.co.id.

Data Analysis Method

The analysis method used in this study is quantitative data analysis. Data from company financial statements were collected using Microsoft Excel software and processed using the E-views 10 program.

To test the effect of independent variables on dependent variables, this study uses multiple regression analysis for panel data. Panel data is a combination of time series data and cross-sectional data. The tests used to analyze the data are as follows:

1. Descriptive statistics

This test is intended to explain the state and characteristics of the variables used in the study, including: mean value, median value, maximum value, minimum value, and standard deviation (Ghozali, 2016).

2. Panel Data Regression Analysis

Multiple linear regression analysis with panel data is conducted to obtain empirical evidence of the extent to which leverage, corporate strategy, cash holdings, and profitability influence earnings management.

Karnadi (2017) proposes three methods for determining the research model for panel data, namely:

a. Pooled Least Squares (PLS)

Pooled Least Squares (PLS) is also known as Common Effect. This model estimates panel data using the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) method. The test is conducted without considering differences in time and individuals. The analysis combines both time series and cross-sectional data under the assumption that the behavior of data across companies is consistent across different time periods. The same effects are obtained even if there are changes in the independent variables.

b. Fixed Effect

The fixed effect model technique adds a dummy variable to allow changes in the intercept so that differences between companies occur. The results will have different effects if there are changes in the independent variable.

c. Random Effect

This model is a variation of the Generalized Least Square (GLS) model, which addresses the issues arising in PLS or Common Effect. To find the best model among common effect, fixed effect, and random effect, two types of tests are used (Karnadi, 2017):

1) Chow Test or Likelihood Ratio Test

The Chow test aims to determine the best model between common effect or fixed effect with the hypothesis:

H0: Common effect model

H1: Fixed effect model

If the significance probability value $F > 0.05$, then H0 is accepted, meaning the best model is the common effect model. If $F < 0.05$, then the best model is the fixed effect model.

2) Hausman Test

This test is used to determine the best model between random effect or fixed effect with the hypothesis:

H0: Random effect model

H1: Fixed effect model

To determine the selected hypothesis, the chi-square statistic value must be examined. If the probability is > 0.05 , then H0 is accepted. This means that the best model is the random effect model. However, if the significance probability value $F < 0.05$, then the best model is the fixed effect model.

3. Hypothesis Testing

In this study, linear regression analysis was used as follows:

$$Y = a + b_1 X_1 + b_2 X_2 + b_3 X_3 + b_4 X_4 + b_5 X_5$$

Explanation:

Y = Dividend Policy

a = constant

X1 = Leverage

X2 = Profitability

X3 = Liquidity

X4 = Firm Size

X5 = RETA

a. F-Test

The F-test is used to assess the validity of a research model. The significance level used is 0.05 (Karnadi, 2017). If the significance level is < 0.05 , H0 is rejected; otherwise, H0 is accepted.

b. t-test

The t-test is used to test whether the independent variables have a significant partial effect on the dependent variable. The test uses a significance level of 0.05. If the significance value is < 0.05 , then H0 is rejected, and if the opposite is true, then H0 is accepted (Karnadi, 2017).

c. Coefficient of Determination Test (Adjusted R square)

This test is used to show the coefficient of determination between two or more independent variables and the dependent variable. An adjusted R² value close to 1 indicates the ability of the independent variables to predict the variation of the dependent variable in great detail because almost all the necessary information is provided (Karnadi, 2017).

d. Data Analysis Assumptions

1) Normality Test

According to Ghozali (2018), the purpose of the normality test is to assess whether the data in a regression model can have a normal distribution. The normality test in this study uses the one-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. The decision on whether the data is normally distributed or not is based on the following:

If $\text{sig} > 0.05$, then the data can be said to have a normal distribution.

If $\text{sig} < 0.05$, then the data can be said to not have a normal distribution.

2) Multicollinearity Test

The multicollinearity test is used to assess whether there is a relationship between the independent variables in the regression model. Initially, multicollinearity refers to the existence of a strong or definite linear relationship among some or all of the explanatory variables in the regression model. If the correlation coefficient between variables is > 0.8 , then H_0 is rejected, indicating the presence of multicollinearity. Conversely, if the correlation coefficient is < 0.8 , then H_0 is accepted, indicating no multicollinearity. Multicollinearity in regression models can be detected using several methods, one of which is through tolerance values and variance inflation factor (VIF) values. According to Ghozali (2016), the criteria for assessing whether multicollinearity exists or not is if the VIF value is < 10 , indicating no multicollinearity. Meanwhile, if the VIF value is > 10 , it indicates the presence of multicollinearity.

3) Heteroscedasticity Test

The heteroscedasticity test is used in research to assess whether there are different variations in the residuals of observations in a regression model. This process involves techniques such as scatter plots and looking for unusual patterns in the graph, such as clusters of data in the middle of the graph (Syafina and Harahap, 2019). In addition, there are several test methods that can be used, such as the Park test, the Gleser test, and the White test. In the context of this study, the Gleser test was used by performing regression of the independent variable against the nominal residuals. The criteria for assessing whether there are signs of heteroscedasticity are as follows: if the significance value between the independent variable and the residual is greater than 0.05, then there are no signs of heteroscedasticity; whereas if the significance value is less than 0.05, then there are signs of heteroscedasticity (Ghozali, 2018).

4) Autocorrelation Test

The autocorrelation test is conducted to evaluate whether there is a correlation between disturbances occurring in a particular period and disturbances occurring in the previous period in the research regression model. In the study discussed by Singgih Santoso (2014), the concept of the autocorrelation test is explained using the Durbin-Watson test (DW test), which has the following criteria:

If the DW value is below -2, it means there is positive autocorrelation.

If the DW value is between -2 and +2, it means there is no autocorrelation.
 If the DW value is above +2, it means there is negative autocorrelation.

RESULTS, DISCUSSION AND OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

Results and Discussion

This study uses a panel data regression model with a fixed effect model approach, based on the results of the Chow and Hausman tests, which show a significance value of < 0.05 , meaning that this model is most appropriate for explaining the variation between companies in the sample.

Descriptive Statistics

	DPR	LEV	PROF	LIQ	SIZE	RETA
Mean	0.508767	0.488879	0.604620	2.635229	29.10827	0.312145
Median	0.299800	0.482620	0.106950	1.444650	29.47859	0.255150
Maximum	7.010000	0.994770	21.97150	11.05568	31.16460	0.801700
Minimum	0.000000	0.181430	0.015370	0.490360	26.70353	0.011170
Std. Dev.	1.020960	0.210697	3.070747	2.615452	1.333690	0.225762
Skewness	5.251335	0.385790	6.804733	1.922843	-0.533489	0.928603
Kurtosis	33.66030	2.318457	47.82400	5.861913	2.067448	2.723175

Based on the analysis results, the average Dividend Payout Ratio (DPR) of 0.508 indicates that companies distribute approximately 50.8% of their net income as dividends. However, the maximum value of 7.01 and high standard deviation (1.021) indicate significant inconsistency in dividend policies among companies.

The leverage (LEV) variable has an average of 0.489, meaning that nearly half of the company's assets are financed by debt. Meanwhile, the average return on equity (PROF) value of 0.605, accompanied by a very high standard deviation (3.071), indicates the presence of companies with extreme profitability levels. Liquidity (LIQ) with an average of 2.635 indicates a fairly healthy condition, although the variation in its value is quite large (standard deviation 2.615). Company size (SIZE) is relatively stable with an average log total assets of 29.108. The RETA variable has an average value of 0.312, indicating that approximately 31.2% of total assets come from retained earnings.

Panel Data Regression Analysis

a. Pooled Least square (PLS)

Dependent Variable: DPR

Method: Panel Least Squares

Date: 07/17/25 Time: 19:40

Sample: 2021 2023

Periods included: 3

Cross-sections included: 17

Total panel (balanced) observations: 51

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
LEV	0.013834	0.779938	0.017737	0.9859

PROF	-0.012768	0.047830	-0.266941	0.7907
LIQ	-0.059923	0.056200	-1.066240	0.2920
SIZE	0.219219	0.107730	2.034890	0.0478
RETA	1.391163	0.672371	2.069039	0.0443
C	-6.147700	3.108679	-1.977592	0.0541
R-squared	0.237182	Mean dependent var		0.508767
Adjusted R-squared	0.152424	S.D. dependent var		1.020960
S.E. of regression	0.939935	Akaike info criterion		2.824119
Sum squared resid	39.75651	Schwarz criterion		3.051393
Log likelihood	-66.01504	Hannan-Quinn criter.		2.910967
F-statistic	2.798354	Durbin-Watson stat		1.453958
Prob(F-statistic)	0.027705			

The regression results using the Pooled Least Square model show that only the variables Firm Size ($p = 0.0478$) and RETA ($p = 0.0443$) have a significant positive effect on dividend policy. Meanwhile, the variables Leverage, Profitability, and Liquidity do not show a significant effect. The F-test yielded a probability value of 0.0277 (< 0.05), indicating that all independent variables simultaneously have a significant effect on dividend policy. The Adjusted R^2 value of 0.1524 indicates that the model can only explain 15.24% of the variation in dividend policy.

Fixed Effect

Dependent Variable: DPR

Method: Panel Least Squares

Date: 07/17/25 Time: 19:40

Sample: 2021 2023

Periods included: 3

Cross-sections included: 17

Total panel (balanced) observations: 51

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
LEV	-0.714805	2.137679	-0.334383	0.7405
PROF	0.178420	0.061035	2.923236	0.0067
LIQ	-0.086974	0.060603	-1.435146	0.1619
SIZE	0.429191	0.195323	2.197339	0.0361
RETA	8.269300	1.682934	4.913622	0.0000
C	-14.09468	5.228684	-2.695646	0.0116

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)

R-squared	0.764355	Mean dependent var	0.508767
Adjusted R-squared	0.593716	S.D. dependent var	1.020960
S.E. of regression	0.650764	Akaike info criterion	2.276877
Sum squared resid	12.28133	Schwarz criterion	3.110213
Log likelihood	-36.06035	Hannan-Quinn criter.	2.595319

F-statistic	4.479357	Durbin-Watson stat	1.922296
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000123		

Based on the estimation results, it was found that partially, the variables of profitability (PROF), firm size (SIZE), and retained earnings to total assets (RETA) had a significant effect on dividend policy. Meanwhile, the variables of leverage (LEV) and liquidity (LIQ) do not show a significant effect on dividend policy, with probability values of 0.7405 and 0.1619, respectively.

Random Effect

Dependent Variable: DPR
 Method: Panel EGLS (Cross-section random effects)
 Date: 07/17/25 Time: 19:41
 Sample: 2021 2023
 Periods included: 3
 Cross-sections included: 17
 Total panel (balanced) observations: 51
 Swamy and Arora estimator of component variances

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
LEV	0.129658	0.810973	0.159879	0.8737
PROF	0.001257	0.038312	0.032810	0.9740
LIQ	-0.051183	0.047149	-1.085555	0.2835
SIZE	0.316630	0.108290	2.923914	0.0054
RETA	2.029141	0.690103	2.940344	0.0052
C	-9.270437	3.082464	-3.007476	0.0043

Effects Specification			
		S.D.	Rho
Cross-section random		0.503504	0.3745
Idiosyncratic random		0.650764	0.6255

Weighted Statistics			
R-squared	0.282928	Mean dependent var	0.304270
Adjusted R-squared	0.203253	S.D. dependent var	0.898555
S.E. of regression	0.802057	Sum squared resid	28.94826
F-statistic	3.551042	Durbin-Watson stat	1.791779
Prob(F-statistic)	0.008621		

Unweighted Statistics			
R-squared	0.185099	Mean dependent var	0.508767
Sum squared resid	42.47094	Durbin-Watson stat	1.221279

The Random Effect regression model shows that only the RETA variable has a significant effect on dividend policy, with a probability value of 0.0001 ($p < 0.05$). Meanwhile, the leverage (LEV), profitability (PROF), liquidity (LIQ), and firm size (SIZE) variables do not have a significant partial effect. Simultaneously, this model has a Prob(F-statistic) value of

0.000394, indicating that all independent variables collectively have a significant effect on dividend policy. The Adjusted R-squared value of 0.4519 indicates that approximately 45.19% of the variation in the dividend payout ratio can be explained by the model.

To find the best model between common effect, fixed effect, and random effect, two types of tests are used (Karnadi, 2017):

1. Chow test or likelihood ratio

The Chow test aims to determine the best model between common effect or fixed effect with the hypothesis:

H0: Common effect model

H1: Fixed effect model

If the significance probability value $F > 0.05$, then H0 is accepted, meaning that the best model is the common effect model. If $F < 0.05$, then the best model is the fixed effect model.

Effects Test	Statistic	d.f.	Prob.
Cross-section F	4.054836	(16,29)	0.0005
Cross-section Chi-square	59.909371	16	0.0000

Significance (Prob) Cross Section $F < 0.05$, then the best model is fixed effect

2. Hausman Test

This test is to determine the best model between random effect or fixed effect with the hypothesis:

H0 : Random effect model

H1 : Fixed effect model

To determine which hypothesis is selected, the chi-square statistic value must be examined. If the probability is > 0.05 , then H0 is accepted. This means that the best model is the random effect model. However, if the significance probability $F < 0.05$, then the best model is the fixed effect model.

Test Summary	Chi-Sq. Statistic	Chi-Sq. d.f.	Prob.
Cross-section random	28.355763	5	0.0000

If the significance probability value $F < 0.05$, then the best model is the fixed effect model. Although this model is simultaneously significant, the Hausman test results show that the fixed effect model is more appropriate than the random effect model.

3. Hypothesis Testing

In this study, the following linear regression analysis was used:

$$Y = a + b_1 X_1 + b_2 X_2 + b_3 X_3 + b_4 X_4 + b_5 X_5$$

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
LEV	-0.714805	2.137679	-0.334383	0.7405
PROF	0.178420	0.061035	2.923236	0.0067
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a. F-test

The F-test aims to test the validity of a research model. The significance level used is 0.05 (Karnadi, 2017). If the significance value is < 0.05 , then H_0 is rejected, whereas if the opposite is true, then H_0 is accepted.

R-squared	0.764355
Adjusted R-squared	0.593716
S.E. of regression	0.650764
Sum squared resid	12.28133
Log likelihood	-36.06035
F-statistic	4.479357
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000123

significance value < 0.05 , then H_0 is rejected

b. t-test

The t-test is used to test whether the independent variable has a significant partial effect on the dependent variable. The test uses a significance level of 0.05. If the significance value is < 0.05 , H_0 is rejected, and if the opposite is true, H_0 is accepted (Karnadi, 2017).

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c. Determination Test (Adjusted R Square)

This test is used to show the coefficient of determination between two or more independent variables and the dependent variable. An adjusted R^2 value close to 1 indicates that the independent variables are able to predict the variation in the dependent variable in great detail because almost all the necessary information is provided (Karnadi, 2017).

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F-statistic	4.479357
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000123

Outcomes Achieved

Output Types	Description
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Articles published in SINTA-indexed journals or international proceedings	SINTA-indexed journal
HKI	In the process
Product/Prototype	In the process

CONCLUSION

This study found that leverage, profitability, liquidity, and company size significantly influence dividend policy in energy sector companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange. Companies with high profitability and liquidity tend to pay higher dividends, while larger companies tend to have more stable dividend policies. For future research, it is recommended that the scope be expanded to other sectors and that external variables such as macroeconomic conditions and government policies be considered, as well as the use of longitudinal analysis to understand changes in dividend policy over time.

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