

CE SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: "Given the future outlook of 4th generation nuclear, its clean energy footprint, energy density, and ability to deliver in ways that solar and wind cannot, (especially in its ability to meet climate goals), when can we expect to see the utility begin this energy transition?"

- Consumers Energy currently does not have plans to add nuclear energy in its current Clean Energy Plan filed with the Michigan Public Service Commission.
- Nuclear energy is simply a higher-cost generating resource than many alternatives, particularly as the costs of natural gas and renewable energy have continued to be low over the past decade.
- New nuclear plants are very expensive, often experience significant cost-overruns, and are large bets for a single energy source.
- As a result, when we balance affordability, reliability, and clean, nuclear energy is not our current choice for new generation. We will continue to evaluate it as a long-term possibility as we move toward our net zero carbon emissions goal by 2040.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: "Why consumers energy is not a green company, no good solar or geothermal rates for the consumer, your rates are the highest for midwest states and you corporate rate is the best, you must change"

- Consumers Energy's Clean Energy Plan filed with the Michigan Public Service Commission lays out a path for the energy provider to become one of the first utilities in the nation to go coal free by 2025, rapidly accelerates the state's goal to be net zero by 2050, all while saving customers nearly \$600 million. We simply have balanced our customers, employees and communities with the need to do what's right for our planet. Finally, a large part of our Clean Energy Plan is the ability for the utility to build out solar energy, adding nearly 8,000 megawatts of solar energy by 2040, to our portfolio. In addition to its environmental benefits, solar is increasingly cost competitive with other fuel sources and utility-scale projects provide the best value for our customers. A competitive bid utility solar project is roughly less than 3 times the cost of private solar systems.
- We are also determined to provide maximum energy value for every customer dollar. It is not lost on us that we power people's lives day and night: hot showers; hot meals; warm or cool homes; charging technology and much more for just a few dollars a day. At the same time, we work aggressively to reduce costs, achieving over \$100 million in operational savings for our customers in 2020 alone. Customers generally are paying for the costs of energy we provide – at no profit to us – and for costs to operate and strengthen our electric and natural gas systems. We also directly help customers reduce energy waste and lower their costs and have helped them save nearly \$4 billion on bills since 2009.

- We remain committed to keeping energy bills affordable for Michigan families and businesses.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: “Why not try nuclear again??”

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CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: “Would you consider suspending political donations to Republicans?”

- The CMS Energy Employees for Better Government PAC is a voluntary employee membership organization governed by an elected steering committee. After announcing a pause in January 2021, the PAC Steering Committee adopted updated criteria for political contributions and in May, resumed giving to candidates. In 2022, we will continue to apply the new giving criteria and engage with members of both parties to support safe, reliable, affordable and clean energy policies for our customers.”

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: “Will you stop donating to the GOP?”

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CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: “How can I know when and how to cash out?”

- We are unable to advise you on when to cash out your stock, but recommend you consult your financial or tax advisor.
- There are several ways to sell your stock:
 1. Mailing a written request to sell to the following:

EQ Shareowner Services
P.O. Box 64856
St. Paul, MN 55164-0856

If returning stock certificates to sell shares, the certificates should be mailed to the following:

EQ Shareowner Services
1110 Centre Point Curve, Suite 101
Mendota Heights, MN 55120-4100

2. Calling EQ Shareowner Services at 855-598-2714
3. Online at www.shareowneronline.com if you have online access

CE Shareholder Question: Are you shutting down all your coal powered plants and if so why?

- If approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission later this year, we will shut down all coal-fired power plants in 2025. Accelerating retirements of our remaining coal-fired power plants will help Michigan's environment for decades to come by improving air quality, cutting greenhouse gas emissions and saving water. Our plan also creates price stability and, by using renewable energy sources and natural gas as a fuel source to generate baseload power, will save customers over \$600 million through 2040 compared to our current plan.
- However, we did not come to this decision lightly and we will continue to exercise care with both our co-workers and communities as we transition through plant closure and retirement.
- We value the dedicated employees who have operated and maintained the Campbell and Karn units so safely and productively for decades. We will support our co-workers affected by the proposed retirements of those facilities and, in alignment with our union partners, work to help those who want to keep a role with the company.
- We'll also support Port Sheldon Township (Campbell), Hampton Township (Karn) and those communities and their respective regions by re-imagining the local economic landscapes after the plants are retired. That means working closely with stakeholders to identify and meet challenges related to the closures through the economic transition.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: More suggestion than question. The company should partner with or buy a company that installs metal roofs, over which they would install solar panels. Thus providing additional renewable generation, and some modest compensation for use of the roof.

- Thank you for your suggestions. The company does not currently have a renewable program for residential on-site solar installations or a metal roofing business. We do offer a distributed generation (DG) program supporting customers who want to install rooftop solar generation and can help them connect to our system and be credited for excess energy generated.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: What actions are we looking at to grow our consumers Energy business in the state of Michigan? Are we looking at Gas/electric/generation investments? Purchasing other operators?

- Our focus is on our regulated Michigan utility where we are investing \$14.3 billion in our electric and gas system over a 5-year period to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to our customers and the clean energy transformation. Given our organic growth opportunities, we aren't looking outside of our core business or to purchase other utilities.
- We are committed to helping Michigan successfully enable its manufacturing infrastructure to adapt, grow, and thrive from the transformations of the automotive and other energy-intensive industries. We received regulatory approval to offer a competitive pricing model to retain and attract energy-intensive manufacturers and suppliers that will help drive Michigan's economic development success immediately and into the future.
- If approved this year, our Clean Energy Plan calls for the closure of all coal-fired units and the purchase of natural gas-fired power plants in the state. The purchase would require federal regulatory approval.
- Additionally, the Clean Energy Plan calls for 8,000 megawatts of solar by 2040 and we are actively seeking large plots of land and working with farmers and townships to secure land solar development.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: Port Sheldon is scheduled to shut down by 2025. Grand Haven Power is already gone as is Muskegon Cobb plant. Palisades and Cook are scheduled to shut down around 2030. Being that Michigan is a manufacturing state, where are we going to get a consistent source of electricity to keep factories running efficiently? It sounds like CMS management wants to turn Michigan's electric grid into a one similar to what California has where brown-outs are common place. Is this correct? Does CMS want to destroy the manufacturing base here in Michigan? We already have strong labor unions that do a good job of that as well as many progressive liberal politicians who help the cause.

- No – your characterization of the grid is not correct.
- We worked through the state's Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) process, gathering input from a diverse group of key stakeholders and modeling a wide variety of future scenarios and assumptions about factors such as market prices, energy demand and levels of clean energy resources, including wind, solar, demand response and energy efficiency to develop our Clean Energy Plan. If approved, the plan calls for the retirement of our coal-fired power plants while ensuring continued reliable, affordable energy for Michigan by leveraging existing natural gas-fired power plants in the state and more renewable energy.
- Our plan is designed to respond to emerging needs, adapt to changing conditions and embrace emerging innovative technologies as we work to achieve net zero carbon emissions.

- Energy efficiency, demand response and emerging technologies such as grid modernization and battery storage will help us lower peak customer demand for electricity and deliver exactly what Michigan needs.
- The natural gas plants in our portfolio —Consumers Energy's current natural gas-fired power plants in Zeeland and Jackson — would supply reliable, on-demand electricity to meet Michigan's energy needs when renewables and other sources are not available. Natural gas plants directly support the intermittent nature of renewable energy.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: Has the Company contributed any money or other compensation to Black Lives Matter or Antifa or the Proud boys?

- The company has not contributed to the Black Lives Matter organization, Antifa or the Proud Boys.
- Our financial contributions from the Foundation were all to *local* organizations in Michigan combatting racial injustice, inequities and discrimination. We have not donated to any national organizations.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: Before I vote, I would like to know the positions of each of the Board Members on the following question: Do you approve of cutting off services to users during the winter months? My brother is a disabled veteran, my father worked for CMS. I was always a fan of Consumers, until this winter, which was hard on many people. My brother's utilities were cut off TWICE this last winter (one time it was only 10 degrees outside). Customer service, which you seem to praise in your annual documents, has been less than helpful. Shame on you for this hypocrisy.

- We care for our customers and we have shown them by providing many tools, assistance and grace over the course of the pandemic. We do everything we can to connect our customers with services if they have trouble paying their bills.
- There are multiple [programs](#) customers can sign up for to receive help on their bills such as the CARE program, Budget plan or Winter Protection Plan.
- The best option is to call 2-1-1. This is a free service that connects people with nonprofit agencies in their communities, including the new financial assistance.
- Additionally, there is the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund Assistance to help veterans in need. Click [here](#) for more information. Additionally, [critical care](#) is a program for customers who have medically necessary equipment to have a hold placed on their account to not be eligible for utility shutoffs. One must fill out this [form](#) and receive a doctor's approval.
- Our customer service team has been empowered to support customers with payment arrangements. Every situation is different, and we would need more information from your brother to better direct him to resources available. Please have your brother reach out to us to see if there is any help we can provide (800-477-5050).

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: With the shutdown of fossil generation, the closing of Palisades, where will the replacement generation come from? What is the cost per Kwh of each type of generation (Coal, oil, nuclear, wind turbine, solar and natural gas) ?

- If approved, the Clean Energy Plan calls for the retirement of our coal-fired power plants while ensuring continued reliable, affordable energy for Michigan by leveraging existing natural gas-fired power plants in the state and more renewable energy.
- Our plan is designed to respond to emerging needs, adapt to changing conditions and embrace emerging innovative technologies as we work to achieve net zero carbon emissions.
- Energy efficiency, demand response and emerging technologies such as grid modernization and battery storage will help us lower peak customer demand for electricity and deliver exactly what Michigan needs.
- The natural gas plants in our portfolio —Consumers Energy's current natural gas-fired power plants in Zeeland and Jackson plus the purchase of the existing Covert Generating Facility would supply reliable, on-demand electricity to meet Michigan's energy needs when renewables and other sources are not available. Natural gas plants directly support the intermittent nature of renewable energy.
- One-time capacity and energy solicitations for up to 700 MWs for 10 years.
- More information on the costs of different resources can be found in the company's Integrated Resource Plan report filed as part of the regulatory case with the Michigan Public Service Commission. More information can be found [here](#).

CMS Shareholder Question: Will you extend the operation of Campbell 3 beyond 2025 ? Has the MPSC authorised funds to pay for shut down & the purchase of renewable sources to offset possible shutdown ?

- No, we would not extend the operation of Campbell 3 beyond 2025 if our settlement is approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC). The agreement, if approved, authorizes the recovery of costs associated with safely decommissioning the facility and we would seek to recover those actual costs in future rate cases. Approval of the settlement agreement would approve our strategic plan to replace electric capacity from coal with a variety of both dispatchable and renewable resources — renewable resources such as solar will continue to be procured using a competitive solicitation process that recovers costs in separate regulatory proceedings.

CMS Shareholder Question: Why, in the view of the board of directors and to what value does it add to investors for the board to take such action as to list gender, race, and preferred pronouns in the bio of each director candidate?

- Board diversity is a key focus of proxy advisory firms and institutional investors. At CMS, the Directors have chosen to self-disclose such. Doing so leads to accepting cultural diversity and avoids confusion.

- At CMS Energy, we're working to embed diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) into everything we do for our employees, our customers and the communities we serve which includes listing gender, race and preferred pronouns in the bio.

CMS Shareholder Question: two part question, why is cms energy cost more in michigan, less for other midwestern states, cms energy is not a very green company, your solar, geothermal programs for consumers are dismal, and not productive, their is no incentive to go green or reduce the used of gas and electricity.

- We are committed to providing affordable electricity for our customers. We're proud our bills have stayed below inflation historically and we're working hard to provide maximum value for customers. In fact, monthly bills for our residential customers remain below the national average.
- We respectfully disagree on your assertion that we are "not a very green company." Caring for the environment as we meet Michigan's energy needs is one of our top priorities. In the past year alone, we have proposed accelerating closure of all of our remaining coal units to 2025 — 15 years faster than currently planned. If approved by our regulators, this would make us one of the first utilities in the country to end coal use. Additionally, a massive ramp-up in utility-scale solar is the centerpiece of our Clean Energy Plan and our Distributed Generation (DG) program supports customers who want to install rooftop solar.
- As it relates to your point about geothermal programs, we have found three key factors to determine cost effectiveness: 1) cost of energy, 2) cost of technology, and 3) technology efficiency. Geothermal is the most efficient technology for space heating, but the efficiency gains do not outweigh the higher cost of energy and capital investment costs. These three factors must balance to find the optimal solution, which is still a dual-fuel home with a natural gas furnace plus electric air conditioner.

CMS Shareholder Question: With the exit from coal generation by 2025, what is the forecast of the increase in natural gas consumption to meet the electricity demand currently produced by coal? With this increased gas demand, what increase to gas rates should residential customers expect?

- Replacement of the company's coal-fired generation resources will include a mix of natural gas generation as well as renewable resources such as solar. Over the next 20 years, natural gas will provide no more than 40 percent of our electric generation capacity and is projected to decrease to just 10 percent of the portfolio by 2040. The company does not propose building new gas generation facilities or importing any new natural gas, as the Clean Energy Plan provides reliable electricity with existing natural gas facilities such as Zeeland, Jackson and the proposed purchase of the Covert Generating Station. Our strategy would not impact energy bills because the fuel we purchase to operate our natural gas plants is separate from the energy we deliver safely, affordably and reliably to help customers heat their homes and businesses.

CMS Shareholder Question: In light of Ukrainian and the need to be energy independent. Are you going to extend the operation of all C coal plants. As I understand, the person running for New York governor is wanting to put a ban on all new natural gas buildings. This is scaring to put all our eggs in one basket. The basket of natural gas for generation.

- No, we don't plan to continue operation of our coal facilities beyond 2025. Replacement of the company's coal-fired generation resources will include a mix of natural gas generation as well as renewable resources such as solar and battery storage. Over the next 20 years, natural gas will provide no more than 31 percent of our electric generation capacity and is projected to decrease to just 10 percent of the portfolio by 2040. The company does not propose building new gas generation facilities or importing any new natural gas, as the Clean Energy Plan provides reliable electricity with existing natural gas facilities such as Zeeland, Jackson and the proposed purchase of the Covert Generating Station. Our strategy would not impact energy bills because the fuel we purchase to operate our natural gas plants is separate from the energy we deliver safely, affordably and reliably to help customers heat their homes and businesses.
- When it comes to potential bans, we need a thoughtful approach in the cold climate of Michigan. An approach that balances affordability for those customers who can least afford it. Our Natural Gas Delivery Plan (NGDP), a 10-year, \$11 billion strategy to upgrade and update our natural gas operations, with the Michigan Public Service Commission. The voluntary plan outlines a decade of investments — many already underway — to make our gas system even more **safe, reliable, affordable and clean** as we deliver the energy our 1.8 million customers rely on.
- Like many across the country and our industry, we're also exploring how expansion of electrification can help the environment — while continuing to safely deliver the energy our customers need in a cold-weather, Midwestern state.
- At this current time bans on natural gas hookups would not be in best interest of our customers.