

Austria

Energy supply

The energy supply companies have taken extensive measures to ensure security of supply and the health of employees.

- Whenever possible, employees work at home while engineers and field service employees start work from home as far as possible and return there afterwards.
- Various teams have been set up in the network control centres, which work separately to prevent infection. In some cases, network control centres are also operated by workers in isolation, and where employees volunteer for this service and get additional compensation.
- Non-essential work has been suspended until further notice and employees use up remaining holidays and time credits, with the large companies granting additional holidays.
- Special leave of up to 3 weeks can be requested for childcare. Often working from home can also be used for this purpose.
- Direct customer service with direct contact has been largely discontinued.
- The minimum distance of at least one metre is maintained for necessary work.
- Various protective equipment is provided for urgent and necessary work with customer contacts.
- A task force has been set up in all larger utility companies which include workers' representatives from works councils.
- Before dismissals, the instrument of short-time work is used, where working hours are reduced and employees continue to receive 80% of their salary through a salary compensation scheme funded by the state.