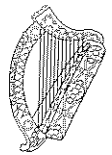




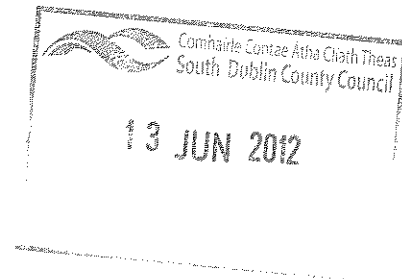
Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



Oifig an Aire
Office of the Minister

8 June, 2012.

Ms. Mary Maguire,
Corporate Services Department,
South Dublin County Council,
County Hall,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.



RE: REP4463/PH/12

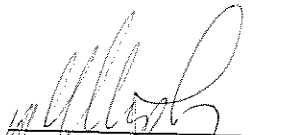
Dear Ms. Maguire,

I have been asked by Mr. Phil Hogan, T.D. Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, to refer again to your recent letter in connection with water meters.

The Programme for Government provides for the introduction of a fair funding model to deliver clean and reliable water with the objective of installing meters in households and moving to a charging system that is based on use above a free allowance. This will mean that households are charged for water services based on the water they use. This will encourage more sustainable use. The installation of water meters will commence before the end of 2012.

The economic regulation functions are being assigned to the Commission for Energy Regulation. Legislation will govern the functions and operation of the Regulator, whose main role will be to protect the interests of the customers. The Regulator will also be responsible for determining the framework for levying water charges and meter installation charges. Standing or network charges are a common feature of charges for other utility services in Ireland and internationally. It is important to note that there will be no up-front charge for the water metering programme.

Yours sincerely,


Eddie Kiernan,
Private Secretary

