



From: Chris Gekas
To: Beverly Duffy
Date: 1/16/08 4:30 PM
Subject: Fwd: Smart thermostats should be voluntary, NOT mandatory

>>> Cathy Graber 1/16/2008 11:50 AM >>>

>>> "Tom Geldner" <tom@geldner.com> 1/16/2008 11:04 AM >>>
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January 16, 2008

Jackalyne Pfannenstiel

Dear Jackalyne Pfannenstiel:

As the former Director of Marketing for the California Center for Sustainable Energy (aka SDREO), I have long been an advocate for the need to conserve energy and use more alternative sources. HOWEVER, mandatory smart devices on the residential level goes too far in this respect. There is no one smart-device solution that can satisfy the wide range of residential comfort needs AND the intrusion into privacy is too great to justify the small energy gains that may result.

People will override them. Those that do use them are probably already fairly conscious of their own energy use and how to minimize it. Further, the additional infrastructure to support such devices and to ensure they do not interfere with existing systems is completely unknown!

As many experts point out, Californians already rank dead last among the 50 states in per capita consumption of electricity and the average Californian uses about half the electricity as the average American.

This is a solution for a problem that really doesn't exist!!!

I urge you to oppose mandatory externally controllable residential thermostats.

Sincerely,

Tom Geldner
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