

DOCKET	
07-BSTD-1	
DATE	JAN 04 2008
RECD.	JAN 08 2008

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To: <cgekas@energy.state.ca.us>
Date: 1/4/2008 1:51 PM
Subject: Regarding changes to Title 24 - Docket #07-BSTD-1

Mr. Gekas,

Regarding 2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards Docket # 07-BSTD-1:
I am against the proposed revision to Title 24 in regard to the requirement for what is called a "programmable communicating thermostat" or PCT. From my understanding of this new addition to Title 24 - every new home and every change to existing homes' central heating and air conditioning systems will required to be fitted with a PCT beginning next year following the issuance of the revision. Each PCT will be fitted with a "non-removable " FM receiver that will allow the power authorities to increase your air conditioning temperature set point or decrease your heater temperature set point to any value they chose. During "price events" those changes are limited to +/- four degrees F and you would be able to manually override the changes. During "emergency events" the new set points can be whatever the power authority desires and you would not be able to alter them.

In other words, the temperature of my home will no longer be mine to control. My desires and needs to include medical needs can and will be overridden by the state of California through its public and private utility organizations. This to me is entirely unconscionable let alone a questionable (perhaps unconstitutional) invasion of my home by an outside bureaucratic agency.

Rather than potentially limiting the development of new sources of power generation – this action would seem to foster both riding within the razor's edge of existing power availability and limiting the power to those that may have no voice (in particular those that live in the poorer regions of our State.

As an alternative consideration – you should consider having solar panels, or other 'power' generation added to new building construction and/or modifications to existing structures. In particular to facilitate at minimum some level of self-sufficiency of new construction, housing development projects, and new recreational facilities; as well as providing some incentive to builders, homeowners, and business/property managers to invest in this sort of change. Benefit – adds power generation to the grid, rather than the creating the bureaucratic morass (and associated lawsuits) of what is being proposed.

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