

Friday 25th October 2013

CER SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTES PERSON FOR CARRYING OUT ILLEGAL GAS WORKS

The Commission for Energy Regulation (CER), Ireland's independent energy regulator, acting in its role as Gas Safety Regulator, has today (25th October 2013) at the Dingle District Court successfully prosecuted Mr. O'Sullivan from County Kerry for illegally carrying out Gas Works.

At the time of carrying out the work, Mr. O'Sullivan was not a Registered Gas Installer, and therefore acted contrary to law.

This prosecution by the CER is the fourth of its kind in Ireland. It emphasises the requirement by law for all gas installers to be registered with the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGII) before carrying out any gas works relating to domestic gas appliances, for example in our homes, or else face prosecution.

The CER's Commissioner for Energy Safety, Dr. Paul McGowan stated:

"It is a legal requirement that all gas works relating to domestic appliances are completed by Registered Gas Installers. This case is a clear signal that CER will undertake prosecutions in the interest of safety against unregistered individuals that act outside this legislation."

The Dingle District Court today convicted and imposed a €100 fine on Mr. O'Sullivan for illegally carrying out Gas Works.

Ends.

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Note to Editors:

1. Under the Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006 the CER has responsibility to regulate the activities of natural 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 law) is required by law to register as a Registered Gas Installer (RGI) with RGII. Individuals that are not registered, but yet carry out gas works relating to domestic appliances, are liable to a maximum fine of up to €15,000 or a term of imprisonment of up to 3 years or to both.
2. There are over 2,600 RGIs in Ireland. By using an RGI customers can have confidence that they are dealing with a trained gas installer who has the required expertise in gas safety to ensure their gas installation, for example a gas boiler, is safe. The RGII supervises the work of RGIs with respect to safety. Please visit www.RGII.ie for further information and a full listing of Registered Gas Installers.
3. Please see the CER's website at www.cer.ie for further information on the CER's safety responsibilities.
4. Members of the public can find Registered Gas Installers on www.rgii.ie. They are trained, insured and will issue a certificate to show the work is to an approved standard.
5. Members of the public that are aware of instances where gas works have been completed by unregistered individuals are encouraged to report these cases either online at www.rgii.ie or over the phone at 1890 454 454. Reports can be made anonymously and all cases will be investigated.