



CER PRESS RELEASE – 12th February 2015

SUCCESSFUL CER PROSECUTION FOR ILLEGAL PORTRAYAL AS A REGISTERED GAS INSTALLER

On 12th February 2015 the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) successfully prosecuted Mr. Pat Byrne from County Wexford for illegally portraying himself as a Registered Gas Installers.

At the time, Mr. Byrne was not a Registered Gas Installer and therefore committed an offence under the Electricity Regulation Act, 1999.

Judge Haughton at Gorey District Court today handed down a criminal conviction on Mr. Pat Byrne and issued a fine of €400.

According to Paul McGowan, Commissioner for Safety,

“Today’s prosecution sends a clear signal that the CER will prosecute individuals that illegally portray themselves as Registered Gas Installers. Only companies or individuals registered with the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland may call themselves a Registered Gas Installer. Registration is required to protect the safety of the public and the public can be assured that only Registered Gas Installers are competent, insured and inspected. “

Within the last year CER has successfully prosecuted seven previous cases relating to domestic gas safety.

A register of those permitted to carry out gas works in your home can be found on www.rgii.ie or by contacting 1850 454 454.

If any member of the public suspects that a domestic gas installation has been maintained, repaired or installed by an unregistered individual they should report it directly (anonymously, if they wish) by completing an illegal gas works complaint form at www.rgii.ie or by contacting 1850 454 454.

Ends.

For further information please contact:

Andrew Ebrill at aebrill@cer.ie

Tel: 01 4000 800

Mobile: 086 045 4502

Note to Editors:

1. Under the Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006 the CER has responsibility to regulate the activities of gas undertakings and gas installers with respect to safety. The CER appointed the Register of Gas Installers Ireland (RGII) to carry out this function on its behalf. Any person wishing to carry out Gas Works (as defined under Statutory Instrument 225/2009 and 299/2011) is required by law to register as a Registered Gas Installer (RGI) with RGII.
2. There are approximately 3,000 RGI's in Ireland. By using an RGI customers can have confidence that they are dealing with a trained installer who has the required expertise in gas safety to ensure their gas installation is safe. The RGII supervise the work of RGI's with respect to safety. Visit www.RGII.ie for further information and a full listing of Registered Gas Installers.
3. The CER's mission in this area is to protect life, to prevent injury, and to minimise economic loss, by means of a pro-active, precautionary and preventative approach to ensuring the safe transmission, distribution and use of gas.
4. Please visit CER website at www.cer.ie for further information on CER's safety responsibilities.