



CER PRESS RELEASE

19th February 2014

PLUMBER PROSECUTED BY CER FOR CARRYING OUT ILLEGAL GAS WORKS

On 18th February 2014 the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) successfully prosecuted Mr Martin Kierans from County Louth for illegally carrying out gas works, specifically the installation of a gas boiler, and for portraying himself as a Registered Gas Installer. This case was heard at the Drogheda District Court.

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

The court convicted Mr Martin Kierans and imposed a fine of €250 in addition to awarding costs in the amount of €250 to the CER.

This prosecution by the CER 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 or else face prosecution.

Commissioner for Safety, Paul McGowan stated:

“In the interest of safety, all gas works relating to domestic appliances must be completed by Registered Gas Installers. This is a legal requirement and this case is a clear signal that CER will undertake prosecutions against unregistered individuals that act outside the law.”

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 natural gas undertakings and natural 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 – Gas Works) is required by law to register as a Registered Gas Installer (RGI) with RGII.
2. There are over 2,969 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 natural gas.
4. Please visit CER website at www.cer.ie for further information on CER's safety responsibilities.