Statement

Measures regarding Germany’s Emergency Plan for Gas/Power Supply.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) and the Federal Network Agency (BNetzA) have together developed a three-level emergency plan to guide a coordinated response to the tightening gas supply. On 23 June 2022, the BMWK triggered the alert level in Germany, up from the early warning level that had been declared on 30 March 2022. The subsequent and ultimate level under this plan is the emergency level which will take effect if there is an exceptionally high demand for gas, a significant disruption to the gas supply, or another significant deterioration in the supply situation. In these circumstances, the emergency plan foresees that the government take non-market-based measures in particular to safeguard gas supply to protected consumers.

Should a dramatic reduction or even a complete termination of the energy supply force the closure of Bechtle sites, this will in no way jeopardise the delivery of services to our customers.

As was the case under pandemic-related restrictions, employees would be able to instantly resort to remote working from home and thus shift their workplace away from affected sites.

Operations of our data centre, too, are not at risk of being compromised. Since 2016, the Bechtle data centre has been located on Europe’s largest data centre campus in Frankfurt am Main within the framework of a long-term partnership agreement with NTT Global Data Centers EMEA GmbH (NTT GDC).

NTT GDC falls under the protection of critical infrastructure in Germany, and a copy of the relevant certificate, Document P, issued by the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) in accordance with Section 8a (3) of the Act on the Federal Office for Information Security (BSIG) has been provided to Bechtle.

This confirms consistent energy supply to our data centre. Even in the event of a complete breakdown of regular supply lines, the contracts in place with utilities suppliers provide for continued emergency power supply for 72 hours under full load through diesel generators with attached diesel tanks that can be refuelled during operation. Fuel levels can be filled up within 72 hours, or within 24 hours in an emergency, as required. NTT GDC EMEA maintains contracts with a number of fuel suppliers and ranks within the same priority group as airports, emergency services and hospitals. As per current assumptions, this offers the best possible protection of fuel supplies.

Furthermore, Bechtle has installed a new Emergency Plan for Gas crisis management committee, which is tasked with adapting existing emergency plans as required, coordinating internal measures to avoid shortages, and preparing a coordinated approach to potential shortages down the line.
Measures to raise awareness among executive employees across the Bechtle Group with the goal of reducing our energy consumption are under way and being implemented across the board.

(As of: 16 August 2022 – This statement will be updated as and when required)

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