



**They told you so?** At press time, Wisconsin's summer electric reliability appeared okay, so it's worth a look back at an early July report from Philadelphia consultants **P&L Economics**, which called the grid just as vulnerable as in 2003 when an August **blackout** darkened eight states. The report says the eastern Great Lakes and Ohio Valley are at high risk like last year. P&L's **solution**: mandatory, federally planned wholesale-power markets, which now seem destined to bring **higher prices** for Wisconsin consumers. **Speaking of mandates**, state government should get one-fifth of its electricity from **renewable** sources, says **Gov. Doyle**, who adds that state utilities should have 10 percent renewables in their mix by 2015. **Costs** would rise because wind and solar need backup generation and some groups oppose counting hydropower as renewable. The federal government says it will meet a December deadline finalizing the requirement to cut **mercury** emissions 70 percent by 2018 despite litigation by the **Natural Resources Defense Council**, which has demanded mercury reductions but is suing to block the rule.