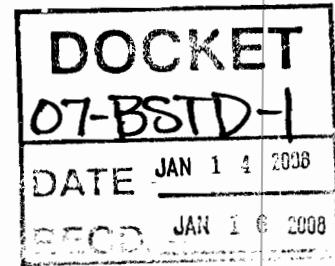


From: Chris Gekas
To: Beverly Duffy
Date: 1/15/08 3:37 PM
Subject: Fwd:



>>> Sophia Avants <hounsophia@hotmail.com> 1/14/2008 2:18 PM >>>

Dear Ms/Mr Gekas,

This is to state my opposition to the proposal to require installation of "smart thermostats" in homes. I understand that what is now before the Commission is a modification to the original recommendation, and that it is now proposed that consumers will be able to over-ride outside control, but I would ask why, in that case, is it proposed that installation will be mandatory?

I find the entire concept odious. It would seem that the entire concept of the right to "pursue happiness" is being infringed upon: if people are not able to adjust their temperature to accomodate infirmity or general physical constitution, their relaxation and productivity is affected. Our homes are private domains where we should be able to gain sustenance. It is appalling to me that some "higher" power would cut off winter heat (or summer cool). In the case of the elderly, this could be life threatening. For the rest of us, merely debilitating.

If the Energy Commission were truly interested in energy conservation, it seems to me that there would be a serious effort being made to change how consumers access power. For instance solar panels in the hot areas of the state would disengage homes/businesses from the grid for substantial amounts of "cooling energy". Obviously, private individuals find the costs of doing this type of installation prohibitive. Why can't there be some sort of subsidy (maybe the Energy Commission could mandate the power companies install them!). I have heard that some of the parts for solar are only made off-shore. Why can't we have a program to encourage production of said parts here in California? It would encourage business, create some jobs---all sorts of positive things.

Instead of formulating punitive consumer measures, why not be a leader in energy innovation that would empower individuals?

Sincerely,

Sophia Avants
741 L Street, #9
Davis, CA 95616

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