

Commission for Energy Regulation
The Exchange, Belgard Square North,
Tallaght
Dublin 24.

Dear Sir/Madam

As a consumer of Gas I want to object to the proposed price increase sought by Bord Gais. The Energy Regulator to-date has been consistently useless from a consumer point of view. The regulator has become a rubber stamp for all price increases sought by the utility companies, indeed if memory serves me right granting more than Bord Gais actually sought last year.

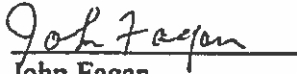
This means that Bord Gais does not have to operate in an efficient manner if it knows that the energy regulator will rubber stamp any increase sought. The research that Bord Gais relies on from a think tank that describes itself in the following sentence says it all for me;

"VaasaETT is a global and collaborative think-tank and consultancy that helps the utilities industry and our clients to maximize value for and from utilities customers" Bord Gais has no problem in spending millions of Euro on grandiose sponsorship deals such as the naming rights for a theatre which they reportedly spend four million over a six year period. All of this excess spending comes out of the pockets of consumers. Bord Gais does not need to be spending millions on this type of marketing as its outrageous price for gas is enough to get it publicity.

It has been reported recently that the 800 employees of Bord Gais will be in line for pay outs of €60000 each, what management will get we will have to wait and see. This money has been accumulated by Bord Gais aided by the Energy Regulator off the backs of gas consumers. Such a vast sum of money should not have been set aside by management for this purpose. It should instead be paying the transport costs that the current price increase is sought for.

In conclusion I would urge that this price increase be rejected, and that Bord Gais be informed that it needs to cut costs, and pre-plan for future contingencies and stop reacting in a fire brigade manner every few months in its need for funds.

Yours faithfully


John Fagan

12th August 2013