

Re: Remote temp sensing help??

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From: Michael (NoSpam_at_att.net)

Date: 01/10/05

Date: Mon, 10 Jan 2005 13:10:25 GMT

Jenny3kids@msn.net wrote:

>
> *Hi people,*
>
> *I live on a small acreage and I have two wells and two pump rooms on*
> *the property. Winter temps frequently get below freezing so I have to*
> *keep a small heater in them to prevent pipes freezing overnight.*
>
> *Currently I use some cheap indoor/outdoor thermometers to monitor the*
> *temp inside the insulated enclosures but I have to walk to each one to*
> *check it.*
>
> *I need some temp senders so I can have a remote station in the house*
> *and each one can constantly indicate the inside temp so if the heater*
> *dies I can get down there and fix it. I can have a switch to cycle*
> *through them manually I do not need a 4-station setup but that would*
> *be a nice luxury, cost permitting.*
>
> *There is 110v in all places so batteries are not an issue. Can anyone*
> *suggest a CHEAP kit I can get? The farthest away sender would be about*
> *800 feet.*
>
> *Thanks in advance.*
>
> --
>
> *Kind regards,*
> *Jenny and her tribe of survivors.*

An issue of Circuit Cellar several years ago had an article on an X-10-based system for something similar to what you need. The author wanted to turn a fan ON/OFF in his kid's 2nd- or 3rd-story bedroom, depending on temperature. PIC-based transmitter queried upstairs receiver for temperature via X-10 (TW-523?). Receiver measured temp., sent back either a HIGH or LOW signal. Transmitter could then either ignore the situation altogether or send an ON or OFF command to the fan's X-10 appliance module.

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I was on the verge of building the thing when my need evaporated. If you'd be interested, I'll look up the article.

By the way, I agree than some X-10 stuff is junk. But for the past 15+ years I've used the simple desktop manual X-10 controllers, the bedside table clock/controller, and lamp modules to great advantage. If I had to get out of my TV chair to make a light brighter or dimmer I wouldn't know how to act. And the last time I turned OFF the downstairs lights *before* going upstairs to be was in the late 1980's.