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From:
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Subject:

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12 August 2014 13:58
Submission on Water Charges Plan Consultation

ALLOWANCES:

Irish Water is proposing that annual allowances will be calculated daily and carried over from quarter to quarter within a one year period. Your office has informed me that I will have full use of the allowance for the year and any unused amount is carried forward each quarter so I never lose my allowance and that due to Irish Water's billing system the amount is tracked on a daily basis.

However, I find the above proposal by Irish Water to be completely unreasonable.

Case in point: If a person goes on 2 weeks' holiday or away for a couple of weekends and on their return has a bath and maybe puts on a few machine washes they will go over the allowance and be charged accordingly and not have the allowance applied till the following quarter. 1 bath = 80 litres, 2 x machine washes = 130 litres, total 210 litres - without using the loo or washing hands. Applied under Irish Water's proposal this will incur a charge on 130 litres plus for one day's allowance instead of being allowed over the 15 days' allowance of 1,200 litres. I do not use my tap water for anything other than washing dishes and cleaning because of the strong taste of chlorine and already spend approx €150 p.a. on bottled water.

Therefore my intention is to only use my allowance.

Irish Water's billing system should only be a proposal at this stage and should be amended to carry the allowance forward on a daily basis. Irish Water is a registered subsidiary company of Bord Gais, this, appartnely, so I.W. can benefit from the experience and expertise of B.G. and its systems. Let I.W. avail of the expertise of B.G. and devise a method of applying the allowance in a fair manner. Why should there be a problem carrying the allowance over on a daily basis? This is a totally unjust and unreasonable proposal by Irish Water and should be rejected by CER.