

OFFICE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

KIUNGA AERODROME

Temporary Runway Restriction During Upgrade Works (MOWP Stages 5–8)

The National Airports Corporation (NAC) advises the travelling public, airline operators, the business community and all stakeholders that upgrade works at Kiunga Airport, Western Province, are progressing well. The Airside and Landside components are currently approximately 35% physically complete, with construction activities scheduled to intensify under the next phase of runway works.

MOWP Stages 5 and 6 will commence on **1 March 2026**, following the completion of Stages 1 to 4 by the end of February 2026. The initial planned start date for Stage 5 was 01st February 2026, however it was deliberately deferred to minimise disruption during the peak school period whilst the start date for Stage 6 remains as planned for 01st March, 2026.

Kiunga Airport has a total runway length of 1,200 metres. From 1 March 2026, during MOWP Stages 5 to 8, the available runway length will be temporarily reduced to **490 metres**. As a result, Regular Public Transport (RPT) operations, including Dash 8-100 series aircraft, will be suspended for a minimum period of four (4) months.

The aerodrome will remain operational for smaller General Aviation aircraft.

NAC acknowledges that the temporary runway shortening from March to June 2026 will impact passenger and cargo movements in and out of Kiunga. However, these essential upgrade works are necessary to maintain aviation safety standards and ensure the long-term reliability and continued operation of the airport.

The travelling public and business community are advised to take note of these key dates and make alternative arrangements where necessary. Work schedules remain subject to weather conditions, and any changes will be communicated accordingly.

The runway upgrade is a critical investment in strengthening aviation infrastructure in Western Province and supporting regional connectivity into the future.

NAC apologises for any inconvenience caused and thanks airline operators, stakeholders, and the people of Western Province and Papua New Guinea for their continued patience, understanding and cooperation.

Approved for Release

Dominic Kaumu, ML OBE
Acting Managing Director/CEO
National Airports Corporation Ltd

PICTURES OF UPGRADE WORKS AT KIUNGA AIRPORT



Upgraded Runway demarcated by the unserviceability cones at the completion of Stage 4



New Taxiway Charlie connecting the Upgrade Runway to the New Apron



New Apron with the New Terminal Building taking shape at the background



30% completed New Terminal Building



70% completed New Power House and Pump House



80% completed New H90 Residential Duplex



100% completed New Engineer's Site Office