

Ref. No.: BIAL/S&D/24-25-AB113

Date: 22nd Nov 2024

To,
The Secretary, PNGRB
1st Floor, World Trade Centre,
Babar Road,
New Delhi -110001
Tel No: 23457700, Fax No: 23709151

Ref: Public Notice PNGRB / Auth/3-PPPL(11)/2024 (E-5237) dated 24th October 2024

Sub: Submission of comments from Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru (KIAB) on the proposal for Expression of Interest to lay, build, operate, expand petroleum and petroleum products ATF pipeline by Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) from MRPL'S Devangonhi terminal to IndianOil Skytanking fuel farm facility at Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru.

Views in respect of the Proposal		
1.	Name of the entity/person	Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru. (KIAB)
2.	Complete address	Bangalore International Airport Limited, Administrative Block, Bravo 1, Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru, Devanahalli, Bengaluru 560 300
3.	E-mail ID/ telephone / fax	
4.	Identification proof (in case of an individual person)	N/A
5.	Views and suggestions related to:	
a.	Petroleum Product (ATF) pipeline proposed	Included in the below attachment
b.	Other aspects of the proposal	
c.	Any other issue	

Development of 02nd ATF supply pipelines to Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru.

Further to above reference and subject, please find below comments from Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru (KIAB).

KIAB is the 3rd busiest and one of the fastest growing airports in the country. The airport handled 37.5mn Passengers, 439k MT of Cargo and 248K ATMs during 2024.

KIAB is expected to handle close to 80 million passengers per annum (mppa), and 1.0 million MT of Cargo by the year 2031. By 2040, the the airport is estimated to achieve its saturation potential and be capable of handling upwards of 100 mppa, about 1.5 million MT of air cargo and upwards of 500,000 aircraft movements per annum.

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), the operator of KIAB has already initiated the next phase of expansion, which will increase the overall passenger handling capacity of the airport to 80 mppa by 2029.

The projections cited here are in line with the growth for civil aviation sector by Ministry of Civil Aviation which expects the annual passengers to grow 5X to nearly 1 billion by 2040. In order to sustain the growth projections, ensuring continued reliability of aircraft fuel supply is key.

Overview of Current Operations:

1. Current ATF supply:

- a. KIAB's fuel farm throughput for the month of October 2024 crossed 1,00,000 KL. The airport handled 23,349 ATMs and 3.6 million passengers in October 2024.
- b. The pipeline is a common carrier 'open access' model. However, it serves ATF supplies limited PSU suppliers, i.e. IOC, BPCL, HPCL and private ATF suppliers are not allowed access, and they still rely on trucking for deliveries.

2. Pipeline Capacity and Limitations:

- a. Basis feedback from the fuel farm operator IOSPL, BIAL understands that the pipeline has a maximum designed capacity of 240 KL/hour. However, there are constraints due to age, which limit flow to a level lower than 240 KL/hour.
- b. Given the expected growth in both passenger, cargo and aircraft traffic at KIAB (ranging between 2 X to 2.5 X of present levels), it is clear that the current pipeline will not suffice even if it were to operate at full design capacity (24 hours a day).
- c. KIAB therefore requires an additional pipeline or an alternate supply route to ensure uninterrupted fuel availability.
- d. **Safety and Operational Efficiency:**
Reducing the dependence on trucks for fuel supply would not only improve the efficiency of fuel delivery but also significantly enhance the safety standards at the Airport, aligning with Regulators safety guidelines and KIAB's commitment to maintaining world-class operational practices.

3. Regulatory Support and Open Access Request for Private Suppliers:

As a short-term measure and to optimize the use of the existing infrastructure, we kindly request that the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) issue a circular declaring the existing ATF pipeline as "truly open access." This would allow, both private and public ATF suppliers, to directly pump fuel into the pipeline, reducing reliance on road transport and mitigating the safety risks associated with trucking ATF to the airport.

KIAB continues to serve as a major engine of economic growth for the Bengaluru Metropolitan region and the state of Karnataka. The demand for fuel infrastructure is inextricably linked to the airport's expanding role as a regional hub, especially as it prepares to become a key operational base for Air India and a center for Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) services.

In conclusion, to sustain the growth trajectory of KIAB and to ensure that fuel supply remains uninterrupted, it is critical that the development of a second ATF pipeline be prioritized. We respectfully urge PNGRB and relevant stakeholders to consider the outlined concerns and take prompt action toward the planning, regulatory facilitation, and construction of the additional pipeline.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your support in facilitating this essential infrastructure development

Thanking You,

Yours Sincerely,

For Bangalore International Airport Limited



Satyaki Raghunath
Chief Operating Officer