

Michigan (excluding Detroit). Has 1.9 million electric, 1.8 million gas customers. Has 1,836 megawatts of nonregulated generating capacity. Sold EnerBank in '21. Electric revenue breakdown: residential, 46%; commercial, 32%; industrial, 15%; other, 7%. Generating

2.9% gas, 8.9% other. Has 8,560 full-time employees. Chairman: John G. Russell. President & CEO: Garrick Rochow. Inc.: Michigan. Address: One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201. Telephone: 517-788-0550. Internet: www.cmsenergy.com

240 223 226 Fixed Charge Cov. (% ANNUAL RATES Past Past Est'd '20-'22 of change (per sh) 10 Yrs to '26-'28 2.5% 5.5% 6.0% 7.0% 7.5% Revenues 0.5% 4.0% 'Cash Flow' 5.5% 6.5% 6.0% 6.5% Earnings 6.0% 7.0% Dividends Book Value 6.0%

% Change Customers (vr-end)

8215

+1.0

8061

+1.0

7951

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+1.0

Cal- endar	QUAR Mar.31	TERLY RE Jun.30	VENUES ( Sep.30	\$ mill.) Dec.31	Full Year
2020 2021 2022 2023	1864 2013 2374 2284	1443 1558 1920 <b>2050</b>	1575 1725 2024	1798 2033 2278 <b>2216</b>	6680 7329 8596 <b>8700</b>
2024	2335	2100	2200	2265	8900
Cal-	EARNINGS PER SHARE A				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Year
2020 2021	.85 1.09	.55	.54	.55 .40	2.64 2.58
2022 2023 2024	1.20 .69 <b>.80</b>	.50 <b>.70</b> . <b>75</b>	.56 <b>.80</b> <b>.85</b>	.58 <b>.86</b> <b>.90</b>	2.84 3.05 3.30
Cal-	QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B =				Full
endar	Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec. 31	Year
2019 2020 2021 2022 2023	.3825 .4075 .435 .46 .4875		.3825 .4075 .435 .46		1.53 1.63 1.74 1.84

CMS Energy started the year on a weak note. In the first quarter, the top line decreased nearly 4% year over year, to \$2.28 billion. Meanwhile, earnings from continuing operations declined 43%, to \$0.69 per share. The reduction was due to unfavorable weather, which reduced sales volumes and inflated service restoration costs during the period.

A gas rate application is expected in the fourth quarter. According to Michigan regulatory law, the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) should give a ruling within 10 months of the utility's filing. Consumers Energy filed an application with the MPSC in December 2022, requesting an annual rate increase of \$212 million based on a 10.25% return on equity. It's worth noting that the utility often requires rate relief because it operates a large system with aging equipment that needs to be replaced.

Decent growth in near-term earnings is probable. Consumers Energy is likely to see a boost from a \$155 million increase in electric rates implemented at the beginning of 2023, as well as a full year's gas rate increase starting in October of last

vear. To offset the rising costs due to inflation, management is actively working to control expenses. All things considered, we estimate that earnings per share will advance at a single-digit pace in 2023 and 2024 each, to about \$3.05 and \$3.30, respectively.

The company is committed to improving its infrastructure and increasing its renewable energy portfolio while reducing costs. Over the next five years, the company is planning to invest \$12.4 billion, with \$6.1 billion focused on electric distribution, \$6.3 billion on gas networks. It also intends to spend \$3.1 billion on generating clean energy. The goal is to increase the percentage of renewable energy sources from 14% to 61% by 2040.

Shares of CMS Energy are ranked to underperform the broader market averages in the year ahead (Timeliness: 4). At the recent quotation, the equity has below-average capital appreciation potential over the 2026-2028 horizon. Still, the company has a track record of stable operating performance, which may interest some conservative accounts.

Emma Jalees June 9, 2023

(A) Diluted EPS. Excl. nonrec. gains (losses): '07, (\$1.26); '09, (7¢); '10, 3¢; '11, 12¢; '12, (14¢); '17, (53¢); gains (losses) on disc. ops.: 07, (40¢); '09, 8¢; '10, (8¢); '11, 1¢; '12, 3¢;

'21, \$2.08; '22, 1¢. Next earnings report due early August. (B) Div'ds historically paid late Feb., May, Aug., & Nov. ■ Div'd reinvestment plan avail. (C) Incl. intang. In '22: \$7.80/sh.

(D) In mill. (E) Rate base: Net orig. cost. Rate all'd on com. eq. in '22: 9.9% elec.; in '19: 9.9% gas; earned on avg. com. eq., '21: 13.2%. Regulatory Climate: Above Average

Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability Price Growth Persistence **Earnings Predictability** 

95

65

95

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