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## Communal wars

Rev Dia

12 November 2019

Winter is near — tariffs are beginning to rise. Cases of clashes with representatives of housing and communal services and the police due to non-payment of utilities are becoming more frequent.

Most recently in Boguslav (Kyiv region), police, along with public utilities, searched the apartment of a local woman. They suspected that she was “stealing” water, electricity and heat from the general grid. The brave woman was not confused and attacked the police with a gas canister.

There are many such cases of self-resistance to high tariffs. People are trying to deceive the system and save on tariffs: some simply do not pay, some put magnets, and some connect to the general network. This is not surprising, because tariffs, especially in winter, have long exceeded the minimum wage and continue to grow rapidly.

It often leads to radical actions. In particular, last year the man independently destroyed several offices of Kyivenerho.

The system manages to successfully deal with isolated cases of resistance. Unfortunately, despite the huge tariffs, most people continue to tolerate this arbitrariness. And officials continue to tell their usual tales about the difficult economic situ-

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ation and the tightening of belts. But we understand that our main economic problem is the huge and greedy apparatus of officials who make their fortunes on our poverty.