



EYE ON THE INDUSTRY

**Monthly Notes on Issues
Affecting Wisconsin Consumers**

Emissions falling....U.S. greenhouse gas emissions fell in 2006 compared with 2005, the **Department of Energy (DOE)** reports. '06 emissions measured in carbon-dioxide equivalent were down 1.5%, marking the third annual decline since 1990; earlier, DOE reported U.S. CO₂ emissions for 2005 were down slightly from the previous year. Meanwhile, emissions from **Kyoto signatory** nations continue to rise, according to a **United Nations** report. U.S. emissions overall are up 16 percent since 1990 but Canada, Portugal, Spain, Turkey are up 50 percent or more, the U.N. says. **Prices climbing....** DOE's **Energy Information Administration** says retail electricity prices for 2007 were expected to continue an upward trend; based on partial-year stats, the agency estimated residential prices would reflect a 2007 rise of 1.9 percent, with commercial prices up 2 percent and industrials up 4.9 percent compared with 2006. An earlier report from the same agency showed 2006 retail power prices making the sharpest one-year jump (9 percent) in 25 years, despite a flat usage trend—demand growth of only 0.2 percent compared with 2005.