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23.01.16 LOCAL DEMONSTRATIONS
NATIONWIDE

2016 RISING



Let's make this the year of change!

23.01.16 LOCAL DEMONSTRATIONS NATIONWIDE

Water charges are anti-conservation, economically inefficient and politicians are using them to transfer wealth from the poorest to the wealthiest in our society.

DID YOU KNOW:

- Ireland uses 20% less water than countries with metered charges in place.
- Corporations use **90%** of all water – yet are expected to pay only **22%** of the costs.
- Households only use **10%** of all water – but are now expected to pay up to **78%** of the costs.
- Successive Irish governments have cut water funding by 65% since 2008 – and then say we need water charges to because our infrastructure needs investment.
- When all of the costs of metering are taken into account, involving installation, maintenance, administration and replacement, the cost for water provision **DOUBLES** from an average of €350 per household to €700 per household!
- The Irish government has used the implementation of water charges to give tax breaks to corporations and the wealthiest in our society.

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PRIVATISATION IS THE REAL AGENDA!

International research shows that domestic water meters don't make any difference to the amount of water used by families.

"The proposed expenditure on water metering would mean spending more than €1 billion which we don't have, on something we don't need!" Engineers Ireland, 2011.

Then why are they bringing in charges? Because water is highly profitable!

- In the UK, water prices have increased by **DOUBLE** the amount of average goods since 1989
- Water companies make **DOUBLE** the annual profits of non-financial companies in the UK
- The dividends paid to the owners of water companies in the UK are **DOUBLE** that returned to an average private non-financial firm.