

Submitted questions were all addressed at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: “We understand damage from February’s ice storm was unprecedented, but what is the company doing to prevent these extended and widespread power outages in the future?”

I’d like to mention a few things here.

First, in late February and early March, we experienced the second largest storm event in our company’s more than 137-year history. Our line crews are among the most skilled and experienced in the business. They did their jobs with able hands and hearts of service and our customers were well-served by their dedication. I’m equally proud of the hundreds of co-workers behind the scenes who supported our crews, customers and communities during restoration. Thank you to everyone who helped restore power to our customers.

Second, we prepared thoroughly for the storm, deploying a record number of crews on our system. The damage proved quite extensive. We recognize the storms’ disruptive impact on our customers, especially those who waited longest to have their power restored. For that, I am sorry.

Finally, I want our customers and all of you to know we’re continuing to invest in strengthening Michigan’s power grid. Over the last several years, we’ve seen more frequent and severe storms marked by high wind gusts, outages and downed wires. Like all energy providers, Consumers Energy’s task is to strengthen our system to better withstand intensifying storms spurred by climate change, and that’s exactly what we have been doing. Our \$5.4 billion electric reliability plan is a blueprint for serving Michigan today while investing and innovating to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Last year’s results demonstrate substantial progress. In 2022 alone, Consumers Energy completed more than 2,000 electric projects to cultivate a more reliable power grid and reduce customer power outages. More than 96 percent of customers impacted by outages in 2022 saw power restored in less than 24 hours.

CMS SHAREHOLDER QUESTION: “The state of Michigan and other interest groups are pressuring energy providers to close coal plants. Are there benefits beyond environmental to consider in the zero-coal transition? “

We are committed to transitioning to cleaner generation, improving land, water and air quality for decades to come. I’m pleased with our progress. We know that actions matter, which is why our Clean Energy Plan, filed as part of the Integrated Resource Plan, calls for the company to stop using coal as a fuel source for electricity by 2025 —

15 years faster than planned. This makes Consumers Energy one of the first energy providers in the nation to go coal-free while significantly building out solar, battery storage and energy efficiency investments.

But as you mentioned, it's about the environment and much more. Our plan also creates price stability. By using renewable energy sources and natural gas as a fuel source to generate baseload power, we will save customers over \$600 million through 2040.

We will always work with the Michigan Public Service Commission, policymakers and others who share our commitment to delivering world-class performance to our customers in a clean, reliable and affordable way.