Dear Joe & Fergus;

It would seem that one of your very best Salespersons is your own Irish Environment Minister. You may wish to have your Team show this message to Customers living in these areas. Even though there is a very serious problem, check out where the majority of the money is going....it ain't pipes and concrete ! and that's a perfect reason to get an Aquathin today !!

Have a great weekend and warmest regards to all, Alfie

Edie weekly summaries 21/02/2003

Keeping you up to speed with news and events from around the world.

## Ireland to spend EUR100 million on water supplies

The Irish Environment Minister has announced that his government will spend €100 million on bringing substandard rural water supplies up to an appropriate standard. This represents a 50% increase on funds for 2003, he says.

Currently, a number of rural water schemes do not meet basic drinking water standards. This is totally unsatisfactory, says Environment Minister Martin Cullen. "We cannot allow this to continue to tarnish Ir image at home or abroad," he said.

The money is being divided up among a variety of recipients. County councils are to receive  $\notin$ 78 million million will go to the single house well grant;  $\notin$ 7 million will take the form of subsidies for group water schemes;  $\notin$ 4 million for pilots of new wastewater treatment systems for small villages; and the remainde strategic rural water planning, council administrative costs and monitoring.

Ireland was recently asked by the European Commission to investigate and authorise groundwater discha

under the Groundwater Directive (see related story).