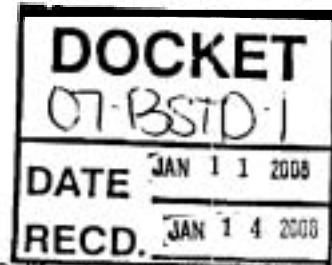


**From:** John Leake <ply4spd340@yahoo.com>  
**To:** <Docket@energy.state.ca.us>  
**Date:** 111112008 4:41 PM  
**Subject:** remotely monitored temperature controls



I am incensed and appalled that the Orwellian scheme being proposed to California's citizens that would permit remote control controlling heating and cooling systems as well as other appliances in the house, such as electric water heaters, refrigerators, pool pumps, computers and lights in response to signals from utility companies. As I understand it the immediate proposal is for a Programmable Communication Thermostat, or PCT, will allow power authorities to control home temperatures while denying consumers ability to override settings during "emergency events." I respectfully submit this scheme is completely inappropriate and reminiscent of totalitarian regimes, not our nation. I for one will resist this to the utmost.

I have two specific questions that I do not see even a glimpse of how they will be handled and one suggestion:

1. How can a resident bypass the system when it fails or a threat to life or limb? The device will fail and at the least convenient time, and the ability to bypass it immediately will be essential in many cases, especially for the invalid, very young and old. I work in the computer business and what can go wrong will go wrong and we have to have that worked out in advance.
2. What is the Energy Commission doing to make sure that adequate generation facilities are available, and the power distribution grid is adequate for the contingencies that will arise? Recent events suggest to me that the state as a whole is doing the ostrich trick of sticking their head in the sand to avoid dealing with the special interest groups who in the end want to completely denigrate our standard of living, which we have worked hard to enjoy. The proposed scheme to me is a rear guard action to fix the lack of generation capacity and distribution capacity.

My suggestion is to price electricity above a minimal amount in peak periods so to discourage use, and provide funds for electrical utilities to construct the distribution network and generation capacity that California requires.

If consumers are permitted to sign up for this device in return for a discounted electrical service I might be persuaded to agree. As a mandated system I have to most strongly object to the whole idea. We participated in that type of an arrangement with time based pricing in another state when we lived there, which was somewhat effective in limiting peak demand. Like the highly publicized reduced water toilets which require double flushes in order to clear the waste I submit this is another less than acceptable solution.

We as citizens have the most direct and effective way to control our use of utilities, adjusting the thermostat or avoiding the use of other devices. The outrageous electric bills make sure I live in a house that is 78 or higher in the summer and 65 or lower in the winter. The State of California needs to encourage that, and to create an environment in which utilities will invest in the electrical power distribution and generation capacity rather than the proposed approach.

We have a daughter and son in law with a new baby who need the thermostat set higher than we do. What about older people who cannot regulate their body temperature as younger people can? How will this device provide people the ability to live their lives as appropriate for their situation?