

April 24<sup>th</sup> 2007



## **Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe** *Galway City Council*

---

### **RE : City Water Supply :Galway City Council Measures to Reduce Impacts on Householders and Local Business.**

#### **For Households**

Boiling the water makes it completely safe for drinking and food preparation...but

If you do decide to purchase bottled water, then you can continue to avail of our **buy 1, get 1 free** Galway Irish Spring Water scheme at participating retail outlets in the City....and

We are now extending this scheme to provide **free bottled water to voluntary organisations** in the City, which provide **services to the elderly and people with disabilities**.

For your empty water containers, from next week we will provide our refuse collection customers with **clear plastic bags to allow you to dispose of your extra plastic water containers**. If you haven't enough space in your green bin, just place your empty plastic water container in the clear bag and we will collect it on your normal collection day for the green bin. Bags will be collected free of charge.....or

Go along to our depot at Sandy Road from 9am to 1pm on Saturdays where a container is provided for disposal of your empty plastic bottles.

#### **For Local Business**

We will give all of our customers paying water rates a 10% discount on your bill for the current year. Instead of paying €1.10 per cubic metre, you will now be charged €0.99c per cubic metre for the entire year.

**We are making progress in returning a safe supply of drinking water to you**

#### **Our Short Term Plan :**

We are working with our colleagues in Galway County Council to increase the supply of water to the City from the County Councils Treatment Plant at Luimnagh from 2000 cu. m. to 17, 000 cu. m. as follows:

- 9,800 cu. m. by 8th May '07

April 24<sup>th</sup> 2007

- 11,000 cu. m. by 18th May '07
- 17,000 cu. m. by 15th June '07

This, together with supplies from our new treatment plant at Terryland will ensure that there is a safe, secure and continuous supply of water to your homes and places of work. We will then decommission the old Terryland Plant .

The HSE will decide by reference to 3 criteria (see below) when to lift the boil water notice.

#### **Our Medium Term Plan :**

We will install Package Treatment at the old Terryland Plant by the end of this year. This will provide an effective barrier to cryptosporidium at the old plant and allow us to bring that plant back into commission. This will address the demand for water in the City until our long- term plan is put in place.

#### **Our Long Term Plan :**

We are taking steps now to ensure that the long-term needs of the city for the next 30 years are addressed. We have started work on the provision of a new Treatment Plant which will ensure that the long-term needs of Irelands fastest growing City are catered for. This new plant will be in place in approx. 4 years from now.

**We once again reiterate that it is essential that people in the affected areas continue to boil water intended for drinking or food preparation. If you are unsure of the source of your water supply, it is advised to boil your water as a precautionary measure.**

**Galway City Council thanks you for your co-operation and patience.**

---

***According to the HSE, the Boil Water Notice will not be lifted until:***

- (1) There is a marked decline in human disease: that is a return to at least the low levels usually seen at this time of year, for several weeks (at least 2 incubation periods ie 4 weeks).*
  - (2) There is effective water treatment to remove cryptosporidium: according to Galway City and County Councils this will be*
  - (3) There is clean water, safe for human consumption, assurance that the system is robust and that the water is of acceptable quality.*
-