



**All aboard!...**Showing remarkable solidarity, the state Assembly, Senate, and governor all agree in the budget fix-up package to save financial incentives for new power-plant siting—no small accomplishment given the billion-dollar deficit and need to salvage the plan from a phased-out **shared revenue** program. **Co-ops** and the *Customers First!* Coalition helped round up bipartisan support. A crucial vote could come next month as the **Natural Re-sources Board** takes up a proposed **Mercury** regulation.... **Dairyland Power Co-op** is among sponsors of research to determine origins of mercury deposited in Wisconsin waters. The **DNR** recently commenced a similar study; however, it's more than a year *after* the agency began calling for mercury regulation. (The rule could become law before the study results are known.) **File this away:** Restructuring fans celebrate apparently smooth opening months of **Texas** retail competition, but 16 new power plants set for the next four years are cancelled or delayed, threatening to thin the state's generation reserve. Existing surplus capacity has figured in the early success, and skeptics note rate cuts mandated by the legislature end 1/1/07.—*Dave Hoopman, Wis. Federation of Co-ops*