

ABILENE REGIONAL AIRPORT TARMAC DELAY CONTINGENCY PLAN June, 2022

Abilene Regional Airport (ABI) has prepared this Emergency Contingency Plan pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Don Green at don.green@abilenetx.gov. ABI is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because it is a commercial airport.

This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, ABI will:

- Provide for the deplanement of passengers;
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

ABI has facility constraints that may limit our ability to accommodate diverted flights or maintain the airport's safe operation. Specific facility constraints include the following: 1) Two jetbridges; 2) Two mobile air stairs; 3) No on-site Customs services; and 4) Limited Capacity Sterile Area space. During diversion events ABI may issue NOTAMs regarding its ability to accommodate diverted flights to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the airport and its ability to serve the civil aviation needs of the public during irregular operations events. ¹

Airport Information

Name of Airport: Abilene Regional Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Don Green, Director of Transportation Services

Preparer contact number: (325) 676-6061

Preparer contact e-mail: don.green@abilenetx.gov

Date of submission of plan: June 22, 2022

Airport Category: Non Hub

¹ The intent of this "Optional Paragraph" is to provide information regarding critical facility constraints that limit your airport's ability to accommodate diverted aircraft. Examples include lack of international passenger processing facilities, limited numbers of aircraft parking positions, inability to accommodate park or service certain types of aircraft, and limited fueling capacity. However, you may prohibit or limit any given type, kind or class of aircraft only if such action is necessary for the safe operation of the airport or necessary to serve the civil aviation needs of the public.

Submitted June 22, 2022

Contact Information

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations, American Airlines/American Eagle aircraft are typically ground handled by American Eagle. The ABI American Eagle/Envoy station can be contacted via VHF radio on 131.95 or by phone at (325) 675-8028.

For other air carriers, Abilene Aero is the FBO and will ground handle such other carriers. The FBO can be contacted at (325) 677-2601 or by Unicom at 121.95. It is open 24/7.

To collect diversion pre-planning information, aircraft operators can contact the airport's Director of Transportation Services at (325) 676-6061, or at don.green@abilenetx.gov.

Plan to Provide for the Deplanement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays

ABI owns the jetbridges, but it does not operate any of the equipment needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft and is, therefore, unable on its own, to provide for the deplanement of passengers. Additionally, airport personnel are not trained to assist in the deplanement of passengers using equipment owned or operated by air carriers or contract service providers. However, we have requested that each airline on the airport provide us with a list of the equipment and resources they have for deplaning passengers and contact information. We will provide this inventory and contact information to airlines as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

Plan to Provide for the Sharing of Facilities and Make Gates Available in an Emergency

The gates at ABI are under common use gate leases or agreements to air carriers and are controlled by the airport. We direct our common use air carriers to make gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate to the maximum extent practicable. Air stairs for ramp deplaning may also be used.

Plan to Provide a Sterile Area for Passengers Who Have Not Cleared United States Customs and Border Protection

ABI does not have international passenger processing facilities. At the time of an international diverted flight's arrival, we will coordinate with CBP, TSA and local law enforcement officials to create a suitable area and procedures for establishing a temporary sterile area into which international passengers on diverted aircraft who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection can be deplaned. The sterile area will depend on the number of passengers, but the lower level baggage claim area and conference room with restrooms has been sufficient in previous events. This situation will present difficulties for all parties involved and non-pre-cleared international flights should avoid diverting to ABI when possible.

Submitted June 22, 2022

Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan

ABI will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan by providing notice of the availability of the plan on the airport's website: www.iflyabi.com