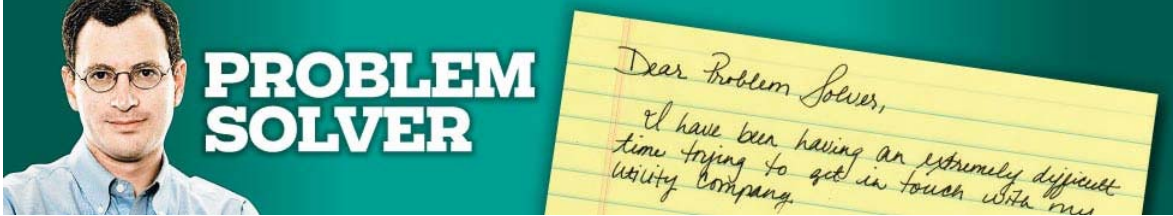


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Friday, December 04, 2009

Hang some holiday lights, save some dough

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(Source: Citizens Utility Board, Dec. 4):

Looking for ways to cut corners this holiday season? The Citizens Utility Board recommends using light-emitting diode (LED) holiday lights this year instead of the conventional incandescent lights. CUB explains, "LED lights last much longer than incandescents and use considerably less energy. You'll have just as much holiday cheer, but much fewer emissions."

The Problem Solver signed up for CUB's Energy Saver program to find out how much we could save by making the switch. It turns out that by replacing only two 50-bulb strings and two 100-bulb strings of the conventional incandescent lights with LEDs, we could save \$5/year, 21 kWh (kilowatt hours) and 36 lbs/year of our carbon footprint. Sure, we'll spend the initial money on buying the new lights, but over time, this will end up saving some dough and energy.

CUB's Energy Saver program is a division of the CUB Web site that allows consumers to enter their current energy usage and helps them discover ways of reducing their energy consumption and thus, energy spending. It is free and you just need to provide your e-mail address and password.

Posted at 11:50:08 AM

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