



**CER PRESS RELEASE – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2014**

***CER PROSECUTES COUNTY CARLOW PLUMBER FOR ILLEGAL GAS WORKS***

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On 28<sup>th</sup> July 2014 the Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) successfully prosecuted an individual from County Carlow who plead guilty to illegally carrying out gas works, specifically the installation of a domestic gas boiler. This case was heard at the Dublin 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 instructed the defendant to pay a sum of €1000 to Merchant's Quay Project. In addition, costs of €250 were awarded to the CER.

This prosecution emphasises the requirement by law for all gas installers to be registered with the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGI) before carrying out any gas works or else face prosecution. Registration is required to protect the safety of the public. The public can be assured that only Registered Gas Installers are competent, insured and inspected. The CER is committed to using its resources to investigate and prosecute individuals undertaking illegal gas works. This prosecution represents the third successful prosecution by CER this year and seventh taken by the CER to date.

Commissioner for Safety, Paul McGowan stated:

*"This prosecution sends a clear message that the CER will actively investigate and prosecute unregistered individuals that act outside the law. The CER would remind the public that, for their own safety, all gas works relating to domestic appliances must be completed by Registered Gas Installers."*

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 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](http://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](http://www.cer.ie) for further information on CER's safety responsibilities.