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Venezuela gas still on track for 2028, says NGC chairman

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CURRENT forecasts still support a 2028 start- up for first gas from Venezuela, chairman of the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Dr Jo - seph Ishmael Khan has said.

Khan made the comment as NGC's subsidiary, T& T NGL Ltd, published its financial state - ments for the year ended De - cember 31, 2024.

"The geopolitical landscape introduced new complexities in early 2025, following the US government's policy position towards Venezuela. The board continues to monitor the sit - uation closely. The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) licences that Government's gas collaboration between the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and Ven - ezuela remain active," Khan said.

Khan said in response to these "geopolitical uncertain - ties", TTNGL and its parent NGC are maintaining active dialogue with regulators and international stakeholders, building flexibility into gas supply models, and stress-test - ing project timelines and fi - nancial projections.

'Current forecasts still sup- port a 2028 start-up for first gas from Venezuela, with these volumes expected to con - tribute to approximately 38% of total gas supply to Phoe - nix Park Gas Processors Ltd through to 2042," Khan stated.

"Nonetheless, we remain prepared to revise forecasts and strategies as more clarity emerges and new prospects arise from current upstream development in Trinidad and Tobago," he stated.

$114m total comprehensive loss TTNGL Ltd made a total comprehensive loss of $114 million for the year ended De - cember 31, 2024, improving on the $551.4 million loss it re - corded the previous year.

"TTNGL recorded a net loss after tax of $119.4 million, a notable improvement from the $547.7 million loss in 2023. This result includes an unre- alised impairment of $184.3 million (2023: $573.6 million), derived from TTNGL's 2024 impairment assessment," Khan said.

Khan said the impairment reflects prudent risk manage - ment and is based on a con - servative outlook incorporat - ing lower long-term gas supply volumes, reduced NGL content in the forecast gas stream, and lower anticipated NGL prices over the medium term.

Khan said TTNGL contin - ues to apply a "disciplined and transparent" valuation meth - odology in the form of the Fair Value Less Costs of Disposal (FVLCD) model.

"Importantly, this mod - el excludes several potential upstream gas projects that, while not yet sanctioned, are actively progressing. This ap - proach ensures that impair - ment charges remain prudent and reversible, should key assumptions improve in the future-particularly in areas such as gas supply reliability, feedstock quality and asset life extensions, " Khan stated.

PPGPL profit

TTNGL's share of profit from its investment in PPGPL rose to $66.6 million in 2024 from $28.1 million in 2023. This was an increase of 137%.

"This reflects a solid growth in PPGPL's performance and supports the company's broader efforts to stabilise earnings and long-term share - holder value," Khan stated.

According to Khan, PPGPL delivered a profit af - ter tax of US$25.3 million (2023: US$10.7 mil - lion) driven by improved op - erational met - rics.

He said the key contrib utors to this performance included: an increase in gas volumes to Pt Lisas for processing (1,052 mmscfd in 2024 vs 1,008 mmscfd in 2023) higher uptime efficiency 10% improvement in NGL content in the gas stream continued cost rationalisation a 10% i n c rease in Mont Belvieu product prices, driv - en by global demand shifts, weather disruptions, and US logistical constraints.

"The North American trad - ing subsidiary achieved a 21% increase in volumes. While margins were compressed, the business is being deliberately positioned for long-term com - mercial resilience. Strategic initiatives under way include optimising supply chains, re - fining pricing structures, and enhancing inventory and credit risk controls to improve returns as trading expands," Khan stated.

Khan said excluding the im - pact of impairment, earnings per share improved to $0.42 (2023: $0.17).

"Cash by cash equivalents stood at $165.6 million (2023: $127.2.million) supported by dividends of $39.4 million from PPGPL (2023: $23.7 mil - lion). This liquidity position un - derpins our ongoing ability to meet obligations and support strategic investments," Khan stated.

Payment of dividends still restricted Khan stated that TTNGL's ability to declare and pay div - idends still remains restricted.

"However, considerable work has been undertaken to identify sustainable solutions. The board has narrowed its options and will communicate its proposed approach in 2025, subject to necessary stake - holder and regulatory approv - als. These efforts form part of a broader focus on capital dis- cipline and prudent financial management," he said.

"PPGPL continues to pur - sue its strategic objectives with discipline and agility. The focus remains on strengthen - ing core operations expand - ing commercial reach, and diversifying revenue streams. These actions are integral to the risk mitigation framework being employed across the NGC Group which prioritises operational reliability, strate - gic geographic diversification, active market intelligence, and sustainable investment in core infrastructure," Khan said.

Khan said the board re - mains "firmly aligned" with these priorities and continues to work closely with manage - ment to navigate in a dynamic operating environment.

"We are committed to pre - serving financial resilience, im - proving transparency, and po - sitioning TTNGL for long-term growth," he said.