

## Rebecca Buck

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**From:** Tia Wulff <tiawulff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 6:58 AM  
**To:** Rebecca Buck  
**Subject:** info(brief) supports funding Commission on Climate Change  
**Attachments:** feedback loops are troubling » Yale Climate Connections.webloc; Californians collect cash for saving energy » Yale Climate Connections.webloc

Governor needs to be hearing copious and diverse info to correct his thinking about climate change urgency.

If his reasons are "no fees" and not the capabilities of the Commission on Climate Change - esp. ESSEX for starters, then it should be funded and audited for results.

An app used to help the lower income energy users may add to equity of the ESSEX - -SEE ATTACHED (it's a very short read)

A compelling aspect of the science may add to leaning toward making financial concessions in order to avert the calamity our environment is headed toward-  
-SEE ATTACHED (it's a very short read)

Respectfully, Letitia

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Letitia Allyson Wulff

# App lets Californians collect cash for saving energy

By [Bruce Lieberman](#) on Feb 2, 2018

**The goal is to keep more fossil fuels off the grid.**



Saving energy helps you save money on your utility bills. In California, it can help you make money too.

The state increasingly relies on clean power. But there are still times when demand for energy is so high that old, polluting plants need to be turned on. Now, a game-like app called “OhmConnect” pays residents to save energy during those peak hours.

The app tracks participants’ home energy use. When demand on the grid is high, it sends users a text message, inviting them to cut down on energy use for an hour.

Tongue: “Points are calculated based on however much energy that user saved, and those points are immediately available for that user to cash out via PayPal.”

**Saving #energy helps save money on your utility bills. In CA, it can help you make money too.**

That’s Curtis Tongue, cofounder of OhmConnect. He says the system is possible because of California programs that reward customers for reducing energy use during peak hours. The

money comes from the utility, which pays OhmConnect for the saved energy. The company takes a percentage and the user gets the rest.

Tongue says users typically earn between \$70 and \$150 a year. And, they know they are helping reduce pollution from fossil fuels.

Tongue: “This is an easy way for a user to reduce their carbon footprint.”

*Reporting credit: Rosie Simon/ChavoBart Digital Media.*

# Why feedback loops are one of the most troubling parts of global warming

By [Diana Madson](#) on Feb 2, 2018

**They're vicious circles that will speed up the pace of warming.**

Wednesday, February 7, 2018



Climate change is not simply a matter of cause and effect. It's more like a vicious circle. Thomas Crowther is a professor at ETH Zürich, a university in Switzerland.

**Climate change is not simply a matter of cause and effect. It's more like a vicious circle.**

Crowther: "Not only are we directly altering the climate, but that process in itself is kicking off these things that are gonna actually accelerate the damaging impacts over the rest of the century."

This self-reinforcing cycle is called a feedback loop. For example, warmer temperatures make soil microbes more active. The microbes then release more carbon into the atmosphere – which in turn speeds up global warming, which makes the microbes even more active, and so on.

Crowther: "I just imagine a sort of wheel spiraling out of control."

Melting sea ice is another example. Because ice is white, it reflects sunlight back to outer space, which reduces the heat absorbed by the earth. But global warming melts the ice, leaving dark ocean water behind. The water then absorbs the sun's heat, which increases global warming ... leading to more melting ice.

Crowther says it's hard to predict just how much these feedback loops will speed up the pace of global warming, so they represent a worrisome unknown.