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**To:** Beverly Duffy  
**Date:** 1/15/08 3:05 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Smart Thermostats

<b>DOCKET</b>	
07-BSTD-1	
DATE	JAN 1 2 2008
FILED	JAN 1 6 2008

>>> "Robin Beauchamp" <[beauchamp@covad.net](mailto:beauchamp@covad.net)> 1/12/2008 12:21 PM >>>

Since ratepayers will inevitably be paying for the cost of the "smart thermostat" program which attempts to prepare for management of future "summertime power emergencies," I suggest that it will be more **productive** to instead increase incentives for installation of photovoltaic systems that generate the most power at the very time that these emergencies occur. And they will continue to generate clean power for decades after the initial investment.

I predict these "smart thermostats" will be nothing but "e-waste" within a few years, and the entire program abandoned as a totally **unproductive** fool's errand. Do you really think homeowners are going to be happy with 88 degrees in their air-conditioned homes? There are many energy-efficient alternatives to air-conditioners available, such as whole-house fans, shading, insulation, evaporative coolers, etc., that need education and incentives to encourage homeowners, architects, developers and designers to consider them.

Why can't we come up with **positive, productive** solutions to our problems?