



Spend some, save some.... Wisconsin could save enough natural gas to heat 65,000 homes for a year and avoid the need to build one new power plant every five years, says the nonprofit **Energy Center of Wisconsin** in a December report commissioned by an administration task force. The price: \$75–120 million annually in state spending for energy efficiency. Public Service Commission Chair **Dan Ebert** estimates government and utilities will spend about \$77 million for conservation and efficiency in '06. **Win some, lose some....** Both sides claim victories in the ongoing battle over the future of nuclear energy. The UK-based **World Nuclear Association** says nukes are now the least-cost means of adding base-load electricity, citing emissions abatement and dependability of supply. Meanwhile, the **Yucca Mountain** waste-storage project, 14 years behind schedule, is beset by new problems including major redesign, budget cuts, and a doubled cost estimate for a needed rail line. The **FBI** celebrates **Y2K+6** with December arrests of two accused eco-terrorists in the only millennium sabotage incident: downing of an Oregon electric transmission tower.