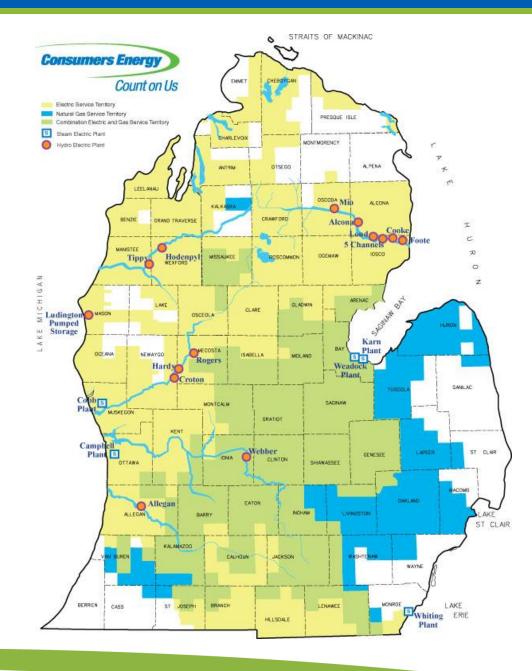
### **Consumers Energy Smart Outlet Pilot**

## **Consumers Energy**

 Serves 1.9M electric and 1.8M gas customers across Michigan's lower peninsula



## 2021 Clean Energy Plan - Leading Michigan's Clean Energy Transformation

#### Eliminate coal

All coal plants would be retired by 2025

#### More renewables

By 2040, more than 60 percent of our electric capacity will come from renewable sources

#### Net zero emissions

Our plan would achieve 60 percent emissions reductions by 2025

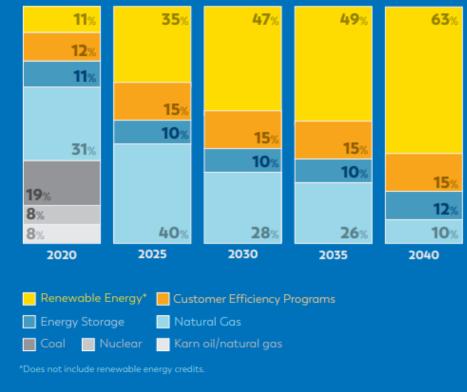
#### A smarter grid

Energy efficiency, demand response and emerging technologies such as grid modernization and battery storage will help us lower peak customer demand

#### More control and savings for customers

Provide customers with the power to reduce energy waste and lower bills through energy efficiency and demand response programs

#### Electric Capacity by Fuel Source мw



## Residential Demand Response

Existing Residential DR Programs AC, WH, & Smart T-Stat Control

#### Pilot Concept

 Utilize Eaton's Wi-Fi Receptacle and Brightlayer Home App with Alexa and Google Homes compatibility to extend residential DR capability

Smart Outlet Introductory Video https://vimeo.com/810543409







#### Smart Outlet Pilot - Approach

The Smart Outlet Pilot aims to test smart devices as an avenue to engage customers to deliver load shift.

The test plan included two phases; behavioral component via smart outlet to start followed by a direct control phase utilizing cloud-based software and a DRMS to dispatch events to the smart outlet.

The initial plan was modified in 2021 and Phase 1 tested the use of smart plugs as a supplemental tool for behavioral demand response.

## Smart Outlet Pilot Approach (continued)

In 2022, Phase 2, a direct control effort was launched in July.

DR Events - On initiation by Consumers Energy, Eaton will signal the outlet via the Cloud through the participants Wi-Fi network to shutoff power to the controlled receptacle.

Customers can use the Bightlayer App to control the smart outlet.



## 2022 Smart Outlet Pilot Program Overview

|      | OFFER           | Residential customers who sign up receive <b>two free Eaton smart outlets</b> and a complimentary <b>direct installation</b> service by a technician   |
|------|-----------------|--|
| - OF | TARGET AUDIENCE | Residential customers who currently participate in a demand response program and those in a targeted geographic area   |
|      |                 | Customers schedule an installation appointment   |
| 8.3  | how it works    | Technician installs the smart outlets and connects them to <b>medium-to high-load products</b> (e.g., room/window air conditioners and dehumidifiers)  |
|      |                 | Technician sets up the app for customers and <b>educates</b> them on what happens during a direct load control event (i.e., the socket labelled CONTROLLED will turn off the connected product during the event and turn it back on after the event) |
|      |                 | Customers receive an event notification in advance via email   |
|      |                 | Customers receive a \$25 e-gift card after the summer season ends  |

# 2022 Smart Outlet Pilot Program Overview (continued)

Enroll 2,000 smart outlets (~1000 participants) by end of the 2022 summer season

Call at least two Demand Response events

Demonstrate significant reductions in demand during event hours

EVENT

Due to starting recruitment in late July, only one event conducted, Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2022, from 2-6 p.m. to test the process



PILOT

**OBJECTIVES** 

572 customers were recruited, and 1127 outlets installed by 12/31/22

169 were ready for and participated in the Sept. 21, 2022, event

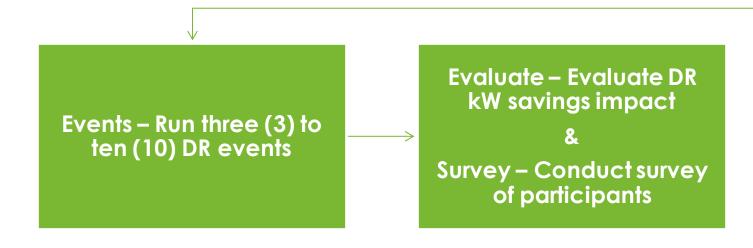
Event impacts were not statistically significant

#### 2023 Smart Outlet Pilot Plans

Recruitment – Maintain current participants, no new enrollments Communication – Develop and deploy customer communications

• Videos, Pre-season, Event Notifications, Post-season

Connectivity – Ensure enrolled participants remain connected for control



## Smart Outlet – Possibilities Beyond 2023

With approximately 680,000 room and portable AC units within the service territory, the Smart Outlet has the potential to support the DR portfolio by tapping into customers that don't have central AC.

The Smart Outlets could lend itself to a specific opportunity for low/moderate income customers.

The ability to schedule the controlled outlet gives all customers a tool to reduce their energy use and costs, specifically during TOU peak hours.



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