

Form 5500

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security
Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

OMB Nos. 1210-0110
1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- A This return/report is for: [] a multiemployer plan [] a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) [x] a single-employer plan [] a DFE (specify) ____
B This return/report is: [] the first return/report [] the final return/report [] an amended return/report [] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. [x]
D Check box if filing under: [x] Form 5558 [] automatic extension [] the DFVC program [] special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. []

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 502
1c Effective date of plan: 05/01/1955
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 38-0442310
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 517-247-9634
2d Business code (see instructions): 221500

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator. Includes rows for employer/plan sponsor and DFE.

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor		3b Administrator's EIN	
		3c Administrator's telephone number	
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report:		4b EIN	
a Sponsor's name			
c Plan Name		4d PN	
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year		5	7474
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d).			
a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year		6a(1)	0
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year		6a(2)	0
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....		6b	7444
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits		6c	0
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c		6d	7444
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.		6e	
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e		6f	
g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		6g(1)	
g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		6g(2)	
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....		6h	
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)		7	

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:
4B

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)		9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)	
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor			

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules		b General Schedules	
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> R (Retirement Plan Information)	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H (Financial Information)	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> I (Financial Information – Small Plan)	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> I (Financial Information – Small Plan)
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> A (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>0</u>	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> A (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>0</u>	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> A (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>0</u>
(3) <input type="checkbox"/> SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information)	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information)	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information)
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> DCG (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____	(5) <input type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information)	(5) <input type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information)	(5) <input type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
(5) <input type="checkbox"/> MEP (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> G (Financial Transaction Schedules)	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> G (Financial Transaction Schedules)	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> G (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

A Name of plan RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	502
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 38-0442310	

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... Yes No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

PACIFIC INVESTMENT MGMT CO, LLC

33-0629048

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

AON INVESTMENTS

36-3051915

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
16 27	CONSULTANT	13899	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

DELOITTE TAX

86-1065772

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10 16 50 70	CONSULTANT	13640	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

NORTHERN TRUST

36-1561860

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
19 21 49 59 62 99	TRUSTEE	10345	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

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(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024	
A Name of plan RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 502
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 38-0442310

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

	(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
Assets		
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):		
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	
(3) Other	1b(3)	
c General investments:		
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	298145
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):		
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):		
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	65269626
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)	
(15) Other.....	1c(15)	

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property.....	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	1f	59915424	65567771
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g	142133	98074
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	142133	98074
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	59773291	65469697

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	781539	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		781539
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)	1103003	
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		1103003
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		0
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result.....	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other.....	2b(5)(B)	6114958	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		7999500

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	2033370	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other.....	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		2033370
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g		
h Interest expense.....	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	37883	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses.....	2i(11)	231841	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		269724
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		2303094

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		5696406
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) Unmodified (2) Qualified (3) Disclaimer (4) Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: **REHMANN ROBSON LLC**

(2) EIN: **38-3635706**

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2) It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		X	
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		20000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)			
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? Yes No
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) Yes No Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

Consumers Energy Company
Retired Employees Group Term
Life Insurance Plan

Years Ended
December 31,
2024 and 2023

Financial
Statements
and
Supplemental
Schedule

Rehmann

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

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Note: Other schedules required by Section 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA have been omitted because they are not applicable.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

August 15, 2025

Plan Administrator
Consumers Energy Company
Retired Employees Group Term Life Insurance Plan
One Energy Plaza
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the financial statements of ***Consumers Energy Company Retired Employees Group Term Life Insurance Plan*** (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) ("ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit"). The financial statements comprise the statements of benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of changes in benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements (the "financial statements").

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan ("investment information") by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA ("qualified institution").

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the years then ended, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.



Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Independent Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- The information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Independent Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current Plan instrument, including all Plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Independent Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an independent auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplemental schedule Required by ERISA

The December 31, 2024 supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified Investment Information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, is presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- The information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

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CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Statements of Benefit Obligations and Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31	
	2024	2023
Benefit obligations		
Postretirement benefit obligations (Note 6)	<u>\$ 46,864,418</u>	<u>\$ 50,229,967</u>
Investments		
Cash equivalents and short-term investments	298,145	475,598
Registered investment companies	<u>65,269,626</u>	<u>59,439,826</u>
Total investments at fair value (equal to net assets available for benefits)	<u>65,567,771</u>	<u>59,915,424</u>
Net assets available for benefits in excess of benefit obligations	<u>\$ 18,703,353</u>	<u>\$ 9,685,457</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Statements of Changes in Benefit Obligations and Net Assets Available for Benefits

	Year Ended December 31	
	2024	2023
Changes in benefit obligations		
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 50,229,967	\$ 53,118,352
Increase (decrease) during the year attributable to:		
Benefits earned	181,379	460,827
Interest	2,399,376	2,645,871
Benefits paid	(2,077,429)	(2,252,016)
Actuarial gain	(3,868,875)	(3,743,067)
	<u>(3,365,549)</u>	<u>(2,888,385)</u>
Net decrease		
	<u>(3,365,549)</u>	<u>(2,888,385)</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 46,864,418</u>	<u>\$ 50,229,967</u>
Changes in net assets available for benefits		
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 59,915,424	\$ 53,849,816
Increase (decrease) during the year attributable to:		
Interest and dividend income	1,103,003	1,066,299
Employer contribution	781,539	872,350
Benefit payments	(2,077,429)	(2,252,016)
Unrealized and realized appreciation		
on registered investment companies	6,114,958	7,475,136
Unrelated business income taxes (Note 7)	(231,841)	(1,065,406)
Administrative expenses	(37,883)	(30,755)
	<u>5,652,347</u>	<u>6,065,608</u>
Net increase		
	<u>5,652,347</u>	<u>6,065,608</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 65,567,771</u>	<u>\$ 59,915,424</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The following is a general description of the *Consumers Energy Company Retired Employees Group Term Life Insurance Plan* (the "Plan"). Participants should refer to the Plan document for a complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan provides group term life insurance benefits covering substantially all retired employees of Consumers Energy Company, CMS Energy Corporation, and other Consumers Energy Company and CMS Energy Corporation subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company"). The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

Northern Trust Company (the "Trustee") is the trustee and recordkeeper of the Plan. The Company is the administrator of the Plan (the "Plan Administrator"). The Trustee holds all assets of the Plan in accordance with the service provider contract with the Company. The Benefits Administration Committee is responsible for oversight of the Plan and the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings and monitors investment performance.

Plan contributions are made and the actuarial present value of benefit obligations are reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates, inflation rates, and employee demographics, all of which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimation and assumptions processes, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these estimates and assumptions in the near term would be material to the financial statements.

Contributions

The Company has agreed to make contributions to the Plan sufficient to provide payment of eligible benefits and administrative expenses. Contributions are held and invested within the Consumers Energy Union Life Insurance Benefit Trust to provide for Retiree Life Insurance ("Union VEBA Trust") and the Consumers Energy Company Non-Union Life Insurance Benefit Trust to provide for Retiree Life Insurance ("Non-Union VEBA Trust") (collectively, the "VEBA Trusts" or "Trusts"), pursuant to Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"). Most benefits are paid under the Plan from the VEBA Trusts. Certain salaried benefits are paid directly by the Company to the insurance company.

Benefits

The Plan provides life insurance benefits to retired employees provided they were regular, full time employees and their lives were insured under a group term life insurance plan for employees of the Company on the day preceding their retirement.

Life insurance benefits are provided under a group term policy with Aetna Life Insurance Company ("Aetna"). Premiums are paid to Aetna for this life insurance coverage. Any premium refunds received are deposited into the appropriate VEBA Trust. Premium deficits are paid out of the appropriate VEBA Trust. The Company intends to fund the VEBA Trusts to provide for future benefits and to pay for current benefits and expenses of administering the Plan as amounts become due and payable.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Plan Administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, benefit obligations and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Plan management determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the trustee. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of investments are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The net change in fair value of investments includes the Plan's aggregate gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan for certain investments are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, such management fees and operating expenses are reflected as an addition to net depreciation or a reduction from net appreciation in the fair value of such investments.

Contributions

Company contributions are recorded in the period in which they become obligations of the Company. During 2024 and 2023, the Company contributed approximately \$780,000 and \$870,000, respectively.

Plan Benefits

The postretirement benefit obligation (refer to Note 6) represents the actuarial present value of those estimated future benefits that are attributed to employee services rendered to December 31. Postretirement benefits include future benefits expected to be paid to or for (1) currently retired employees and their beneficiaries and dependents, and (2) active employees and their beneficiaries and dependents after retirement from the Company. Prior to an active employee's full eligibility date, the postretirement benefit obligation is the portion of the expected postretirement benefit obligation that is attributed to that employee's service rendered to the valuation date.

Plan obligations at December 31 for claims incurred but not reported are estimated by the Plan's actuary in accordance with accepted actuarial principles based on claims data provided by the Plan's third-party claims administrator. These amounts are paid by the Plan only if claims are submitted and approved for payment.

Benefit payments to participants are recorded when paid.

Actuarial Present Value of Postretirement Benefit Obligations

The actuarial present value of the expected postretirement benefit obligation is determined by an actuary, and is the amount that results from applying actuarial assumptions to historical claims-cost data to estimate future annual incurred claims costs per participant and to adjust such estimates for the time value of money (through discounts for interest) and the probability of payment (by means of decrements such as those for death, disability, withdrawal, termination or retirement) between the valuation date and the expected date of payment, and to reflect the portion of those costs expected to be borne by the retirement participants and other providers.

The significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuation as of December 31, 2024, were (a) weighted average discount rate of 5.69%, (b) retirement age assumed to begin at age 55 and be complete at age 70, and (c) life expectancy of participants based on the Pri-2012 mortality table, with mortality rates projected generationally from 2012 using scale MP-2021.

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

The significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuation as of December 31, 2023, were (a) weighted average discount rate of 5.02%, (b) retirement age assumed to begin at age 55 and be complete at age 70, and (c) life expectancy of participants based on the Pri-2012 mortality table, with mortality rates projected generationally from 2012 using scale MP-2021.

The foregoing assumptions are based on the presumption that the Plan will continue. Were the Plan to terminate (see Note 9), different actuarial assumptions and other factors might be applicable in determining the actuarial present value of the postretirement benefit obligation.

Administrative Expenses

The Plan's administrative expenses are paid either by the Plan or the Company, as provided by the Plan document. Certain of the Plan's administrative expenses, including salaries, accounting, legal, consulting, and actuarial services, are paid by the Company and qualify as party-in-interest transactions which are exempt from prohibited transaction rules. Expenses that are paid directly by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Fees for trustee, record keeping, and certain consulting services are paid by the Plan.

Subsequent Events

In preparing these financial statements, Plan management has evaluated, for potential recognition or disclosure, significant events or transactions that occurred during the period subsequent to the most recent statement of benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits presented herein, through the date these financial statements were available to be issued.

3. CERTIFIED INVESTMENTS

The Plan Administrator has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, Northern Trust Company ("Northern Trust"), as trustee, has certified the completeness and accuracy of the investment information reflected in (1) the accompanying statements of benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, (2) the December 31, 2024, schedule of assets (held at end of year), and (3) the related investment activity reflected in the statements of changes in benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits during 2024 and 2023.

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under Accounting Standards Codification 820 are described as follows:

Level 1: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

- Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology include:
- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
 - quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
 - inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
 - inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

- Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurements. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. For financial assets recorded at fair value, the description includes an indication of the level of the fair value hierarchy in which the assets are classified. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

Cash and equivalents and short-term investments: Valued at cost, which approximates fair value and are classified as Level 1.

Registered investment companies: Shares held in mutual funds traded on national securities exchanges are valued at quoted prices which represent the net asset value ("NAV") of shares held by the Plan at year end and are classified as Level 1. The NAV is based on the value of the underlying assets owned by the fund, minus its liabilities then divided by the number of shares outstanding. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the SEC. These funds are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price and, therefore, are deemed to be actively traded.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although Plan management believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following tables set forth, by level within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets measured at fair value at December 31:

2024	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Other (1)	Total
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 298,145	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 298,145
Registered investment companies	65,269,626	-	-	-	65,269,626
Total investments, at fair value	\$ 65,567,771	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,567,771

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

2023	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Other (1)	Total
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 475,598	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 475,598
Registered investment companies	59,439,826	-	-	-	59,439,826
Total investments, at fair value	\$ 59,915,424	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,915,424

The availability of observable market data is monitored to assess the appropriate classification of financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy. Changes in economic conditions or model-based valuation techniques may require the transfer of financial instruments from one fair value level to another. Plan management evaluates the significance of transfers between levels based upon the nature of the financial instrument and size of the transfer relative to total net assets available for benefits. There were no transfers of assets into or out of Level 3 in 2024 and 2023.

5. RELATED PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Certain Plan investments are managed by Northern Trust. Northern Trust, the trustee, as defined by the Plan and, therefore, transactions with this entity qualifies as party-in-interest. Fees paid directly by the Plan for trustee, record keeping, and certain consulting services amounted to \$37,883 and \$30,755 for 2024 and 2023, respectively. Fees paid indirectly by the Plan for certain investment management services are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment.

6. BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

Benefit obligations of the Plan are as follows at December 31:

	2024	2023
Postretirement benefit obligations		
Active participants fully or partially eligible for postretirement	\$ 2,461,054	\$ 4,125,865
Retired participants, including beneficiaries and dependents	44,403,364	46,104,102
Total benefit obligations	\$ 46,864,418	\$ 50,229,967

The Company funds the Plan based on actuarial life insurance expenses which are approved by the Company's regulators to be recovered in customer rates.

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

7. TAX STATUS

The Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), in letters dated June 17, 1996 and December 6, 1995, determined that the Trusts established under the Plan to hold the Plan's assets pursuant to Section 501(c)(9) of the IRC qualify under such section and are exempt from income taxes. The Plan and Trusts are required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain the tax-exempt status of the Trusts. The Plan Administrator and the Plan's legal counsel believe the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believe the related Trusts are tax-exempt. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements. VEBAs are subject to the tax on Unrelated Business Income found in Section 511 of the IRC. In 2024 and 2023, approximately \$231,800 and \$1,065,400, respectively in tax payments were made. No additional provisions for Unrelated Business Income taxes have been included in the Plan's financial statements and the Plan Administrator believes any potential tax liability is not expected to have a material impact on the Plan's financial position.

The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability or asset or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan may be subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

8. PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intention to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to modify the benefits provided to Plan participants, to discontinue its contributions at any time, and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions set forth in ERISA and applicable collective bargaining agreements. If the Company terminates or partially terminates the Plan, the VEBA Trusts will pay benefits that participants are entitled to receive under the terms of the Plan, until the net assets available for benefits are depleted.

9. RISKS AND ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan invests in various investment securities with the underlying assets consisting of any combination of stocks, bonds, fixed income securities, and other investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Market risks include global events which could impact the value of investment securities, such as a pandemic or international conflict. Due to the level of interest rate, market, and credit risks inherent with certain of the Plan's investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the fair values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits and changes in benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits.

The actuarial present value of benefit obligation is reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates, inflation rates, and employee demographics, all of which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimations and assumptions process, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these estimates and assumptions in the near term would be material to the financial statements.

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
 RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

10. RECONCILIATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE SCHEDULE H OF FORM 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits reported in these financial statements to the amounts reported on Schedule H of Forms 5500 at December 31:

	2024	2023
Net available for benefits reported in these financial statements	\$ 65,567,771	\$ 59,915,424
Amounts allocated to withdrawn participants	<u>(98,074)</u>	<u>(142,133)</u>
Net assets available for benefits reported on Schedule H of Form 5500	<u>\$ 65,469,697</u>	<u>\$ 59,773,291</u>

Amounts allocated to withdrawn participants are recorded on the Form 5500 as benefit claims when processed and approved for payment but not yet paid prior to year-end.

The following is a reconciliation of benefits paid to participants reported in these financial statements to the amounts reported on Schedule H of Forms 5500 for the years ended December 31:

	2024	2023
Benefits paid to participants reported in these financial statements	\$ 2,077,429	\$ 2,252,016
Add amounts allocated on Form 5500 for withdrawn participants	98,074	142,133
Less amounts allocated on Form 5500 for withdrawn participants in previous year	<u>(142,133)</u>	<u>(112,764)</u>
Benefits paid to participants on the Form 5500	<u>\$ 2,033,370</u>	<u>\$ 2,281,385</u>



ERISA-Required Supplemental Schedule

Form 5500

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security
Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

OMB Nos. 1210-0110
1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- A This return/report is for: [] a multiemployer plan [] a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) [x] a single-employer plan [] a DFE (specify) _____
B This return/report is: [] the first return/report [] the final return/report [] an amended return/report [] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here [x]
D Check box if filing under: [x] Form 5558 [] automatic extension [] the DFVC program [] special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here []

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 502
1c Effective date of plan: 05/01/1955
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 38-0442310
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 517-247-9634
2d Business code (see instructions): 221500

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator. Includes handwritten signature of Jason M. Shore.

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number <div style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>																																	
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN																																	
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:10%;">5</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7,474</td> </tr> </table>	5	7,474																															
5	7,474																																	
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:10%;"></td> <td style="width:10%;"></td> <td style="width:80%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6a(1)</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6a(2)</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6b</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">7,444</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6c</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6d</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">7,444</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6e</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6f</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6g(1)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6g(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6h</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				6a(1)		0	6a(2)		0	6b		7,444	6c		0	6d		7,444	6e			6f			6g(1)			6g(2)			6h		
6a(1)		0																																
6a(2)		0																																
6b		7,444																																
6c		0																																
6d		7,444																																
6e																																		
6f																																		
6g(1)																																		
6g(2)																																		
6h																																		
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:10%;">7</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	7																																
7																																		

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:
4B

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor
--	--

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules (1) <input type="checkbox"/> R (Retirement Plan Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) <input type="checkbox"/> SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (4) <input type="checkbox"/> DCG (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____ (5) <input type="checkbox"/> MEP (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	b General Schedules (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H (Financial Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> I (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) <input type="checkbox"/> A (Insurance Information) – Number Attached _____ (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information) (5) <input type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) <input type="checkbox"/> G (Financial Transaction Schedules)
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Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

**SCHEDULE C
(Form 5500)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Service Provider Information

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

OMB No. 1210-0110

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

A Name of plan
RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 502

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)

38-0442310

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... Yes No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

PACIFIC INVESTMENT MGMT CO, LLC 33-0629048

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

AON INVESTMENTS

36-3051915

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
16 27	CONSULTANT	13,899	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

DELOITTE TAX

86-1065772

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10 16 50 70	CONSULTANT	13,640	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

NORTHERN TRUST

36-1561860

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
19 99 21 49 59 62	TRUSTEE	10,345	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024	
A Name of plan RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 502
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 38-0442310

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
---------------	--------------------------------------

1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	475,598	298,145
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)		
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	59,439,826	65,269,626
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	59,915,424	65,567,771
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g	142,133	98,074
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j Other liabilities	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	142,133	98,074
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	59,773,291	65,469,697

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	781,539	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		781,539
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	1,103,003	1,103,003
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		0
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C)	2b(2)(D)		0
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds			
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		0
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(D) Total net gain (loss) on sale of assets. Add lines 2b(4)(A) and (C)	2b(4)(D)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate			
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	6,114,958	6,114,958
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		7,999,500

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	2,033,370	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		2,033,370
f Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances.....	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	37,883	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	231,841	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		269,724
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		2,303,094

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		5,696,406
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

- (1) Unmodified (2) Qualified (3) Disclaimer (4) Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

- (1) DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: REHMANN ROBSON LLC

(2) EIN: 38-3635706

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

- (1) This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2) It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

- a** Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)
- b** Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)
- c** Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)
- d** Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)
- e** Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?
- f** Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?
- g** Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?
- h** Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?
- i** Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)
- j** Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)
- k** Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?
- l** Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?
- m** If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)
- n** If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.

	Yes	No	Amount
4a		X	
4b		X	
4c		X	
4d		X	
4e	X		20,000,000
4f		X	
4g		X	
4h		X	
4i	X		
4j		X	
4k		X	
4l		X	
4m			
4n			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? Yes No
 If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) Yes No Not determined
If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

Consumers Energy Company
Retired Employees Group Term
Life Insurance Plan

Years Ended
December 31,
2024 and 2023

Financial
Statements
and
Supplemental
Schedule

Rehmann

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

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Note: Other schedules required by Section 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA have been omitted because they are not applicable.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

August 15, 2025

Plan Administrator
Consumers Energy Company
Retired Employees Group Term Life Insurance Plan
One Energy Plaza
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the financial statements of ***Consumers Energy Company Retired Employees Group Term Life Insurance Plan*** (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) ("ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit"). The financial statements comprise the statements of benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of changes in benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements (the "financial statements").

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan ("investment information") by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA ("qualified institution").

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the years then ended, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.



Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Independent Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- The information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Independent Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current Plan instrument, including all Plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Independent Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an independent auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplemental schedule Required by ERISA

The December 31, 2024 supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified Investment Information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, is presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- The information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Rehmann Loborn LLC

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
 RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN**

Statements of Benefit Obligations and Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31	
	2024	2023
Benefit obligations		
Postretirement benefit obligations (Note 6)	<u>\$ 46,864,418</u>	<u>\$ 50,229,967</u>
Investments		
Cash equivalents and short-term investments	298,145	475,598
Registered investment companies	<u>65,269,626</u>	<u>59,439,826</u>
Total investments at fair value (equal to net assets available for benefits)	<u>65,567,771</u>	<u>59,915,424</u>
Net assets available for benefits in excess of benefit obligations	<u><u>\$ 18,703,353</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,685,457</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN**

Statements of Changes in Benefit Obligations and Net Assets Available for Benefits

	Year Ended December 31	
	2024	2023
Changes in benefit obligations		
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 50,229,967	\$ 53,118,352
Increase (decrease) during the year attributable to:		
Benefits earned	181,379	460,827
Interest	2,399,376	2,645,871
Benefits paid	(2,077,429)	(2,252,016)
Actuarial gain	<u>(3,868,875)</u>	<u>(3,743,067)</u>
Net decrease	<u>(3,365,549)</u>	<u>(2,888,385)</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 46,864,418</u>	<u>\$ 50,229,967</u>
Changes in net assets available for benefits		
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 59,915,424	\$ 53,849,816
Increase (decrease) during the year attributable to:		
Interest and dividend income	1,103,003	1,066,299
Employer contribution	781,539	872,350
Benefit payments	(2,077,429)	(2,252,016)
Unrealized and realized appreciation on registered investment companies	6,114,958	7,475,136
Unrelated business income taxes (Note 7)	(231,841)	(1,065,406)
Administrative expenses	<u>(37,883)</u>	<u>(30,755)</u>
Net increase	<u>5,652,347</u>	<u>6,065,608</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 65,567,771</u>	<u>\$ 59,915,424</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The following is a general description of the *Consumers Energy Company Retired Employees Group Term Life Insurance Plan* (the "Plan"). Participants should refer to the Plan document for a complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan provides group term life insurance benefits covering substantially all retired employees of Consumers Energy Company, CMS Energy Corporation, and other Consumers Energy Company and CMS Energy Corporation subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company"). The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

Northern Trust Company (the "Trustee") is the trustee and recordkeeper of the Plan. The Company is the administrator of the Plan (the "Plan Administrator"). The Trustee holds all assets of the Plan in accordance with the service provider contract with the Company. The Benefits Administration Committee is responsible for oversight of the Plan and the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings and monitors investment performance.

Plan contributions are made and the actuarial present value of benefit obligations are reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates, inflation rates, and employee demographics, all of which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimation and assumptions processes, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these estimates and assumptions in the near term would be material to the financial statements.

Contributions

The Company has agreed to make contributions to the Plan sufficient to provide payment of eligible benefits and administrative expenses. Contributions are held and invested within the Consumers Energy Union Life Insurance Benefit Trust to provide for Retiree Life Insurance ("Union VEBA Trust") and the Consumers Energy Company Non-Union Life Insurance Benefit Trust to provide for Retiree Life Insurance ("Non-Union VEBA Trust") (collectively, the "VEBA Trusts" or "Trusts"), pursuant to Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"). Most benefits are paid under the Plan from the VEBA Trusts. Certain salaried benefits are paid directly by the Company to the insurance company.

Benefits

The Plan provides life insurance benefits to retired employees provided they were regular, full time employees and their lives were insured under a group term life insurance plan for employees of the Company on the day preceding their retirement.

Life insurance benefits are provided under a group term policy with Aetna Life Insurance Company ("Aetna"). Premiums are paid to Aetna for this life insurance coverage. Any premium refunds received are deposited into the appropriate VEBA Trust. Premium deficits are paid out of the appropriate VEBA Trust. The Company intends to fund the VEBA Trusts to provide for future benefits and to pay for current benefits and expenses of administering the Plan as amounts become due and payable.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Plan Administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, benefit obligations and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Plan management determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the trustee. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of investments are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The net change in fair value of investments includes the Plan's aggregate gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan for certain investments are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, such management fees and operating expenses are reflected as an addition to net depreciation or a reduction from net appreciation in the fair value of such investments.

Contributions

Company contributions are recorded in the period in which they become obligations of the Company. During 2024 and 2023, the Company contributed approximately \$780,000 and \$870,000, respectively.

Plan Benefits

The postretirement benefit obligation (refer to Note 6) represents the actuarial present value of those estimated future benefits that are attributed to employee services rendered to December 31. Postretirement benefits include future benefits expected to be paid to or for (1) currently retired employees and their beneficiaries and dependents, and (2) active employees and their beneficiaries and dependents after retirement from the Company. Prior to an active employee's full eligibility date, the postretirement benefit obligation is the portion of the expected postretirement benefit obligation that is attributed to that employee's service rendered to the valuation date.

Plan obligations at December 31 for claims incurred but not reported are estimated by the Plan's actuary in accordance with accepted actuarial principles based on claims data provided by the Plan's third-party claims administrator. These amounts are paid by the Plan only if claims are submitted and approved for payment.

Benefit payments to participants are recorded when paid.

Actuarial Present Value of Postretirement Benefit Obligations

The actuarial present value of the expected postretirement benefit obligation is determined by an actuary, and is the amount that results from applying actuarial assumptions to historical claims-cost data to estimate future annual incurred claims costs per participant and to adjust such estimates for the time value of money (through discounts for interest) and the probability of payment (by means of decrements such as those for death, disability, withdrawal, termination or retirement) between the valuation date and the expected date of payment, and to reflect the portion of those costs expected to be borne by the retirement participants and other providers.

The significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuation as of December 31, 2024, were (a) weighted average discount rate of 5.69%, (b) retirement age assumed to begin at age 55 and be complete at age 70, and (c) life expectancy of participants based on the Pri-2012 mortality table, with mortality rates projected generationally from 2012 using scale MP-2021.

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

The significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuation as of December 31, 2023, were (a) weighted average discount rate of 5.02%, (b) retirement age assumed to begin at age 55 and be complete at age 70, and (c) life expectancy of participants based on the Pri-2012 mortality table, with mortality rates projected generationally from 2012 using scale MP-2021.

The foregoing assumptions are based on the presumption that the Plan will continue. Were the Plan to terminate (see Note 9), different actuarial assumptions and other factors might be applicable in determining the actuarial present value of the postretirement benefit obligation.

Administrative Expenses

The Plan's administrative expenses are paid either by the Plan or the Company, as provided by the Plan document. Certain of the Plan's administrative expenses, including salaries, accounting, legal, consulting, and actuarial services, are paid by the Company and qualify as party-in-interest transactions which are exempt from prohibited transaction rules. Expenses that are paid directly by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Fees for trustee, record keeping, and certain consulting services are paid by the Plan.

Subsequent Events

In preparing these financial statements, Plan management has evaluated, for potential recognition or disclosure, significant events or transactions that occurred during the period subsequent to the most recent statement of benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits presented herein, through the date these financial statements were available to be issued.

3. CERTIFIED INVESTMENTS

The Plan Administrator has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, Northern Trust Company ("Northern Trust"), as trustee, has certified the completeness and accuracy of the investment information reflected in (1) the accompanying statements of benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, (2) the December 31, 2024, schedule of assets (held at end of year), and (3) the related investment activity reflected in the statements of changes in benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits during 2024 and 2023.

4. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under Accounting Standards Codification 820 are described as follows:

Level 1: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

- Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology include:
- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
 - quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
 - inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
 - inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

- Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurements. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. For financial assets recorded at fair value, the description includes an indication of the level of the fair value hierarchy in which the assets are classified. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

Cash and equivalents and short-term investments: Valued at cost, which approximates fair value and are classified as Level 1.

Registered investment companies: Shares held in mutual funds traded on national securities exchanges are valued at quoted prices which represent the net asset value ("NAV") of shares held by the Plan at year end and are classified as Level 1. The NAV is based on the value of the underlying assets owned by the fund, minus its liabilities then divided by the number of shares outstanding. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the SEC. These funds are required to publish their daily NAV and to transact at that price and, therefore, are deemed to be actively traded.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although Plan management believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following tables set forth, by level within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets measured at fair value at December 31:

2024	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Other (1)	Total
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 298,145	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 298,145
Registered investment companies	65,269,626	-	-	-	65,269,626
Total investments, at fair value	\$ 65,567,771	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,567,771

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
RETIREE EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

2023	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Other (1)	Total
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 475,598	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 475,598
Registered investment companies	59,439,826	-	-	-	59,439,826
Total investments, at fair value	\$ 59,915,424	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,915,424

The availability of observable market data is monitored to assess the appropriate classification of financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy. Changes in economic conditions or model-based valuation techniques may require the transfer of financial instruments from one fair value level to another. Plan management evaluates the significance of transfers between levels based upon the nature of the financial instrument and size of the transfer relative to total net assets available for benefits. There were no transfers of assets into or out of Level 3 in 2024 and 2023.

5. RELATED PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Certain Plan investments are managed by Northern Trust. Northern Trust, the trustee, as defined by the Plan and, therefore, transactions with this entity qualifies as party-in-interest. Fees paid directly by the Plan for trustee, record keeping, and certain consulting services amounted to \$37,883 and \$30,755 for 2024 and 2023, respectively. Fees paid indirectly by the Plan for certain investment management services are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment.

6. BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

Benefit obligations of the Plan are as follows at December 31:

	2024	2023
Postretirement benefit obligations		
Active participants fully or partially eligible for postretirement	\$ 2,461,054	\$ 4,125,865
Retired participants, including beneficiaries and dependents	44,403,364	46,104,102
Total benefit obligations	\$ 46,864,418	\$ 50,229,967

The Company funds the Plan based on actuarial life insurance expenses which are approved by the Company's regulators to be recovered in customer rates.

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

7. TAX STATUS

The Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), in letters dated June 17, 1996 and December 6, 1995, determined that the Trusts established under the Plan to hold the Plan's assets pursuant to Section 501(c)(9) of the IRC qualify under such section and are exempt from income taxes. The Plan and Trusts are required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain the tax-exempt status of the Trusts. The Plan Administrator and the Plan's legal counsel believe the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believe the related Trusts are tax-exempt. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements. VEBA's are subject to the tax on Unrelated Business Income found in Section 511 of the IRC. In 2024 and 2023, approximately \$231,800 and \$1,065,400, respectively in tax payments were made. No additional provisions for Unrelated Business Income taxes have been included in the Plan's financial statements and the Plan Administrator believes any potential tax liability is not expected to have a material impact on the Plan's financial position.

The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability or asset or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan may be subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

8. PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intention to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to modify the benefits provided to Plan participants, to discontinue its contributions at any time, and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions set forth in ERISA and applicable collective bargaining agreements. If the Company terminates or partially terminates the Plan, the VEBA Trusts will pay benefits that participants are entitled to receive under the terms of the Plan, until the net assets available for benefits are depleted.

9. RISKS AND ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan invests in various investment securities with the underlying assets consisting of any combination of stocks, bonds, fixed income securities, and other investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Market risks include global events which could impact the value of investment securities, such as a pandemic or international conflict. Due to the level of interest rate, market, and credit risks inherent with certain of the Plan's investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the fair values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits and changes in benefit obligations and net assets available for benefits.

The actuarial present value of benefit obligation is reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to interest rates, inflation rates, and employee demographics, all of which are subject to change. Due to uncertainties inherent in the estimations and assumptions process, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these estimates and assumptions in the near term would be material to the financial statements.

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
RETIREE EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

10. RECONCILIATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE SCHEDULE H OF FORM 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits reported in these financial statements to the amounts reported on Schedule H of Forms 5500 at December 31:

	2024	2023
Net available for benefits reported in these financial statements	\$ 65,567,771	\$ 59,915,424
Amounts allocated to withdrawn participants	(98,074)	(142,133)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net assets available for benefits reported on Schedule H of Form 5500	<u>\$ 65,469,697</u>	<u>\$ 59,773,291</u>

Amounts allocated to withdrawn participants are recorded on the Form 5500 as benefit claims when processed and approved for payment but not yet paid prior to year-end.

The following is a reconciliation of benefits paid to participants reported in these financial statements to the amounts reported on Schedule H of Forms 5500 for the years ended December 31:

	2024	2023
Benefits paid to participants reported in these financial statements	\$ 2,077,429	\$ 2,252,016
Add amounts allocated on Form 5500 for withdrawn participants	98,074	142,133
Less amounts allocated on Form 5500 for withdrawn participants in previous year	(142,133)	(112,764)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Benefits paid to participants on the Form 5500	<u>\$ 2,033,370</u>	<u>\$ 2,281,385</u>



ERISA-Required Supplemental Schedule

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
 RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN**

Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)

December 31, 2024

Plan #502

EIN 38-0442310

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	Northern Institutional	U.S. Government Portfolio	\$ 298,145	\$ 298,145
	LGIM America	Long Duration US Credit Fund LLC	11,200,000	11,587,813
	Vanguard	Balanced Index Fund	<u>37,055,918</u>	<u>53,681,813</u>
	Total investments		<u>\$ 48,554,063</u>	<u>\$ 65,567,771</u>

(a) An asterisk in this column identifies a person known to be a party-in-interest.

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
 RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP TERM LIFE INSURANCE PLAN**

Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)

December 31, 2024

Plan #502

EIN 38-0442310

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	Northern Institutional	U.S. Government Portfolio	\$ 298,145	\$ 298,145
	LGIM America	Long Duration US Credit Fund LLC	11,200,000	11,587,813
	Vanguard	Balanced Index Fund	<u>37,055,918</u>	<u>53,681,813</u>
	Total investments		<u>\$ 48,554,063</u>	<u>\$ 65,567,771</u>

(a) An asterisk in this column identifies a person known to be a party-in-interest.