

Green Giving and Receiving

A gift that keeps on giving ...

Despite all the distractions of this day, you have managed to find a little bit of peace if you are reading The Star-Ledger – hopefully in a comfy couch with a cup of hot chocolate and music in the background.

Dare we intrude and encourage you to think of one last gift this season? It is one for you...one that keeps on giving back as it lowers your gas and electricity use – and your energy bills. And it is one for New Jersey...one that can help reduce the state's carbon footprint.

Here are some suggestions: a new door that keeps winter out and air conditioning in, a change to energy efficient light bulbs, a new energy efficient appliance, or simply an energy audit of your house to determine what else you can do. Read through this newspaper, check out websites or browse through your favorite stores for green ideas – and treat both you and New Jersey this holiday season.

... and some mail we are receiving

In this last column of 2008 we thought we would share some comments from our readers.

We heard from a few who believe that global warming is neither real nor that it demands action. Some gave us long lectures on science, others directed us to websites and one just called us foolish for buying into “this hoax called climate change.” We appreciate these comments but re-



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spectfully remain convinced that global warming is real and of paramount importance.

Following a column where we called Thomas Edison the inventor of the light bulb, one reader pointed out that Edison did not invent the light bulb, only perfected it...and we should have acknowledged that many contributed to this modern marvel.

We also received interesting green suggestions – adding solar panels to wind turbines, conducting more collaborative research to lower the cost of alternative energy, and even one proposing a “rent a roof” solar initiative. This type of creativity has been key to addressing problems in the past and will be critical to moving us to a green future as well.

Our favorite letter was from a reader who, as the result of one column, installed energy efficient bulbs throughout her home, bought energy efficient holiday lights and urged her friends to do so as well.

We feel good...at this time of year...having appeared on this page on Thursdays during 2008 to encourage our readers to tackle the challenges of climate change. We aim to continue doing so in 2009.

What's your view? Please let us know at Opinion@PSEG.com



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We make things work for you.