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California Solar Initiative

Dear Folks,

It is important that I point out that the attached energy audit only represents about 40% of our actual energy use. We have two greenhouses (about 400 ft² combined) and an unattached workshop/garage (about 1200 ft²) that add substantially to our usage. The shop is newer construction and well insulated, but is only heated with space heaters when used during the winter. I estimate that it uses less than 5000 kwh per year. The greenhouses, however, use on the order of 17,000 kwh per year. The small one is only heated for a couple of months with a 1500 watt space heater, but the larger one is heated by a 6000 watt 240 V heater and runs whenever the temperature is lower than 45° F which could be nine months of the year during the night. The unit often runs constantly during the months of December and January. This, of course, adds appreciably to our power bill.

Terry Miller