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The Gluten Free Brothers (The GFB) in Grand Rapids goes 100% Clean Energy with Consumers Energy's Renewable Energy Program

The GFB expands on its commitment to the triple bottom line of people, planet, and prosperity with zero-carbon electricity.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Consumers Energy and The GFB (The Gluten Free Brothers) in Grand Rapids announced today that their zero-waste facility will be powered with 100 percent clean energy through Consumers Energy's Renewable Energy Program. Consumers Energy's Renewable Energy Program enables electric customers to match their use with renewable energy from wind and solar parks across the Great Lakes State.

"We applaud The GFB in taking this step forward and going 100 percent green," said Brian Lewis, Consumers Energy's Executive Director of Customer Operations. "Consumers Energy will continue to meet the needs of Michigan customers that want to be powered by clean energy, and we are proud to partner with The GFB in support of their goal to become a sustainable brand for their customers, coworkers, and our state. Every enrollment in this program helps reduce carbon emissions and support a clean energy future for all."

Marshall Rader, Cofounder of The GFB, says, "We've always been conscious about making the best products we can, using only gluten-free, plant-based ingredients. By taking part in this program, we can choose better energy sources too, helping our company minimize our environmental footprint."

His brother and cofounder **Elliott Rader adds**, "Our commitment to sustainability is one of the reasons we became a Certified B Corp in 2015, which only about 120 other food companies in the USA and Canada have done. Partnering with Consumers' and their Renewable Energy Program is a powerful way for us to further align with B Corp values of People, Planet and Prosperity."

The GFB's enrollment supports local wind and solar facilities located across Michigan. This commitment has the environmental benefit equivalent to avoiding the greenhouse gas emissions produced by driving 705,299 miles in a car per year, according to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency calculations.

Consumers Energy's Renewable Energy Program provides businesses with a simple solution to use solar and wind energy to achieve their sustainability goals and protect the planet for future generations. Join the movement by contacting us at GreenPower@cmsenergy.com.

Consumers Energy is working to protect the planet with an industry-leading Clean Energy Plan that calls for closing all Consumers Energy coal-fired plants by 2025, becoming one of the first utilities in the nation to go coal free. Consumers Energy plans to become carbon neutral by 2040 and meet 90% of its energy needs with clean energy sources such as wind and solar.

Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider, is the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy (NYSE: CMS), providing natural gas and/or electricity to 6.8 million of the state's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

The Gluten Free Brothers (The GFB) handcrafts gluten-free plant-based BITES, BARS, and OATMEAL in their own zero-waste facility in Grand Rapids, MI. Products are sold at retailers like Meijer, Publix, Kroger, SpartanNash, Walmart, and through the USA and Canada as well as Amazon and thegfb.com.

Both Consumers Energy and The GFB are available for further comment. To schedule an interview or a visit to The GFB's zero-waste facility, please contact <u>Josh Paciorek</u>, 517-243-9036, or <u>John Torre</u>, 616-755-8432.

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