

CMS ENERGY CORP
 Form 424B2
 November 05, 2015
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**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)
 Registration No 333-195496**

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Maximum Offering Price Per Unit	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee(1)
3.60% Senior Notes due 2025	\$250,000,000	99.683%	\$249,207,500	\$25,096

(1) This filing fee is calculated in accordance with Rule 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act, the registrant initially deferred payment of all of the registration fees for Registration Statement No. 333-195496 filed by the registrant on April 25, 2014.

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PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT TO PROSPECTUS DATED APRIL 25, 2014

\$250,000,000

CMS Energy Corporation

3.60% Senior Notes due 2025

We are offering \$250,000,000 aggregate principal amount of our 3.60% Senior Notes due 2025, referred to as the Notes. The Notes will bear interest at the rate of 3.60% per year. Interest on the Notes is payable semi-annually in arrears on May 15 and November 15, commencing on May 15, 2016. The Notes will mature on November 15, 2025.

We may redeem some or all of the Notes at our option at any time for cash at the redemption prices described in this prospectus supplement, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the redemption date. See "Description of the Notes - Optional Redemption". There is no sinking fund for the Notes.

The Notes will be issued only in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. The Notes will be CMS Energy Corporation's unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of CMS Energy Corporation's other unsecured senior indebtedness.

This investment involves risk. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-8 of this prospectus supplement and page 3 of the accompanying prospectus and the "Risk Factors" section beginning on page 31 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

	Per Note	Total
Price to the public	99.683% \$	249,207,500

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Underwriting discounts and commissions	0.650% \$	1,625,000
Proceeds to CMS Energy Corporation (before expenses)	99.033% \$	247,582,500

Interest on the Notes will accrue from November 9, 2015 to the date of delivery.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

We expect to deliver the Notes on or about November 9, 2015 only in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Barclays

BofA Merrill Lynch

J.P. Morgan

MUFG

Co-Managers

PNC Capital Markets LLC

SMBC Nikko

The date of this prospectus supplement is November 4, 2015.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering of the Notes and also adds to and updates information contained or incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which contains a description of the securities registered by us and gives more general information, some of which may not apply to the Notes. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement (or any free writing prospectus), on the one hand, and the information contained or incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus, on the other hand, the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement (or any free writing prospectus) shall control.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (**SEC**) using a shelf registration process as a well-known seasoned issuer . Under the registration statement, we may sell securities, including Notes, of which this offering is a part.

It is important for you to read and consider all information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, in making your investment decision. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus incorporate important business and financial information about us and our subsidiaries that is not included in or delivered with these documents. This information is available without charge to security holders upon written or oral request. See **Where You Can Find More Information** .

The terms **CMS Energy** , **we** , **our** and **us** as used in this document refer to CMS Energy Corporation and its subsidiaries and predecessors as a combined entity, except where it is made clear that such term means only CMS Energy Corporation.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any free writing prospectus required to be filed with the SEC. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with different or additional information. If anyone provides you with different or additional information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. This document may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. You should assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any such free writing prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein is accurate only as of their respective dates or on other dates that are specified in those documents, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and prospects may have changed since these dates.

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This summary may not contain all of the information that may be important to you. You should read carefully this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in their entirety before making an investment decision.

CMS Energy Corporation

CMS Energy is an energy company operating primarily in Michigan and is the parent holding company of several subsidiaries, including Consumers Energy Company (**Consumers**) and CMS Enterprises Company (**Enterprises**). Consumers is an electric and gas utility company serving Michigan's lower peninsula. Consumers owns and operates electric distribution and generation facilities and gas transmission, storage and distribution facilities. Consumers serves individuals and businesses operating in the alternative energy, automotive, chemical, metal and food products industries, as well as a diversified group of other industries. Consumers provides electricity and/or natural gas to 6.6 million of Michigan's 10 million residents. Consumers' rates and certain other aspects of its business are subject to the jurisdiction of the Michigan Public Service Commission and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Enterprises, through its subsidiaries and equity investments, is engaged primarily in independent power production and owns power generation facilities fueled mostly by natural gas and biomass. CMS Energy manages its businesses by the nature of services each provides and operates principally in three business segments: electric utility, gas utility, and enterprises, its non-utility operations and investments. CMS Energy's principal executive offices are located at One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201, and CMS Energy's telephone number is (517) 788-0550.

Recent Developments***Third Quarter 2015 Results of Operations*****NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS**

In Millions, Except Per Share Amounts

September 30	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended		
	2015	2014	Change	2015	2014	Change
Net Income Available to Common Stockholders	\$ 148	\$ 94	\$ 54	\$ 417	\$ 381	\$ 36
Basic Earnings Per Share	0.53	0.34	0.19	1.51	1.41	0.10
Diluted Earnings Per Share	0.53	0.34	0.19	1.51	1.39	0.12

In Millions

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September 30	Three Months Ended			Nine Months Ended		
	2015	2014	Change	2015	2014	Change
Electric utility	\$ 166	\$ 128	\$ 38	\$ 342	\$ 326	\$ 16
Gas utility	(7)	(9)	2	115	121	(6)
Enterprises	3	(7)	10	10	(3)	13
Corporate interest and other	(14)	(18)	4	(50)	(63)	13
Net Income Available to Common Stockholders	\$ 148	\$ 94	\$ 54	\$ 417	\$ 381	\$ 36

Presented in the following table are specific after-tax changes to net income available to common stockholders:

In Millions

Reasons for the change	September 30, 2015 better/(worse) than 2014				
	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended		
<i>Consumers electric utility and gas utility</i>					
<i>Electric sales</i>					
Weather	\$ 20		\$ 7		
Non-weather	1	\$ 21	2	\$ 9	
<i>Gas sales</i>					
Weather	(2)		(17)		
Non-weather	(2)	(4)	5	(12)	
Electric rate increase		16		29	
Gas rate increase		4		20	
Operating and maintenance costs		10		15	
Depreciation and property taxes		(7)		(44)	
Employee benefit costs		(5)		(19)	
Other		5	\$ 40	12	\$ 10
<i>Enterprises</i>					
Absence of increase in Bay Harbor environmental liability			9		9
Subsidiary earnings			1		4
<i>Corporate interest and other</i>					
Absence of early extinguishment of debt					8
EnerBank earnings			2		5
Other			2		
Total change			\$ 54		\$ 36

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The Offering

The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. For additional information concerning the Notes, see Description of the Notes .

Issuer	CMS Energy Corporation.
Securities Offered	\$250,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 3.60% Senior Notes due 2025 (the Notes) to be issued under the indenture dated as of September 15, 1992 between us and The Bank of New York Mellon (ultimate successor to NBD Bank, National Association), as trustee (the trustee), as amended and supplemented from time to time, including as supplemented by a supplemental indenture thereto establishing the terms of the Notes to be dated as of November 9, 2015 (collectively, the indenture). The indenture is referred to in the accompanying prospectus as the senior debt indenture.
Issue Price	Each Note will be issued at a price of 99.683% of its principal amount plus accrued interest, if any, from November 9, 2015.
Maturity	The Notes will mature on November 15, 2025, unless earlier redeemed.
Interest Rate	The Notes will bear interest at 3.60% per annum.
Interest Payment Dates	Interest on the Notes is payable semi-annually in arrears on May 15 and November 15 of each year, beginning May 15, 2016.
Record Date for Interest Payments	We will pay interest to holders of record at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the May 1 and November 1 next preceding the relevant interest payment date (whether or not a business day (as defined under Description of the Notes Limitation on Certain Liens)).
Use of Proceeds	We estimate that the net proceeds from the sale of the Notes, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions but before deducting estimated offering expenses, will be \$247,582,500. We intend to use the net proceeds of the offering of the Notes for general corporate purposes.
Ranking	The Notes will be senior unsecured obligations of CMS Energy Corporation and will rank equal in right of payment with all of CMS Energy Corporation's existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness. The Notes will be effectively subordinated to CMS Energy Corporation's existing and future secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the related collateral securing that indebtedness and structurally subordinated to the indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries. As of September 30, 2015, CMS Energy Corporation had outstanding approximately \$2.4 billion of senior unsecured indebtedness, and CMS Energy Corporation's subsidiaries had outstanding approximately \$6.2 billion of indebtedness and other liabilities.

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Optional Redemption by CMS Energy	At any time, we may redeem all or a part of the Notes for cash at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed, plus, in the case of any redemption prior to August 15, 2025 (which is defined as the par call date under Description of the Notes Optional Redemption), any applicable premium thereon at the time of redemption, plus (at any time) accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including, the redemption date. See Description of the Notes Optional Redemption .
Certain Covenants	Although neither we nor any of our subsidiaries will be subject to any financial covenants under the indenture, the indenture will contain covenants that will, among other things, prohibit us from being able to incur certain additional liens or enter into certain mergers or consolidations.
Form of Notes	One or more global securities held in the name of The Depository Trust Company (DTC) or its nominee in a minimum denomination of \$2,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof.
Trustee and Paying Agent	The Bank of New York Mellon.
Trading	The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of or trading market for the Notes.
Risk Factors	You should carefully consider each of the factors referred to or as described in the section of this prospectus supplement entitled Risk Factors starting on page S-8 and the Risk Factors and Forward-Looking Statements and Information sections in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and the Forward-Looking Statements and Information section in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2015, June 30, 2015 and September 30, 2015 before purchasing any Notes.

Table of Contents**Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data**

The following selected historical consolidated financial data for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements, which have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm. The following selected historical consolidated financial data for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 have been derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements. The financial information set forth below is qualified by and should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements, related notes and other financial information also incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) . Operating results for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for the entire year ending December 31, 2015. For selected balance sheet information, see [Capitalization](#) .

	Nine Months Ended September 30,		Year Ended December 31,				
	2015 (Unaudited)	2014	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Income Statement Data:							
Operating revenue	\$ 4,947	\$ 5,421	\$ 7,179	\$ 6,566	\$ 6,253	\$ 6,503	\$ 6,432
Income from equity method investees	9	11	15	13	17	9	11
Operating expenses	4,029	4,542	6,027	5,424	5,250	5,500	5,454
Operating income	918	879	1,152	1,142	1,003	1,003	978
Income from continuing operations	418	382	479	454	377	415	366
Income (loss) from discontinued operations					7	2	(23)
Net income attributable to CMS Energy	417	381	477	452	382	415	340
Net income available to common stockholders	\$ 417	\$ 381	\$ 477	\$ 452	\$ 382	\$ 415	\$ 324
Earnings per average common share:							
Earnings from continuing operations							
Basic	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.41	\$ 1.76	\$ 1.71	\$ 1.43	\$ 1.65	\$ 1.50
Diluted	1.51	1.39	1.74	1.66	1.39	1.57	1.36
Earnings attributable to common stock - Basic	1.51	1.41	1.76	1.71	1.46	1.66	1.40
Earnings attributable to common stock - Diluted	1.51	1.39	1.74	1.66	1.42	1.58	1.28
Dividends declared per common share	0.87	0.81	1.08	1.02	0.96	0.84	0.66
Balance Sheet Data (At Period End Date):							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 150	\$ 493	\$ 207	\$ 172	\$ 93	\$ 161	\$ 247
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	52	37	37	32	29	27	23
Total plant, property & equipment	14,160	13,045	13,412	12,246	11,551	10,633	10,069
Total assets	19,452	18,381	19,185	17,416	17,131	16,452	15,616
Long-term debt, excluding current portion	7,903	8,042	8,016	7,101	6,710	6,040	6,448
Non-current portion of capital and finance lease obligations	111	129	123	138	153	167	188
Notes payable	68		60	170	110		
Other liabilities	7,431	6,503	7,279	6,516	6,920	7,173	6,143
Noncontrolling interests	37	37	37	37	44	44	44
Common stockholders' equity	\$ 3,902	\$ 3,670	\$ 3,670	\$ 3,454	\$ 3,194	\$ 3,028	\$ 2,793

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Cash Flow or Other Data:

Cash Flow: (a)

Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	1,420	\$	962	\$	1,447	\$	1,421	\$	1,241	\$	1,169	\$	959
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,340)		(1,347)		(1,910)		(1,532)		(1,350)		(1,058)		(1,003)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		(137)		706		498		190		41		(199)		202
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges (b)		2.94		2.78		2.68		2.78		2.47		2.37		2.29

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- (a) Our cash flow statements include amounts related to discontinued operations through the date of disposal.
- (b) For the purpose of computing the ratio, earnings represents the sum of income from continuing operations before income taxes and income from equity method investees, net interest charges and the estimated interest portion of lease rentals and distributed income of equity method investees.

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in the Notes involves a significant degree of risk. You should consider carefully the following risk factors, together with all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. In particular, you should carefully consider the factors listed in Forward-Looking Statements and Information as well as the Risk Factors contained in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and in Forward-Looking Statements and Information contained in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2015, June 30, 2015 and September 30, 2015, each of which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, before you decide to purchase the Notes. This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents that we incorporate or that are deemed to be incorporated in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, and other written and oral statements that we make, contain forward-looking statements as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and relevant legal decisions. Our intention with the use of words such as may, could, anticipates, believes, estimates, expects, intends, plans and other similar words is to identify forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainty. We have no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements regardless of whether new information, future events or any other factors affect the information contained in the statements. The risks and uncertainties described below and those incorporated from the referenced Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q are not the only ones we may confront. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem not material also may impair our business operations. If any of those risks actually occur, our business, financial condition, operating results, cash flow and prospects could be materially adversely affected. This section contains forward-looking statements.

The Notes will be effectively subordinated to any existing and future secured indebtedness and structurally subordinated to existing and future liabilities and other indebtedness of our subsidiaries.

The Notes will be general, unsecured obligations of CMS Energy Corporation only and will rank equally in right of payment with all of CMS Energy Corporation's existing and future unsecured, unsecured indebtedness. As a result, the Notes will be effectively subordinated to CMS Energy Corporation's existing and future secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the related collateral securing that indebtedness and structurally subordinated to any existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries. These liabilities may include indebtedness, trade payables, guarantees, lease obligations and letter of credit obligations. None of our subsidiaries has any obligation with respect to the Notes. The Notes do not restrict us or our subsidiaries from incurring additional indebtedness, including secured indebtedness.

We may choose to redeem the Notes prior to maturity.

We may redeem all or a portion of the Notes at any time. See Description of the Notes Optional Redemption. If prevailing interest rates are lower at the time of redemption, holders of the Notes may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an interest rate as high as the interest rate of the Notes being redeemed.

We cannot provide assurance that an active trading market will develop for the Notes.

The Notes will constitute a new series of securities with no established trading market. We do not intend to apply to list the Notes for trading on any national securities exchange or to include the Notes in any automated quotation system. We cannot provide assurance that an active trading market for the Notes will develop or as to the liquidity or sustainability of any market, the ability of holders of the Notes to sell their Notes or the price at which holders of the Notes will be able to sell their Notes. Future trading prices of the Notes will also depend on many other factors, including, among other things, prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, our financial performance and other factors.

The terms of the indenture and the Notes do not provide protection against certain significant events that could adversely impact a holder's investment in the Notes.

Anyone evaluating the terms of the Notes should be aware that the terms of the indenture and the Notes do not restrict our ability to engage in, or to otherwise be a party to, a variety of corporate transactions, circumstances and events that could have an adverse impact on an investment in the Notes. In particular, the indenture for the Notes does not:

- permit the holders of the Notes to require us to repurchase the Notes in the event we undergo a change of control or similar transaction;
- require us to maintain any financial ratios or specific levels of net worth, revenues, income, cash flow or liquidity;

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- limit our ability to incur unsecured indebtedness;
- restrict our subsidiaries' ability to issue securities or otherwise incur indebtedness or other obligations that would be senior to our equity interests in our subsidiaries and therefore rank effectively senior to the Notes with respect to the assets of our subsidiaries;
- restrict our ability to repurchase or prepay any of our other securities or indebtedness; or
- restrict our ability to make investments or to repurchase, or pay dividends or make other payments in respect of, our common stock or other securities ranking junior to the Notes.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds from the sale of the Notes, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions but before deducting estimated offering expenses, will be \$247,582,500. We intend to use the net proceeds of the offering of the Notes for general corporate purposes.

RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and each of the fiscal years ended December 31, 2010 through 2014 are as follows:

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015	2014	2013	Year Ended December 31,		2010
				2012	2011	
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges: (a)	2.94	2.68	2.78	2.47	2.37	2.29

(a) For the purpose of computing the ratio, earnings represents the sum of income from continuing operations before income taxes and income from equity method investees, net interest charges and the estimated interest portion of lease rentals and distributed income of equity method investees.

See Exhibit 12.1 to CMS Energy's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2015 for the items constituting earnings and fixed charges, including the estimated interest portion of lease rental in respect of fixed charges.

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The following table sets forth our capitalization at September 30, 2015 on an actual basis and on an as adjusted basis to reflect the sale of \$250,000,000 of Notes in this offering and the application of the net proceeds as described under [Use of Proceeds](#) . This table should be read in conjunction with [Summary Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data](#) contained in this prospectus supplement and our consolidated financial statements and related notes and other financial information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) .

Pursuant to an underwriting agreement dated November 2, 2015, Consumers has agreed to issue \$250,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 4.10% First Mortgage Bonds due 2045, the net proceeds of which Consumers intends to use for general corporate purposes. The following table does not reflect the sale of those bonds or the application of the net proceeds of those bonds, which bonds are expected to be issued by Consumers on November 6, 2015.

	At September 30, 2015	
	Actual	As Adjusted
	(Unaudited, dollars in millions)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 150	\$ 398
Current portion of long-term debt, capital and finance lease obligations	\$ 741	\$ 741
Non-current portion of capital and finance lease obligations	111	111
Long-term debt:		
3.60% Senior Notes due 2025		250
Other long-term debt (excluding current maturities)	7,903	7,903
Non-controlling interests	37	37
Common stockholders' equity	3,902	3,902
Total capitalization	\$ 11,953	\$ 12,203

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DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

*The terms **CMS Energy** , **we** , **our** and **us** , as used in this section, refer only to CMS Energy Corporation and not to any of its subsidiaries.*

General

The Notes will be issued as a series of senior debt securities under the indenture that is referred to in the accompanying prospectus as the senior debt indenture, as supplemented by a supplemental indenture thereto establishing the terms of the Notes to be dated as of November 9, 2015 (the **supplemental indenture**). The Notes will be initially limited in aggregate principal amount to \$250,000,000. The indenture permits us to re-open the offering of the Notes without the consent of the holders of the Notes. Accordingly, the principal amount of the Notes may be increased in the future on the same terms and conditions and with the same CUSIP number as the Notes being offered by this prospectus supplement, provided that such additional notes must be part of the same issue as the Notes offered hereby for U.S. federal income tax purposes or, if they are not part of the same issue for such purposes, such additional notes must be issued with a separate CUSIP number. The Notes offered by this prospectus supplement and any such additional notes will constitute a single series of debt securities. This means that, in circumstances where the indenture provides for the holders of notes to vote or take any action, the holders of the Notes offered by this prospectus supplement and the holders of any such additional notes will vote or take that action as a single class. The Notes will be unsecured and unsubordinated senior debt securities of CMS Energy.

We may issue debt securities from time to time in one or more series under the indenture. There is no limitation on the amount of debt securities we may issue under the indenture. The indenture does not limit our ability to incur additional indebtedness, including secured indebtedness. The covenants contained in the indenture would not necessarily afford holders of Notes protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction or other transaction involving us that may adversely affect the holders. In addition, the indenture and the terms of the Notes do not permit the holders of Notes to require us to repurchase the Notes in the event we undergo a change of control or similar transaction.

The statements herein concerning the Notes and the indenture are a summary and do not purport to be complete and are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by, all of the provisions of the indenture, which is incorporated herein by this reference. They make use of defined terms and are qualified in their entirety by express reference to the indenture, including the supplemental indenture, a copy of which will be available upon request to the trustee.

Ranking

The Notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equal in right of payment with all of our existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness. The Notes will be effectively subordinated to our existing and future secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the related

collateral securing that indebtedness and structurally subordinated to the indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries.

CMS Energy is a holding company that conducts substantially all of its operations through its subsidiaries. Its only significant assets are the capital stock of its subsidiaries, and its subsidiaries generate substantially all of its operating income and cash flow. As a result, dividends or advances from its subsidiaries are the principal source of funds necessary to meet its debt service obligations. Contractual provisions or laws, as well as its subsidiaries' financial condition and operating requirements, may limit CMS Energy's ability to obtain cash from its subsidiaries that it may require to pay its debt service obligations, including payments on the Notes. In addition, the Notes will be effectively subordinated to all of the liabilities of CMS Energy's subsidiaries with regard to the assets and earnings of CMS Energy's subsidiaries. The subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities and have no obligation, contingent or otherwise, to pay any amounts due pursuant to the Notes or to make any funds available therefor, whether by dividends, loans or other payments. CMS Energy's rights and the rights of its creditors, including holders of Notes, to participate in the distribution of assets of any subsidiary upon the latter's liquidation or reorganization will be subject to prior claims of the subsidiaries' creditors, including trade creditors.

As of September 30, 2015, CMS Energy had outstanding approximately \$2.4 billion of senior unsecured indebtedness, and CMS Energy's subsidiaries had outstanding approximately \$6.2 billion of indebtedness and other liabilities.

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Payment and Maturity

The Notes will mature on November 15, 2025 and will bear interest at the rate of 3.60% per year. At maturity, CMS Energy will pay the aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding. Each Note will bear interest from the original date of issue, payable semi-annually in arrears on May 15 and November 15, commencing on May 15, 2016, and at maturity. We will pay interest to holders of record at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the May 1 and November 1 next preceding the relevant interest payment date (whether or not a business day), except that interest payable at stated maturity shall be paid to the person or entity to whom the principal amount is paid. Interest payable on any interest payment date or on the date of maturity will be the amount of interest accrued from and including the date of original issuance or from and including the most recent interest payment date on which interest has been paid or duly made available for payment to but excluding such interest payment date or the date of maturity, as the case may be. Interest on the Notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

In any case where any interest payment date, redemption date or maturity date of any Note shall not be a business day at any place of payment, then payment of interest or principal (and premium, if any) need not be made on such date, but may be made on the next succeeding business day at such place of payment with the same force and effect as if made on the interest payment date, redemption date or maturity date; and no interest shall accrue on the amount so payable for the period from and after such interest payment date, redemption date or maturity date, as the case may be, to such business day.

Registration, Transfer and Exchange

The Notes will be initially issued in the form of one or more Notes in registered, global form, without coupons, in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof as described under Book-Entry System below. The global Notes will be registered in the name of the nominee of DTC. Except as described under Book-Entry System below, owners of beneficial interests in a global Note will not be entitled to have Notes registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of any such Note and will not be considered the registered holder thereof under the indenture.

Optional Redemption

The Notes will be redeemable at CMS Energy's option, in whole or in part, at any time or from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of such Notes being redeemed plus, in the case of any redemption prior to the par call date (as defined below), the applicable premium (as defined below), if any, thereon at the time of redemption, together with (at any time) accrued and unpaid interest, if any, thereon to, but not including, the redemption date. In no event will the redemption price be less than 100% of the principal amount of the Notes being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, thereon to, but not including, the redemption date.

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The following definitions are used to determine the applicable premium:

Par call date means August 15, 2025.

Applicable premium means, with respect to a Note (or portion thereof) being redeemed at any time prior to the par call date, the excess of (i) the present value at the redemption date of (A) the principal amount of such Note (or portion thereof) being redeemed as though such Note (or portion thereof) matured on the par call date plus (B) all remaining scheduled interest payments on such Note (or portion thereof) after such redemption date that would be due if such Note matured on the par call date (but, for the avoidance of doubt, excluding any portion of such payments of interest accrued to such redemption date), which present value shall be computed by CMS Energy using a discount rate equal to the treasury rate (as defined below) plus 25 basis points, over (ii) the principal amount of such Note (or portion thereof) being redeemed at such time. For purposes of this definition, the present values of interest and principal payments will be determined in accordance with generally accepted principles of financial analysis.

Treasury rate means the yield to maturity at the time of computation of United States Treasury securities with a constant maturity (as compiled and published in the most recent Federal Reserve Statistical Release H.15(519) (the **statistical release**)) that has become publicly available at least two business days prior to the redemption date or, in case of defeasance, prior to the date of deposit (or, if such statistical release is no longer published, any publicly available source of similar market data) most nearly equal to the then remaining average life to stated maturity of the Notes being redeemed (assuming for this purpose that such Notes matured on the par call date); provided, however, that if the average life to stated maturity of the Notes being redeemed is not equal to the constant maturity of a United States Treasury security for which a weekly average yield is given, the treasury rate shall be obtained by CMS

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Energy by linear interpolation (calculated to the nearest one-twelfth of a year) from the weekly average yields of United States Treasury securities for which such yields are given.

If less than all of the Notes are to be redeemed and (i) the Notes are in global form, interests in the Notes to be redeemed shall be selected for redemption by DTC in accordance with DTC's standard procedures therefor and (ii) the Notes are in definitive form, the trustee shall select the Notes to be redeemed by lot, on a pro rata basis or by another method the trustee deems appropriate and fair. Notice of redemption shall be delivered not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior to the date fixed for redemption to the holders of the Notes to be redeemed (which, as long as the Notes are held in the book-entry only system, will be DTC (or its nominee) or a successor depository (or the successor's nominee)); provided, however, that the failure to duly deliver such notice, or any defect therein, shall not affect the validity of any proceedings for the redemption of the Notes as to which there shall have been no such failure or defect. On and after the date fixed for redemption (unless CMS Energy shall default in the payment of the Notes or portions thereof to be redeemed at the applicable redemption price, together with accrued and unpaid interest, if any, thereon to, but not including, such date), interest on the Notes or the portions thereof so called for redemption shall cease to accrue.

No sinking fund is provided for the Notes.

Limitation on Certain Liens

Under the terms of the indenture, so long as any of the Notes are outstanding, CMS Energy shall not create, incur, assume or suffer to exist any lien (as defined below) upon or with respect to any of its property of any character, including without limitation any shares of capital stock (as defined below) of Consumers or Enterprises, without making effective provision whereby the Notes shall be (so long as any such other creditor shall be so secured) equally and ratably secured. The foregoing restrictions shall not apply to (i) liens securing indebtedness (as defined below) of CMS Energy, provided that on the date such liens are created, and after giving effect to such indebtedness, the aggregate principal amount at maturity of all of the secured indebtedness of CMS Energy at such date shall not exceed 10% of consolidated net tangible assets (as defined below), or (ii) certain liens for taxes, pledges to secure workman's compensation, other statutory obligations and support obligations (as defined below), certain materialman's, mechanic's and similar liens and certain purchase money liens.

The following terms used in this section have the following meanings:

Business day means a day on which banking institutions in New York, New York are not authorized or required by law or regulation to close.

Capital lease obligation of a person (as defined below) means any obligation that is required to be classified and accounted for as a capital lease on the face of a balance sheet of such person prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; the amount of such obligation shall be the capitalized amount thereof, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles; the stated maturity thereof shall be the date of the last payment of rent or any other amount due under such lease prior to the first date upon which such lease may be terminated by the lessee without payment of a penalty; and such obligation shall be deemed secured by a lien on any property or assets to which such lease relates.

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Capital stock means any and all shares, interests, rights to purchase, warrants, options, participations or other equivalents of or interests in (however designated) corporate stock, including any preferred stock (as defined below) or letter stock (as defined below).

Consolidated assets means, at any date of determination, the aggregate assets of CMS Energy and its consolidated subsidiaries (as defined below) determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Consolidated current liabilities means, for any period, the aggregate amount of liabilities of CMS Energy and its consolidated subsidiaries that may properly be classified as current liabilities (including taxes accrued as estimated), after (i) eliminating all inter-company items between CMS Energy and any consolidated subsidiary and (ii) deducting all current maturities of long-term indebtedness, all as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Consolidated net tangible assets means, for any period, the total amount of assets (less accumulated depreciation or amortization, allowances for doubtful receivables, other applicable reserves and other properly deductible items) as set forth on the most recently available quarterly or annual consolidated balance sheet of CMS Energy and its consolidated subsidiaries, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and after giving effect to purchase accounting and after deducting therefrom, to the extent otherwise included, the amounts of:

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- consolidated current liabilities;
- minority interests in consolidated subsidiaries held by persons other than CMS Energy or a restricted subsidiary (as defined below);
- excess of cost over fair value of assets of businesses acquired, as determined in good faith by the board of directors of CMS Energy as evidenced by resolutions of the board of directors of CMS Energy;
- any revaluation or other write-up in value of assets subsequent to December 31, 1996, as a result of a change in the method of valuation in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- unamortized debt discount and expenses and other unamortized deferred charges, goodwill, patents, trademarks, service marks, trade names, copyrights, licenses, organization or developmental expenses and other intangible items;
- treasury stock; and
- any cash set apart and held in a sinking or other analogous fund established for the purpose of redemption or other retirement of capital stock to the extent such obligation is not reflected in consolidated current liabilities.

Consolidated subsidiary means any subsidiary (as defined below) whose accounts are or are required to be consolidated with the accounts of CMS Energy in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Indebtedness of any person means, without duplication:

- the principal of and premium (if any) in respect of (i) indebtedness of such person for money borrowed and (ii) indebtedness evidenced by notes, debentures, bonds or other similar instruments for the payment of which such person is responsible or liable;

- all capital lease obligations of such person;
- all obligations of such person issued or assumed as the deferred purchase price of property, all conditional sale obligations and all obligations under any title retention agreement (but excluding trade accounts payable arising in the ordinary course of business);
- all obligations of such person for the reimbursement of any obligor on any letter of credit, bankers' acceptance or similar credit transaction (other than obligations with respect to letters of credit securing obligations (other than obligations described in the bullet points above) entered into in the ordinary course of business of such person to the extent such letters of credit are not drawn upon or, if and to the extent drawn upon, such drawing is reimbursed no later than the third business day following receipt by such person of a demand for reimbursement following payment on the letter of credit);
- all obligations of the type referred to in the bullet points above of other persons and all dividends of other persons for the payment of which, in either case, such person is responsible or liable as obligor, guarantor or otherwise; and
- all obligations of the type referred to in the bullet points above of other persons secured by any lien on any property or asset of such person (whether or not such obligation is assumed by such person), the amount of such obligation being deemed to be the lesser of the value of such property or assets or the amount of the obligation so secured.

Letter stock as applied to the capital stock of any corporation means capital stock of any class or classes (however designated) that is intended to reflect the separate performance of certain of the businesses or operations conducted by such corporation or any of its subsidiaries.

Lien means any lien, mortgage, pledge, security interest, conditional sale, title retention agreement or other charge or encumbrance of any kind, or any other type or arrangement intended or having the effect of conferring upon a creditor of us or any Subsidiary a preferential interest.

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Person means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, association, joint-stock company, trust, unincorporated organization, government or any agency or political subdivision of any government, or any other entity.

Preferred stock as applied to the capital stock of any corporation means capital stock of any class or classes (however designated) that is preferred as to the payment of dividends, or as to the distribution of assets upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation or dissolution of such corporation, over shares of capital stock of any other class of such corporation.

Restricted subsidiary means any subsidiary (other than Consumers and its subsidiaries) of CMS Energy that, as of the date of CMS Energy's most recent quarterly consolidated balance sheet, constituted at least 10% of the total consolidated assets of CMS Energy and its consolidated subsidiaries and any other subsidiary that from time to time is designated a restricted subsidiary by the board of directors of CMS Energy; provided that no subsidiary may be designated a restricted subsidiary if, immediately after giving effect thereto, an event of default or event that, with the lapse of time or giving of notice or both, would constitute an event of default would exist, and (i) any such subsidiary so designated as a restricted subsidiary must be organized under the laws of the United States or any state thereof, (ii) more than 80% of the voting stock of such subsidiary must be owned of record and beneficially by CMS Energy or a restricted subsidiary and (iii) such restricted subsidiary must be a consolidated subsidiary. For purposes of this definition, **voting stock** means securities of any class or classes the holders of which are ordinarily, in the absence of contingencies, entitled to vote for corporate directors (or persons performing similar functions).

Subsidiary means a corporation more than 50% of the outstanding voting stock of which is owned, directly or indirectly, by CMS Energy or by one or more other subsidiaries, or by CMS Energy and one or more other subsidiaries. For the purposes of this definition, **voting stock** means stock that ordinarily has voting power for the election of directors, whether at all times or only so long as no senior class of stock has such voting power by reason of any contingency.

Support obligations means, for any person, without duplication, any financial obligation, contingent or otherwise, of such person guaranteeing or otherwise supporting any debt or other obligation of any other person in any manner, whether directly or indirectly, and including, without limitation, any obligation of such person, direct or indirect:

- to purchase or pay (or advance or supply funds for the purchase or payment of) such debt or to purchase (or to advance or supply funds for the purchase of) any security for the payment of such debt;
- to purchase property, securities or services for the purpose of assuring the owner of such debt of the payment of such debt;
- to maintain working capital, equity capital, available cash or other financial statement condition of the primary obligor so as to enable the primary obligor to pay such debt;

- to provide equity capital under or in respect of equity subscription arrangements (to the extent that such obligation to provide equity capital does not otherwise constitute debt); or
- to perform, or arrange for the performance of, any non-monetary obligations or non-funded debt payment obligations of the primary obligor.

Limitation on Consolidation, Merger and Sales

Under the terms of the indenture or the Notes, nothing shall prevent any consolidation or merger of CMS Energy with or into any other person or persons (whether or not affiliated with CMS Energy), or successive consolidations or mergers in which CMS Energy or its successor or successors shall be a party or parties, or shall prevent any conveyance, transfer or lease of the property of CMS Energy as an entirety or substantially as an entirety, to any other person (whether or not affiliated with CMS Energy); provided, however, that:

- in case CMS Energy shall consolidate with or merge into another person or convey, transfer or lease its properties and assets as an entirety or substantially as an entirety to any person, the entity formed by such consolidation or into which CMS Energy is merged or the person that acquires by conveyance or transfer, or that leases, the properties and assets of CMS Energy as an entirety or substantially as an entirety shall be a corporation or a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America, any state thereof or the District of Columbia and shall expressly assume, by an indenture (or indentures, if at such time there is more than one trustee) supplemental to the indenture, executed by the successor person and delivered to the trustee, in

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form satisfactory to the trustee, the due and punctual payment of the principal of and any premium and interest on the Notes and the performance of every obligation in the indenture and the Notes on the part of CMS Energy to be performed or observed;

- immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no event of default or event that, after notice or lapse of time, or both, would become an event of default, shall have occurred and be continuing; and
- either CMS Energy or the successor person shall have delivered to the trustee an officers certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that such consolidation, merger, conveyance, transfer or lease and, if a supplemental indenture is required in connection with such transaction, such supplemental indenture complies with the provisions of the indenture and all conditions precedent therein relating to such transaction.

Upon any consolidation by CMS Energy with or merger of CMS Energy into any other person or any conveyance, transfer or lease of the properties and assets of CMS Energy substantially as an entirety to any person as described above, the successor person formed by such consolidation or into which CMS Energy is merged or to which such conveyance, transfer or lease is made shall succeed to, and be substituted for, and may exercise every right and power of, CMS Energy under the indenture with the same effect as if such successor person had been named as CMS Energy therein; and thereafter, except in the case of a lease, the predecessor person shall be released from all obligations and covenants under the indenture and the Notes.

An assumption by any person of CMS Energy's obligations under the Notes and the indenture might be deemed for U.S. federal income tax purposes to be an exchange of the Notes for new Notes by the holders thereof, resulting in recognition of gain or loss for such purposes and possibly other adverse tax consequences to the holders. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the tax consequences of such an assumption.

Events of Default

The occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Notes will constitute an **event of default** with respect to the Notes:

- default in the payment of any interest on any of the Notes when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of such default for a period of 30 days;
- default in the payment when due and payable of any of the principal of or the premium, if any, on any of the Notes, whether at maturity, upon redemption, acceleration or otherwise;

- default for 60 days by CMS Energy in the observance or performance of any other covenant or agreement contained in the indenture or the Notes after written notice thereof as provided in the indenture;
- certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization relating to CMS Energy or Consumers;
- entry of final judgments against CMS Energy or Consumers aggregating in excess of \$25,000,000, which remain undischarged or unbonded for 60 days;
- a default resulting in the acceleration of indebtedness of CMS Energy or Consumers in excess of \$25,000,000, which acceleration has not been rescinded or annulled within ten days after written notice of such default as provided in the indenture; or
- a default in our obligation to redeem the Notes after we exercised our redemption option.

If any event of default on the Notes shall have occurred and be continuing, either the trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding may declare the principal of all of the Notes and the premium thereon and interest, if any, accrued thereon to be due and payable immediately.

The indenture provides that the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request, order or direction of the holders of the Notes, unless such holders shall have offered to the trustee reasonable indemnity. Subject to such provisions for indemnity and certain other limitations contained in the indenture, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the senior debt securities of each affected series then outstanding (voting as one class) will have the right to direct

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the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee, with respect to the senior debt securities of such affected series.

After a declaration of acceleration, but before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained by the trustee, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes, by written notice to us and the trustee, may rescind and annul such declaration if:

- we have paid (or deposited with the trustee a sum sufficient to pay): (i) all overdue interest on all Notes; (ii) the principal amount of any Notes that have become due otherwise than by such declaration of acceleration; (iii) to the extent that payment of such interest is lawful, interest upon overdue interest; and (iv) all sums paid or advanced by the trustee under the indenture and the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the trustee, its agents and counsel; and
- all events of default, other than the non-payment of the principal amount and any accrued and unpaid interest that have become due by such declaration of acceleration, have been cured or waived.

The indenture provides that no holders of Notes may institute any action against CMS Energy under the indenture (except actions for payment of overdue principal, premium or interest) unless such holder previously shall have given to the trustee written notice of default and continuance thereof and unless the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of senior debt securities of each affected series then outstanding (voting as one class) shall have requested the trustee to institute such action and shall have offered the trustee reasonable indemnity against costs, expenses and liabilities, the trustee shall not have instituted such action within 60 days of such request and the trustee shall not have received direction inconsistent with such request by the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the senior debt securities of each affected series then outstanding (voting as one class).

The indenture requires CMS Energy to furnish to the trustee annually a statement as to CMS Energy's compliance with all conditions and covenants under the indenture. The indenture provides that the trustee may withhold notice to the holders of the Notes of any default affecting such Notes (except defaults as to payment of principal of, or premium or interest on, the Notes) if it considers such withholding to be in the interests of the holders of the Notes.

Modification and Waiver

CMS Energy and the trustee may enter into supplemental indentures without the consent of the holders of the Notes to:

- establish the form and terms of any series of securities under the indenture;

- secure the Notes;
- provide for the assumption of our obligations to the holders of the Notes in the event of a merger or consolidation, or conveyance, transfer or lease of our property substantially as an entirety;
- surrender any right or power conferred upon us;
- add to our covenants for the benefit of the holders of the Notes;
- cure any ambiguity or correct or supplement any inconsistent or otherwise defective provision contained in the indenture; provided, that such modification or amendment does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Notes in any material respect; provided, further, that any amendment made solely to conform the provisions of the indenture to the description of the Notes contained in this prospectus supplement will not be deemed to adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Notes;
- make any provision with respect to matters or questions arising under the indenture that we may deem necessary or desirable and that shall not be inconsistent with provisions of the indenture; provided, that such change or modification does not, in the good faith opinion of our board of directors, adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Notes in any material respect;
- comply with the requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended;
- add guarantees of obligations under the Notes; and

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- provide for a successor trustee.

CMS Energy and the trustee, with the consent of the holders of a majority in total principal amount of senior debt securities of all series, including the Notes, then outstanding and affected (voting as one class), may change in any manner the provisions of the indenture or modify in any manner the rights of the holders of the senior debt securities of each such affected series. CMS Energy and the trustee may not, without the consent of the holders of each Note affected, enter into any supplemental indenture to:

- change the time of payment of the principal;
- reduce the principal amount of such Note;
- reduce the rate or change the time of payment of interest on such Note;
- impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment on any Note when due;
- change the currency in which any Note is payable;
- reduce the redemption price for the Notes or change the terms applicable to redemption in a manner adverse to the holder;
- change our obligation to maintain an office or agency in New York City; or
- subject to specified exceptions, modify certain provisions of the indenture relating to modification of the indenture or waiver under the indenture.

In addition, no such modification may reduce the percentage in principal amount of the senior debt securities of the affected series, the consent of whose holders is required for any such modification or for any waiver provided for in the indenture.

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Prior to the acceleration of the maturity of any senior debt security, the holders, voting as one class, of a majority in total principal amount of the senior debt securities with respect to which a default or event of default shall have occurred and be continuing may on behalf of the holders of all such affected senior debt securities waive any past default or event of default and its consequences, except:

- our failure to pay principal of or interest on any senior debt securities when due;
- waive any default in any payment of redemption price with respect to the Notes; or
- a default or an event of default in respect of a covenant or provision of the indenture or of any senior debt security that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holders of each senior debt security affected.

Defeasance, Covenant Defeasance and Discharge

The indenture provides that, at the option of CMS Energy:

- CMS Energy will be discharged from all obligations in respect of the Notes (except for certain obligations to register the transfer of or exchange the Notes, to replace stolen, lost or mutilated Notes, to maintain paying agencies and to maintain the trust described below); or
- CMS Energy need not comply with certain restrictive covenants of the indenture,

if CMS Energy in each case irrevocably deposits in trust with the trustee money and/or securities backed by the full faith and credit of the United States that, through the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon in accordance with their terms, will provide money in an amount sufficient to pay all the principal and interest on the Notes on the stated maturities of such Notes in accordance with the terms thereof.

To exercise this option, CMS Energy is required to deliver to the trustee an opinion of independent counsel to the effect that:

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- the exercise of such option would not cause the holders of the Notes to recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance, and such holders will be subject to United States federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such defeasance had not occurred; and
- in the case of a discharge as described above, such opinion is to be accompanied by a private letter ruling to the same effect received from the Internal Revenue Service or appropriate evidence that since the date of the indenture there has been a change in the applicable federal income tax law.

In the event:

- CMS Energy exercises its option to effect a covenant defeasance with respect to the Notes as described above;
- the Notes are thereafter declared due and payable because of the occurrence of any event of default other than an event of default caused by failing to comply with the covenants which are defeased; or
- the amount of money and securities on deposit with the trustee would be insufficient to pay amounts due on the Notes at the time of the acceleration resulting from such event of default,

CMS Energy would remain liable for such amounts.

Repurchase and Cancellation

We may, to the extent permitted by law, repurchase any Notes in the open market or by tender offer at any price or by private agreement. Any Notes repurchased by us may, at our option, be surrendered to the trustee for cancellation. Any Notes surrendered for cancellation may not be reissued or resold and will be promptly cancelled.

The Trustee

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The Bank of New York Mellon is the trustee, paying agent and registrar for the Notes under the indenture. CMS Energy and its affiliates maintain depositary and other normal banking relationships with The Bank of New York Mellon.

Governing Law

The indenture, including the supplemental indenture, and the Notes will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Michigan unless the laws of another jurisdiction shall mandatorily apply.

Book-Entry System

The Notes will be evidenced by one or more global Notes. We will deposit the global Notes with or on behalf of DTC and register the global Notes in the name of Cede & Co. as DTC's nominee. Except as set forth below, a global Note may be transferred, in whole or in part, only to DTC, to another nominee of DTC or to a successor of DTC or its nominee.

Beneficial interests in a global Note may be held through organizations that are participants in DTC (called **participants**). Transfers between participants will be effected in the ordinary way in accordance with DTC rules and will be settled in clearing house funds. The laws of some states require that certain persons take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. As a result, the ability to transfer beneficial interests in the global Notes to such persons may be limited.

Beneficial interests in a global Note held by DTC may be held only through participants, or certain banks, brokers, dealers, trust companies and other parties that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly (called **indirect participants**). So long as Cede & Co., as the nominee of DTC, is the registered owner of a global Note, Cede & Co. for all purposes will be considered the sole holder of such global Note. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in a global Note will:

- not be entitled to have certificates registered in their names;
- not receive physical delivery of certificates in definitive registered form; and

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- not be considered holders of the global Notes.

We will pay principal of, premium, if any, and interest on, a global Note to Cede & Co., as the registered owner of the global Notes, by wire transfer of immediately available funds on the maturity date or each interest payment date, as the case may be. None of us, the trustee or any paying agent will be responsible or liable:

- for any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in a global Note; or
- for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to the beneficial ownership interests.

DTC has advised us that it will take any action permitted to be taken by a holder of the Notes only at the direction of one or more participants to whose account with DTC interests in the global Notes are credited, and only in respect of the principal amount of the Notes represented by the global Notes as to which the participant or participants has or have given such direction.

DTC has advised us that it is:

- a limited purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York, and a member of the Federal Reserve System;
- a clearing corporation within the meaning of the Uniform Commercial Code; and
- a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the **Exchange Act**).

DTC was created to hold securities for its participants and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between participants through electronic book-entry changes to the accounts of its participants. Participants include securities brokers, dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations and other organizations. Some of the participants or their representatives, together with other entities, own DTC. Indirect access to the DTC system is available to others such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly.

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If DTC at any time is unwilling or unable to continue as a depositary, defaults in the performance of its duties as depositary or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act or other applicable statute or regulation, and a successor depositary is not appointed by us within 90 days, we will issue Notes in definitive form in exchange for the global securities relating to the Notes. In addition, we may at any time and in our sole discretion and subject to DTC's procedures determine not to have the Notes or portions of the Notes represented by one or more global securities and, in that event, will issue individual Notes in exchange for the global security or securities representing the Notes. Further, if we so specify with respect to any Notes, an owner of a beneficial interest in a global security representing the Notes may, on terms acceptable to us and the depositary for the global security, receive individual Notes in exchange for the beneficial interest. In any such instance, an owner of a beneficial interest in a global security will be entitled to physical delivery in definitive form of Notes represented by the global security equal in principal amount to the beneficial interest, and to have the Notes registered in its name. Notes so issued in definitive form will be issued as registered Notes in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000, unless otherwise specified by us.

None of us, the trustee, the registrar or the paying agent will have any responsibility or liability for the performance by DTC or its participants or indirect participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

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MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

General

The following is a discussion of the material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to an investment in the Notes (referred to in this section as the **Securities**) by a purchaser of Securities in the offering at the issue price (which is the initial offering price to the public (excluding bond houses and brokers) at which a substantial amount of the Securities are sold) and hold the Securities as capital assets within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the **Code**). This discussion does not address any tax considerations that may apply to holders subject to special tax rules, such as banks, insurance companies, dealers in securities or currencies, persons that mark-to-market their securities, former U.S. citizens or long-term residents, life insurance companies, tax-exempt entities, tax-deferred or other retirement accounts, persons subject to the alternative minimum tax, persons that hold Securities as a position in a straddle or as part of a hedging, constructive sale or conversion transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes, or U.S. Holders (as defined below) that have a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar.

If a holder purchases Securities at a price other than the issue price, the amortizable bond premium, acquisition premium or market discount rules may also apply to such holder.

For purposes of this discussion, a **U.S. Holder** means a beneficial owner of Securities that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation, or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any State thereof or the District of Columbia;
- an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or
- a trust if (i) the administration of the trust is subject to the primary supervision of a court in the United States and for which one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions or (ii) it has a valid election in effect to be treated as a U.S. person.

If an entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds Securities, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner generally will depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships and partners of partnerships that will hold Securities should consult their tax advisors.

As used herein, a **Non-U.S. Holder** is a beneficial owner of Securities that is not a U.S. Holder and is not a partnership (including an entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes).

This summary is based on the Code, Treasury regulations promulgated under the Code and judicial and administrative interpretations thereof, all as in effect on the date hereof and all of which are subject to change, which change may be retroactive and may affect the tax consequences described herein.

This discussion is not intended to constitute a complete analysis of all tax considerations relevant to an investment in the Securities. It does not take into account the individual circumstances of any particular prospective investor, nor does it address any aspect of estate, generation-skipping or gift tax laws or of state, local or foreign tax laws. We strongly urge a holder to consult its own tax advisor for advice concerning the application of the U.S. federal tax laws to that holder's particular situation, as well as any tax consequences arising under state, local or foreign tax laws.

U.S. Holders

Payments of Interest

Interest paid on the Securities will be included in the income of a U.S. Holder as ordinary income at the time it is received or accrued, in accordance with such holder's regular method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. It is expected (and this discussion assumes) that the Securities will be issued with no more than a *de minimis* amount of original issue discount for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

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Sale, Exchange or Other Taxable Disposition of the Securities

Upon the sale, exchange, redemption, retirement or other taxable disposition of a Security, a U.S. Holder generally will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the disposition, excluding any amounts attributable to accrued but unpaid interest (which will be taxable as ordinary interest income to the extent not already included in income), and the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Security. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in a Security generally will equal its cost. This gain or loss will generally be capital gain or loss and will generally be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder has held the Security for more than one year and otherwise will be short-term capital gain or loss. For individuals, long-term capital gains are currently taxed at a lower rate than ordinary income. Short-term capital gains are taxed at rates applicable to ordinary income. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Net Investment Income Tax

Certain U.S. Holders who are individuals, estates or trusts are subject to a 3.8% tax on all or a portion of their net investment income, which may include all or a portion of their interest income and gains from the sale or other disposition of a Security. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the effect, if any, of the net investment income tax on their ownership or disposition of a Security.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

A U.S. Holder generally will be subject to information reporting with respect to (i) payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the Securities and (ii) proceeds from the sale, exchange or other disposition of the Securities. Backup withholding at the applicable statutory rate also may apply to such payments if the U.S. Holder fails to supply an accurate taxpayer identification number or otherwise fails to comply with applicable certification requirements or otherwise establish an exemption from backup withholding. Information reporting and backup withholding will not apply with respect to payments made to certain exempt recipients, including corporations and certain other persons who, when required, demonstrate their exempt status; however, exempt recipients that are not subject to backup withholding and do not provide an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form W-9 will nonetheless generally be treated as foreign payees subject to withholding under FATCA (as defined below), and may be withheld upon at the 30% rate discussed below under FATCA. The current backup withholding rate is 28%. Backup withholding tax is not an additional tax and may be credited against a U.S. Holder's regular U.S. federal income tax liability or refunded by the IRS, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Non-U.S. Holders

Payments of Interest

Subject to the discussions of backup withholding and FATCA below, interest on Securities paid to a Non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax unless: (i) the interest is effectively connected with the conduct by the Non-U.S. Holder of a U.S. trade or business; (ii) the Non-U.S. Holder owns, actually, indirectly or constructively, 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our stock entitled to vote, is a controlled foreign corporation related, directly or indirectly, to us through stock ownership or is a bank that

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acquired the Securities in consideration for an extension of credit made pursuant to a loan agreement entered into in the ordinary course of business; or (iii) the Non-U.S. Holder fails to satisfy the nonresident status certification requirements (as described below).

The certification requirements will be satisfied in respect of a Non-U.S. Holder if either (i) the beneficial owner of a Security timely certifies, under penalties of perjury, to us or to the person who otherwise would be required to withhold U.S. federal income tax, that such owner is not a U.S. person and provides its name and address or (ii) a custodian, broker, nominee or other intermediary acting as an agent for the beneficial owner (such as a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customers' securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business) that holds the Security in such capacity timely certifies, under penalties of perjury, to us or to the person who otherwise would be required to withhold U.S. federal income tax, that such statement has been received from the beneficial owner of the Security by such intermediary, or by any other financial institution between such intermediary and the beneficial owner, and furnishes to us or to the person who otherwise would be required to withhold U.S. tax a copy thereof. The foregoing certification may be provided on a properly completed IRS Form W-8BEN, W-8BEN-E or W-8IMY, as applicable.

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A Non-U.S. Holder that is not exempt from tax under the foregoing rules generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax withholding on payments of interest at a rate of 30% unless:

- the interest is effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business conducted by such holder (and, if an applicable income tax treaty so provides, is attributable to a permanent establishment maintained in the United States by the Non-U.S. Holder), in which case the Non-U.S. Holder will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis at the rates applicable to U.S. Holders generally; or
- an applicable income tax treaty provides for a reduced rate of, or exemption from, U.S. federal withholding tax.

A corporate Non-U.S. Holder that has effectively connected interest income (as described in the first bullet point above) may also, under certain circumstances, be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate (or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty), which is generally imposed on a foreign corporation on the deemed repatriation from the United States of effectively connected earnings and profits.

To claim an exemption from U.S. federal withholding tax with respect to interest on the Securities that is effectively connected with a Non-U.S. Holder's U.S. trade or business, the holder generally must provide to us or the withholding agent a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI (or appropriate substitute form). To claim the benefit of an applicable income tax treaty for an exemption from (or reduced rate of) U.S. federal withholding tax, a Non-U.S. Holder must timely provide the appropriate and properly executed IRS forms (generally IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E, as applicable).

Non-U.S. Holders may be required to periodically update their IRS forms. Non-U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors concerning certification requirements.

Sale, Exchange or Other Taxable Disposition of the Securities

If we redeem a Security of a Non-U.S. Holder, any cash received by such Non-U.S. Holder attributable to accrued but unpaid interest not previously included in income of the Non-U.S. Holder will be subject to the rules described under *Payments of Interest* above.

Subject to the discussions of backup withholding and FATCA below, gain recognized by a Non-U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange, redemption or retirement of Securities generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax unless: (i) the gain is effectively connected with the conduct by the Non-U.S. Holder of a U.S. trade or business (and, if required under an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a permanent establishment maintained in the United States by the Non-U.S. Holder); or (ii) in the case of gain recognized by a Non-U.S. Holder who is an individual, he or she is present in the United States for a total of 183 days or more during the taxable year in which such gain is recognized and certain other conditions are met.

Except to the extent that an applicable income tax treaty otherwise provides, generally a Non-U.S. Holder will be taxed in the same manner as a U.S. Holder with respect to gain that is effectively connected with the Non-U.S. Holder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business. A corporate Non-U.S. Holder may also, under certain circumstances, be subject to the branch profits tax described above. A Non-U.S. Holder who is an individual present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year and meets certain other conditions will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at a rate of 30% (or at a reduced rate under an applicable income tax treaty) on the amount by which capital gains from U.S. sources (including gains from the sale or other disposition of the Securities) exceed capital losses allocable to U.S. sources. To claim the benefit of an applicable income tax treaty, a Non-U.S. Holder may be required to file an income tax return and disclose its position under the Treasury regulations concerning treaty-based return positions.

FATCA

Legislation enacted as part of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act (the **HIRE Act**), commonly referred to as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (**FATCA**), generally imposes U.S. federal withholding tax at a rate of 30% on (i) U.S. source interest (including interest paid on the Securities) and (ii) the gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of obligations that produce U.S. source interest (including the sale, exchange, redemption, retirement or other disposition of the Securities) made after December 31, 2018, in each case to certain foreign entities, unless various information reporting, withholding and other requirements are satisfied. In the case of payments made to a foreign financial institution (as defined in Section 1471(d)(4) of the Code and the Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder), subject to certain exceptions, the tax will generally be imposed unless the foreign financial institution enters into an agreement with the U.S. Treasury Department to collect and disclose certain information regarding

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its U.S. account holders (including certain account holders that are foreign entities that have U.S. owners) and satisfies certain other requirements or is deemed to be compliant with the requirements of FATCA, pursuant to an intergovernmental agreement in respect of FATCA or otherwise. In the case of payments made to certain other non-U.S. entities, the tax generally will be imposed unless such entity provides the payor with certain information regarding certain direct and indirect U.S. owners of the entity, or certifies that it has no such U.S. owners, and complies with certain other requirements. No additional amounts will be payable on account of any withholding obligation that is imposed with respect to payments on the Securities as a result of the failure of any holder or beneficial owner of a Security, or any intermediary through which it directly or indirectly owns such Security, to comply with the requirements of FATCA. Holders are encouraged to consult with their own tax advisors regarding the possible implications of FATCA and the HIRE Act on their investment in the Securities.

The HIRE Act also imposes U.S. return disclosure obligations (and related penalties for failure to disclose) on U.S. individuals that hold certain specified foreign financial assets (which include financial accounts in foreign financial institutions).

Holders are encouraged to consult with their own tax advisors regarding the possible implications of this recently enacted legislation on their investment in the Securities.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Payments of interest to Non-U.S. Holders will generally be reported to the IRS and to the Non-U.S. Holders. Copies of the information returns reporting such interest payments (generally, IRS Form 1042-S) and any withholding may also be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which the Non-U.S. Holder resides under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty.

Additional information reporting and backup withholding generally will not apply to payments of interest on a Security to a Non-U.S. Holder if the Non-U.S. Holder has certified under penalties of perjury on an applicable IRS Form W-8 that the Non-U.S. Holder is not a U.S. person or has otherwise established an exemption provided that the payor does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the beneficial owner is a U.S. person or that the conditions of any exemption are not in fact satisfied.

Payment of the proceeds from a sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of a Security made to or through a U.S. office of a broker generally will be subject to information reporting and backup withholding unless the Non-U.S. Holder certifies that it is not a U.S. person under penalties of perjury, and the payor does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the beneficial owner of the Security is a U.S. person, or the Non-U.S. Holder otherwise establishes an exemption. Payment of the proceeds from a sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of a Security made to or through a non-U.S. office of a broker generally will not be subject to information reporting or backup withholding. However, if the broker is a U.S. person, a controlled foreign corporation, a foreign person that derives 50% or more of its gross income for certain periods from the conduct of a U.S. trade or business or a foreign partnership, in which one or more U.S. persons, in the aggregate, own more than 50% of the income or capital interests in the partnership or which, at any time during the taxable year, is engaged in a trade or business in the United States, then such payment generally will be subject to information reporting (but not backup withholding) unless the Non-U.S. Holder certifies under penalties of perjury on an applicable IRS Form W-8 that the Non-U.S. Holder is not a U.S. person or otherwise establishes an exemption, or unless the broker has documentary evidence in its records that the beneficial owner of the Security is not a U.S. person and certain other conditions are met.

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For purposes of the two preceding paragraphs, the term "U.S. person" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Section 7701(a)(30) of the Code.

The current backup withholding rate is 28%. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a refund or a credit against the beneficial owner's U.S. federal income tax liability provided the required information is furnished to the IRS in a timely manner.

The U.S. federal income tax discussion set forth above is included for general information only and may not be applicable depending upon a holder's particular situation. Prospective purchasers of the Securities should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences to them of the ownership and disposition of Securities, including the tax consequences under state, local, foreign and other tax laws, any applicable tax treaties and the possible effects of changes in U.S. or other tax laws.

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Barclays Capital Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and Mitsubishi UFJ Securities (USA), Inc. are acting as representatives of the underwriters and joint book-running managers of this offering. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement for the Notes dated the date of this prospectus supplement, which we will file as an exhibit to our current report on Form 8-K and incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, each underwriter named below has severally agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the principal amounts of Notes set forth opposite the underwriter's name at the public offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement.

Underwriters	Principal Amount of Notes
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC	\$ 65,385,000
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated	65,385,000
Mitsubishi UFJ Securities (USA), Inc.	65,385,000
Barclays Capital Inc.	30,769,000
PNC Capital Markets LLC	11,538,000
SMBC Nikko Securities America, Inc.	11,538,000
Total	\$ 250,000,000

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the Notes are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to purchase and accept delivery of all Notes if any are purchased.

The underwriters propose to offer the Notes directly to the public at the offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and may offer the Notes to certain dealers at a price that represents a concession not in excess of 0.40% of the principal amount of the Notes. Any underwriter may allow, and any such dealer may reallow, a concession not in excess of 0.25% of the principal amount of the Notes to certain other dealers. After the initial offering of the Notes, the underwriters may from time to time vary the offering price and other selling terms.

We estimate that our out-of-pocket expenses for this offering will be approximately \$550,000.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the **Securities Act**), or to contribute to payments that the underwriters may be required to make because of any of those liabilities.

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The underwriters have advised us that certain of the underwriters currently intend to make a market in the Notes. However, they are not obligated to do so and they may discontinue any market-making activities with respect to the Notes at any time without notice. In addition, marketing-making activity will be subject to the limits imposed by the Securities Act and the Exchange Act.

In connection with this offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell Notes in the open market. These transactions may include over-allotment, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions. Over-allotment involves sales of Notes in excess of the principal amount of Notes to be purchased by the underwriters in this offering, which creates a short position for the underwriters. Covering transactions involve purchases of the Notes in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover short positions. Stabilizing transactions consist of certain bids or purchases of Notes made for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the Notes while the offering is in progress. Any of these activities may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the Notes. They may also cause the price of the Notes to be higher than the price that otherwise would exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions in the over-the-counter market or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular underwriter repays to the underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because the representatives have repurchased Notes sold by or for the account of such underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

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Other Relationships

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. Certain of the underwriters have performed, and the underwriters may in the future perform, investment banking, commercial banking and advisory services for us and our affiliates from time to time for which they have received, or may in the future receive, customary fees and expenses. Affiliates of the underwriters are lenders to us and our affiliates under our credit facilities. Some of the underwriters and their affiliates may engage in other transactions with, and perform other services for, us and our affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments, including serving as counterparties to certain derivative and hedging arrangements, and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investment and securities activities may involve securities and instruments of ours and our affiliates.

If any of the underwriters or their affiliates has a lending relationship with us, certain of those underwriters or their affiliates routinely hedge, and certain other of those underwriters or their affiliates may hedge, their credit exposure to us consistent with their customary risk management policies. A typical such hedging strategy would include these underwriters or their affiliates hedging such exposure by entering into transactions that consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in our securities, including potentially the Notes. Any such credit default swaps or short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the Notes. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Selling Restrictions

European Economic Area

Neither this prospectus supplement nor the accompanying prospectus is a prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (as defined below). In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area (the **EEA**) that has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a **Relevant Member State**), an offer of Notes to the public that are the subject of the offer contemplated in this prospectus supplement may not be made in that Relevant Member State, except that an offer of Notes to the public in that Relevant Member State may be made at any time under the following exemptions under the Prospectus Directive, if they have been implemented in that Relevant Member State:

- (a) to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

(b) at any time to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors, as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the underwriter or underwriters nominated by us; or

(c) in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive,

provided that no such offer of the Notes shall result in a requirement for us or the underwriters to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an **offer of Notes to the public** in relation to any Notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the Notes, as the same may be varied in that Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State, and the expression **Prospectus Directive** means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended, including by Directive 2010/73/EU), and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member State.

We have not authorized and do not authorize the making of any offer of Notes through any financial intermediary on our behalf, other than offers made by the underwriters with a view to the final placement of the Notes as contemplated in this prospectus

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supplement. Accordingly, no purchaser of the Notes, other than the underwriters, is authorized to make any further offer of the Notes on behalf of us or the underwriters.

United Kingdom

Any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended (the **FSMA**)), in connection with the issue or sale of the Notes, has only been, and will only be, communicated or caused to be communicated in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to us.

Anything done in relation to the Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom, has been, and may only be done, in compliance with all applicable provisions of the FSMA.

This document is distributed to and only directed at (i) persons who are outside the United Kingdom; (ii) investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (as amended) (the **Order**); (iii) high net worth companies, unincorporated associations and other persons falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order; or (iv) any other persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated in accordance with the Order (all such persons falling within (i)-(iv) together being referred to as **relevant persons**). The Notes are only available to, and an invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire the Notes will be engaged only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its content.

Canada

The Notes may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 Prospectus Exemptions or subsection 73.3(1) of the Securities Act (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. Any resale of the Notes must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

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LEGAL MATTERS

Shelley J. Ruckman, Esq., Assistant General Counsel of CMS Energy, will render opinions as to the legality of the Notes for CMS Energy.

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP will pass upon certain legal matters with respect to the Notes for the underwriters.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of CMS Energy Corporation and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting), incorporated in this prospectus supplement by reference to CMS Energy Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

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WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act and, therefore, we are required to file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under File No. 1-9513. Our SEC filings are available over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, DC 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information on the public reference room and related copy charges. You may also inspect our SEC reports and other information at the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005. You can find additional information about us, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, on our web site at <http://www.cmsenergy.com>. The information on this web site (including any such information referred to herein) is not a part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

We are incorporating by reference information into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This means that we are disclosing important information by referring to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, except for any information superseded by information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus incorporate by reference the documents set forth below that we have previously filed with the SEC. These documents contain important information about us and our finances.

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 filed on February 5, 2015
- Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2015 filed on April 23, 2015, June 30, 2015 filed on July 23, 2015 and September 30, 2015 filed on October 29, 2015
- Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 14, 2015, January 22, 2015, January 28, 2015, April 29, 2015, May 1, 2015, June 1, 2015, June 16, 2015 and July 15, 2015

The documents filed by us with the SEC pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus supplement, until the offering of the Notes pursuant to this prospectus supplement is terminated, are also incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus (other than information in any such documents that is deemed to have been furnished but not filed under SEC rules). Any statement contained in such document will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or any other subsequently filed document modifies or supersedes such statement.

We will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a copy of this prospectus is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement but not delivered with this prospectus supplement. We will provide this information upon oral or written request at no cost to the requester. You should direct your request to:

CMS Energy Corporation

One Energy Plaza

Jackson, Michigan 49201

Phone: (517) 788-0550

Attention: Office of the Secretary

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PROSPECTUS

**CMS ENERGY CORPORATION
Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Senior Debt Securities, Senior Convertible Debt Securities,
Subordinated Debt Securities, Stock Purchase Contracts, Stock Purchase Units and Guarantees**

**CMS ENERGY TRUST IV
CMS ENERGY TRUST V
Trust Preferred Securities,
Guaranteed To The Extent Set Forth Herein By
CMS Energy Corporation**

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY
Senior Notes and First Mortgage Bonds**

CMS Energy Corporation, a Michigan corporation, may offer, from time to time:

- shares of its common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (**CMS Energy Common Stock**);
- shares of its preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share (**Preferred Stock**);
- unsecured senior or subordinated debt securities consisting of debentures, convertible debentures, notes, convertible notes or other unsecured evidence of indebtedness;
- stock purchase contracts to purchase CMS Energy Common Stock;
- stock purchase units, each consisting of a stock purchase contract and unsecured senior debt securities, unsecured subordinated debt securities, or Preferred Stock of CMS Energy Corporation or trust preferred securities of CMS Energy Trust IV or CMS Energy Trust V or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. Treasury securities, securing the holder's obligation to purchase the CMS Energy Common Stock under the stock purchase contract, or any combination of the above; and
- guarantees of CMS Energy Corporation with respect to trust preferred securities of CMS Energy Trust IV and CMS Energy Trust V.

CMS Energy Trust IV and CMS Energy Trust V, each of which is a Delaware statutory trust, may offer, from time to time, trust preferred securities. The trust preferred securities will represent preferred undivided beneficial interests in the assets of CMS Energy Trust IV and CMS Energy Trust V.

Consumers Energy Company, a Michigan corporation, may offer, from time to time, secured senior debt consisting of senior notes and first mortgage bonds.

For each type of security listed above, the amount, price and terms will be determined at or prior to the time of sale.

We will provide the specific terms of these securities in an accompanying prospectus supplement or supplements. You should read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement or supplements carefully before you invest in any of the securities described herein.

Investing in these securities involves risks. See Risk Factors on page 3.

The Common Stock of CMS Energy Corporation is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CMS . Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, the other securities described in this prospectus will not be listed on a national securities exchange.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is April 25, 2014.

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, any of us may, from time to time, sell any combination of our securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement containing specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information contained in the prospectus supplement. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

As used in this prospectus, **CMS Energy** refers to CMS Energy Corporation, the **Trusts** refer, collectively, to CMS Energy Trust IV and CMS Energy Trust V, and **Consumers** refers to Consumers Energy Company. The terms **we**, **us** and **our** refer to CMS Energy when discussing the securities to be issued by CMS Energy, the Trusts when discussing the securities to be issued by the Trusts, Consumers when discussing the securities to be issued by Consumers and collectively to all of the Registrants where the context requires. **Registrants** refers, collectively, to CMS Energy, the Trusts and Consumers.

The principal executive offices of each of CMS Energy and Consumers are located at One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201, and the telephone number is 517-788-0550. The principal executive offices of each Trust are c/o CMS Energy Corporation, One Energy Plaza, Jackson, Michigan 49201, and the telephone number is 517-788-0550.

RISK FACTORS

Before acquiring any of the securities that may be offered by this prospectus, you should carefully consider the risks discussed in the sections of CMS Energy's and Consumers' combined Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 6, 2014 entitled **Risk Factors** and **Forward-Looking Statements and Information**, as updated by the sections of CMS Energy's and Consumers' combined Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 24, 2014 entitled **Risk Factors** and **Forward-Looking Statements and Information**, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and corresponding sections in reports CMS Energy and Consumers may file with the Securities and Exchange Commission after the date of this prospectus. You should also carefully consider all of the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplement before you invest in any Registrant's securities. See **Where You Can Find More Information** below.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the **SEC**) a registration statement on Form S-3 (the **Registration Statement**) under the Securities Act of 1933 (the **Securities Act**) with respect to the securities offered in this prospectus. We have not included certain

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portions of the Registration Statement in this prospectus as permitted by the SEC's rules and regulations. Statements in this prospectus concerning the provisions of any document filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement are not necessarily complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to such exhibit. For further information, you should refer to the Registration Statement and its exhibits.

Each of CMS Energy and Consumers is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the **Exchange Act**) and therefore files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy the Registration Statement (with exhibits), as well as the reports and other information filed by any of the Registrants with the SEC, at the SEC's Public Reference Room at its principal offices at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. Information filed by us is also

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available at the SEC's Internet site at www.sec.gov. You can find additional information about us on CMS Energy's website at www.cmsenergy.com. The information on this website is not a part of this prospectus.

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or in any prospectus supplements. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy the securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction.

We have not included or incorporated by reference any separate financial statements of the Trusts. CMS Energy and the Trusts do not consider that such financial statements would be material to holders of Trust Preferred Securities of the Trusts because each Trust is a special purpose entity, has no operating history and has no independent operations. The Trusts are not currently involved in and do not anticipate being involved in any activity other than as described under "The Registrants' Trusts" below. Further, CMS Energy and the Trusts believe that financial statements of the Trusts are not material to the holders of the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trusts since CMS Energy will guarantee the Trust Preferred Securities (as defined below) of the Trusts. Holders of the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trusts, with respect to the payment of distributions and amounts upon liquidation, dissolution and winding-up, are at least in the same position vis-à-vis the assets of CMS Energy as a preferred stockholder of CMS Energy. CMS Energy beneficially owns all of the undivided beneficial interests in the assets of the Trusts (other than the beneficial interests represented by the Trust Preferred Securities of the Trusts). See "The Registrants' Trusts" below, "Description of Securities: The Trusts' Trust Preferred Securities" below and "Description of Securities: The Trusts' Effect of Obligations Under the CMS Energy Debt Securities and the Guarantees: The CMS Energy Guarantees" below. When required by SEC rules, our filings under the Exchange Act will include a footnote to CMS Energy's annual financial statements stating that the Trusts are wholly owned by CMS Energy, that the sole assets of the Trusts are the Senior Debt Securities or the Subordinated Debt Securities of CMS Energy having a specified aggregate principal amount, and that, considered together, the back-up undertakings, including the Guarantees of CMS Energy, constitute a full and unconditional guarantee by CMS Energy of the Trusts' obligations under the Trust Preferred Securities issued by the Trusts. For the foregoing reasons, each of the Trusts is exempt from reporting under the Exchange Act pursuant to Rule 12h-5 under the Exchange Act and is not expected to file periodic reports under Sections 13 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information that we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. Information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Later information that we file with the SEC (other than Current Reports on Form 8-K furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K) will automatically update and supersede this information. Each Registrant incorporates by reference into this prospectus the documents listed below related to such Registrant and any future filings (other than Current Reports on Form 8-K furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K) that such Registrant makes with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act until the offerings contemplated by this prospectus are terminated.

CMS ENERGY

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013

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- Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014
- Current Report on Form 8-K filed February 27, 2014

CONSUMERS

- Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013
- Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014

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We will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a copy of this prospectus is delivered a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus but not delivered with this prospectus. We will provide this information upon written or oral request at no cost to the requester. You should direct your requests to:

CMS Energy Corporation

Attention: Corporate Secretary

One Energy Plaza

Jackson, Michigan 49201

Telephone: 517-788-0550

**SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT UNDER THE
PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995**

This prospectus, any related prospectus supplement and the documents that we incorporate by reference herein and therein may contain statements that are statements concerning our expectations, plans, objectives, future financial performance and other items that are not historical facts. These statements are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those included in the forward-looking statements. In connection with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the Registrants are including herein or incorporating by reference cautionary statements identifying important factors that could cause their respective actual results to differ materially from those projected in forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995) made by or on behalf of the Registrants. Any statements that express or involve discussions as to expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events, performance or growth (often, but not always, through the use of words or phrases such as might, may, could, should, anticipates, believes, estimates, expects, intends, plans, projects, forecasts, predicts, and other similar words) are not statements of historical facts and are forward-looking. Forward-looking statements involve estimates, assumptions and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. Accordingly, any such statements are qualified in their entirety by reference to, and are accompanied by, the important factors described in the sections of CMS Energy's and Consumers' combined Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 filed with the SEC on February 6, 2014 entitled Risk Factors and Forward-Looking Statements and Information, as updated by the sections of CMS Energy's and Consumers' combined Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014 filed with the SEC on April 24, 2014 entitled Risk Factors and Forward-Looking Statements and Information, that could cause a Registrant's actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward-looking statements of such Registrant made by or on behalf of such Registrant.

All such factors are difficult to predict, contain uncertainties that may materially affect actual results and are beyond the control of the Registrants. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which such statement is made, and the Registrants undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement or statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for each Registrant's management to predict all of such factors, nor can such management assess the impact of each such factor on the business of such Registrant or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results of such Registrant to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements.

THE REGISTRANTS

CMS ENERGY

CMS Energy is an energy company operating primarily in Michigan. It is the parent holding company of several subsidiaries, including Consumers and CMS Enterprises Company (**Enterprises**). Consumers is an electric and gas utility that provides electricity and/or natural gas to 6.5 million of Michigan's 10 million residents. Enterprises, through its subsidiaries and equity investments, is engaged primarily in independent power production