

Form 5500

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security  
Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

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

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

OMB Nos. 1210-0110  
1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

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

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

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN) 001
1c Effective date of plan 01/01/2008
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) LINDE CORPORATION 118 ARMSTRONG RD PITTSTON, PA 18640
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 20-4372172
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 570-229-5700
2d Business code (see instructions) 237100

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

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

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

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

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	538
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ). <b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year ..... <b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year ..... <b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... <b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits ..... <b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> ..... <b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. .... <b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> ..... <b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6a(1)</b>	500
	<b>6a(2)</b>	510
	<b>6b</b>	1
	<b>6c</b>	61
	<b>6d</b>	572
	<b>6e</b>	1
	<b>6f</b>	573
	<b>6g(1)</b>	537
<b>6g(2)</b>	512	
<b>6h</b>	8	
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....	<b>7</b>	

**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:  
2A 2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D

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

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

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

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

---

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

---

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

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

---

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

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

Receipt Confirmation Code \_\_\_\_\_

---

<b>SCHEDULE D</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>	<b>DFE/Participating Plan Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
---	--	---

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN)	<u>001</u>
<b>C</b> Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>LINDE CORPORATION</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-4372172</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs)</b> (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
---------------	--

<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>CONTRACTORS RET. PLAN MASTER TRUST</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>FRINGE BENEFIT GROUP, INC.</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>74-2485507-001</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>E</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>6775802</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
-----------------	----------------------	---



<b>SCHEDULE H</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Financial Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
--	--	--

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <b>01/01/2024</b> and ending <b>12/31/2024</b>	
<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>001</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>LINDE CORPORATION</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>20-4372172</b>

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Asset and Liability Statement</b>
---------------	--------------------------------------

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

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>		
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>		
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>	110614	171488
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>	7585827	6775802
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>		
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>		
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>		

<b>1d</b> Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	<b>1d(1)</b>		
(2) Employer real property.....	<b>1d(2)</b>		
<b>e</b> Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	<b>1e</b>		
<b>f</b> Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	<b>1f</b>	7696441	6947290
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>g</b> Benefit claims payable.....	<b>1g</b>		
<b>h</b> Operating payables.....	<b>1h</b>		
<b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness.....	<b>1i</b>		
<b>j</b> Other liabilities.....	<b>1j</b>		
<b>k</b> Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	<b>1k</b>		
<b>Net Assets</b>			
<b>l</b> Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	<b>1l</b>	7696441	6947290

**Part II Income and Expense Statement**

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

<b>Income</b>		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: <b>(A)</b> Employers.....	<b>2a(1)(A)</b>	518755	
<b>(B)</b> Participants.....	<b>2a(1)(B)</b>	90259	
<b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers).....	<b>2a(1)(C)</b>		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	<b>2a(2)</b>		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines <b>2a(1)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , <b>(C)</b> , and line <b>2a(2)</b> .....	<b>2a(3)</b>		609014
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
<b>(1) Interest:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	<b>2b(1)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> U.S. Government securities.....	<b>2b(1)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Corporate debt instruments.....	<b>2b(1)(C)</b>		
<b>(D)</b> Loans (other than to participants).....	<b>2b(1)(D)</b>		
<b>(E)</b> Participant loans.....	<b>2b(1)(E)</b>	4796	
<b>(F)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(1)(F)</b>		
<b>(G)</b> Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....	<b>2b(1)(G)</b>		4796
<b>(2) Dividends:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred stock.....	<b>2b(2)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common stock.....	<b>2b(2)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	<b>2b(2)(C)</b>		
<b>(D)</b> Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....	<b>2b(2)(D)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Rents.....	<b>2b(3)</b>		
<b>(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Aggregate proceeds.....	<b>2b(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	<b>2b(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Subtract line <b>2b(4)(B)</b> from line <b>2b(4)(A)</b> and enter result.....	<b>2b(4)(C)</b>		
<b>(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Real estate.....	<b>2b(5)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(5)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines <b>2b(5)(A)</b> and <b>(B)</b> .....	<b>2b(5)(C)</b>		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts .....	<b>2b(6)</b>		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	<b>2b(7)</b>		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	<b>2b(8)</b>		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>2b(9)</b>		561604
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>2b(10)</b>		
<b>c</b> Other income .....	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2d</b>		1175414

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	<b>2e(1)</b>	1912065	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	<b>2e(2)</b>		
(3) Other.....	<b>2e(3)</b>		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		1912065
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	<b>2f</b>		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	<b>2g</b>		
<b>h</b> Interest expense.....	<b>2h</b>		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	<b>2i(1)</b>		
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	<b>2i(2)</b>		
(3) Recordkeeping fees .....	<b>2i(3)</b>		
(4) IQPA audit fees .....	<b>2i(4)</b>	12500	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	<b>2i(5)</b>		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	<b>2i(6)</b>		
(7) Actuarial fees .....	<b>2i(7)</b>		
(8) Legal fees .....	<b>2i(8)</b>		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....	<b>2i(9)</b>		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....	<b>2i(10)</b>		
(11) Other expenses.....	<b>2i(11)</b>		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		12500
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2j</b>		1924565

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		-749151
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	<b>2l(1)</b>		
(2) From this plan .....	<b>2l(2)</b>		

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: **ERICKSON DEMEL & ASSOCIATES, PLLC**

(2) EIN: **87-1577252**

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

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

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

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

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
<b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2206
<b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>n</b> If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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

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

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

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

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

<b>SCHEDULE R</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Retirement Plan Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
--	---	---

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>LINDE CORPORATION</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-4372172</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
---------------	----------------------

**All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.**

**1** Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions..... 

1		0
---	--	---

**2** Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):  
EIN(s): 13-3689044 33-6134385

**Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.**

**3** Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year..... 

3	
---	--

<b>Part II</b>	<b>Funding Information</b> (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
----------------	---

**4** Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?.....  Yes  No  N/A  
**If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.**

**5** If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
**If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.**

<b>6 a</b> Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....	<b>6a</b>	
<b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....	<b>6b</b>	
<b>c</b> Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	<b>6c</b>	

**If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.**

**7** Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?.....  Yes  No  N/A

**8** If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?.....  Yes  No  N/A

<b>Part III</b>	<b>Amendments</b>
-----------------	-------------------

**9** If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.....  Increase  Decrease  Both  No

<b>Part IV</b>	<b>ESOPs</b> (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---

**10** Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?.....  Yes  No

**11 a** Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?.....  Yes  No

**b** If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.).....  Yes  No

**12** Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?.....  Yes  No

**Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**13** Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**14** Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

<b>a</b> The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14a</b>	
<b>b</b> The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14b</b>	
<b>c</b> The second preceding plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14c</b>	

**15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

<b>a</b> The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....	<b>15a</b>	
<b>b</b> The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....	<b>15b</b>	

**16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

<b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....	<b>16a</b>	
<b>b</b> If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers.....	<b>16b</b>	

**17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment .....

**Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment .....

**19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

**a** Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:  
 Public Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Private Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: \_\_\_\_\_%  
 High-Yield Debt: \_\_\_\_\_% Real Assets: \_\_\_\_\_% Cash or Cash Equivalents: \_\_\_\_\_% Other: \_\_\_\_\_%

**b** Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:  
 0-5 years  5-10 years  10-15 years  15 years or more

**20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

**a** Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero?  Yes  No

**b** If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:  
 Yes.  
 No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. Other. Provide explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part VII IRS Compliance Questions**

**21a** Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules?  Yes  No

**21b** If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).  
 Design-based safe harbor method  
 "Prior year" ADP test  
 "Current year" ADP test  
 N/A

**22** If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 08 / 24 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q704152A.



ERICKSON DEMEL  
&  
ASSOCIATES, PLLC  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

7800 N. MOPAC, SUITE 105  
AUSTIN, TX 78759

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023  
and for the Year Ended December 31, 2024  
with Independent Auditor's Report**

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023  
and for the Year Ended December 31, 2024  
with Independent Auditor's Report**

**CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT</b>	1
<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>	
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits (Modified Cash Basis)	5
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits (Modified Cash Basis)	6
Notes to Financial Statements (Modified Cash Basis)	7
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE</b>	
Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) (Modified Cash Basis)	17



ERICKSON DEMEL  
&  
ASSOCIATES, PLLC  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

7800 N. Mopac, Suite 105  
Austin, TX 78759  
(512) 482-8682 P  
(512) 482-8612 F

## Independent Auditor's Report

Trustee  
The Contractors Retirement Plan  
Sponsored by Linde Corporation

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

We have performed audits of the accompanying financial statements of The Contractors Retirement Plan Sponsored by Linde Corporation, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits (modified cash basis) as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits (modified cash basis) for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of The Contractors Retirement Plan Sponsored by Linde Corporation's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-12 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to such asset information related to the Plan's investment in the Contractors Retirement Plan Master Trust, a trust meeting the requirements of 29 CFR 2520.103-12 (b) and (c) as a Direct Filing Entity (DFE) or 103-12 Investment Entity (103-12 IE) described in the instructions to Form 5500 Annual Return/Report.

Management has informed us that the 103-12 IE qualifies as a DFE under the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Act of 1974 for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023.

### Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section –

- the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the Plan's investment in the 103-12 IE, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.
- the information in the financial statements referred to above related to assets held by the 103-12 IE meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

### **Basis for Opinion**

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

### **Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note B to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements and supplemental schedule are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

### **Responsibility of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note B, this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

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

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

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

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

Our audits did not extend to the investment information associated with the 103-12 IE, except for obtaining and reading the Form 5500 of the 103-12 IE, comparing the 103-12 IE investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the 103-12 IE information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of the modified cash basis of accounting.

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

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

**Other Matter - Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA**

The supplemental schedule – Schedule H, Line 4i, Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) (modified cash basis) as of December 31, 2024 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the 103-12 IE information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the 103-12 IE information, we compared such information to the Form 5500 of the 103-12 IE.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the 103-12 IE information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the 103-12 IE information, is are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by the 103-12 IE meet the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

*Ericson Dend + Associates, PLLC*

Certified Public Accountants

August 26, 2025

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**ASSETS**

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Investments, at Fair Value	<b>\$ 6,775,802</b>	<b>\$ 7,585,827</b>
Notes Receivable from Participants	<b>171,488</b>	<b>110,614</b>
Net Assets Available for Benefits	<b><u>\$ 6,947,290</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 7,696,441</u></b>

See notes to financial statements

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024**

Additions to Net Assets Attributed to:

Investment Income:

Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments \$ 561,604

Interest Income on Notes Receivable from Participants 4,796

Contributions:

Employer Contributions 518,755

Employee Contributions 90,259

Total Contributions 609,014

Total Additions 1,175,414

Deductions from Net Assets Attributed to:

Benefit Payments 1,912,065

Administrative Expenses 12,500

Total Deductions 1,924,565

Decrease in Net Assets Available for Benefits (749,151)

Net Assets Available for Benefits:

Beginning of Year 7,696,441

End of Year \$ 6,947,290

See notes to financial statements

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023  
and for the Year Ended December 31, 2024**

**A. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN**

The following description of The Contractors Retirement Plan sponsored by Linde Corporation (Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

**General**

The Plan was formed effective January 1, 2008, was restated on January 1, 2022 upon adoption of The Contractors Retirement Plan and is a non-standardized defined contribution plan which contains a cash or deferred arrangement pursuant to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

**Participation**

Eligible individuals consist of employees rendering services for Linde Corporation on contracts subject to the Davis-Bacon Act, Service Contract Act or other federal, state or municipal prevailing wage laws. Certain union employees, nonresident aliens, residents of Puerto Rico, and all part-time employees who hours of service are under 1,000, with the exception of long-term part-time employees, are excluded from elective deferrals, matching, and nonelective contributions. There is no age or service requirement to receive prevailing wage contributions. Participants must be at least 18 years of age and have completed one month of service to participate in elective deferral, employer matching and nonelective contributions.

**Contributions**

Eligible participants may elect to defer a portion of their compensation (as defined). Prevailing wage contributions, determined by the employer based on rates that satisfy the wage determination issued by the governmental agency responsible for certain contracts, are also allowed. In addition, the Company may make matching and nonelective contributions. Such contributions cannot exceed the lesser of 100% of the employee's compensation or \$69,000 for a year. Rollover contributions are also allowed.

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**A. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN – Continued**

**Participant Accounts**

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's elective deferral and an allocation of the employer's contribution. Each participant has the authority to direct the investment of their account to one or more of the investment funds designated as investment options by the Plan sponsor. Investment gain or loss is recognized in participants' accounts on a daily basis as the unit values of the funds change. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the distributable value of the participant's account.

**Notes Receivable from Participants**

Upon application by any participant of the Plan, and subject to such rules as the Plan Administrator may establish, the Plan Administrator may in his/her discretion direct the Trustee to make a loan to such participant, not to exceed (including interest) the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the participant's vested balance. Any loans made pursuant to the Plan prior to January 1, 2024, will bear a rate of interest equal to the prime rate at the loan origination date. Loans made after January 1, 2024, will bear a rate of interest equal to the prime rate at the loan origination date plus one percent. The interest rate on loan balances was 3.25%-9.50% for the year ended December 31, 2024. The loan is secured by a pledge of such participant's vested balance and principal and interest are paid ratably by the participant.

**Vesting**

Participants are immediately vested in their share of employer prevailing wage, employee elective deferral contributions and net Trust earnings allocated to those portions of their account. Employer nonelective contributions and matching contributions become vested based on the participant's number of years of service with the Company according to the following schedule: Less than 2 years – 0% vested; 2 or more years – 100% vested. Regardless of the vesting schedule, a participant will become fully vested upon death, total and permanent disability, or early retirement date.

**Forfeitures**

Forfeitures, if any, will be used to reduce future employer contributions and plan administrative expenses. As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, there were \$17 and \$1,363, respectively, in unallocated forfeited account balances. During the year ended December 31, 2024, forfeited account balances totaling \$3,626, were used to reduce employer contributions and \$183, were used to reduce plan administrative expenses.

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**A. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN – Continued**

**Benefit Payments**

Under terms of the Plan, participants are eligible for benefit payments upon reaching age 55. The Plan also provides for distributions to participants, or their beneficiaries, upon death, disability, and termination of employment. Withdrawals from the plan may also be made upon circumstances of financial hardship in accordance with the provisions specified in the plan. Participants may choose to have benefits paid directly to them or to have benefits paid directly to another qualified retirement plan or individual retirement arrangement on their behalf.

**Plan Termination**

The employer has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA.

**Trustee and Special Trustee**

SMARTTS LLC dba SMART Trust Services (previously known as ERISA Smart, Inc.) is the directed trustee, and LeafHouse Financial is the ERISA 3(38) Investment Manager Fiduciary of The Contractors Retirement Plan Master Trust (Trust). The duties of the Investment Manager include selection and monitoring of the investment funds available to the Plan Sponsors that participate in the Trust. The directed trustee fee is a flat fee of \$34,880 annually, paid monthly and allocated on a per capita basis to the participants in the Trust. The investment manager's fee is 0.04% of the Trust assets annually, paid monthly and allocated on a per capita basis to the participants in the Trust. The employer also designates a Special Trustee for the Plan in the adoption agreement and is responsible for the collection of plan contributions.

**B. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting and present net assets available for benefits and changes in those net assets. Under the modified cash basis of accounting utilized, contributions are recognized when received rather than when accrued by the employer. In addition, benefit payments to participants are recorded when paid and administrative expenses are accrued monthly by the Plan.

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**B. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – Continued**

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Notes Receivable from Participants**

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance. Delinquent notes receivable from participants are recorded as distributions based upon the terms of the plan document.

**Risks and Uncertainties**

The Plan provides for investments in various investment securities, which in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility risks. Market risks include global events, which could impact the value of investment securities, such as international conflicts. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participant account balances and the amounts reported in the financial statements and supplemental schedule.

**Investment Valuation and Income Recognition**

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value of the Plan's interest in the Trust (as defined in Note D) is based on the beginning of year value of the Plan's interest in the Trust plus actual contributions and allocated investment income less actual distributions and allocated administrative expenses.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest and dividend income is recorded when received. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Management fees and expenses charged to the Plan for some investment accounts are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, management fees and operating expenses are reflected as a reduction of investment return for such investments.

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**B. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – Continued**

**Benefit Payments**

Benefits to participants are recorded by the Plan when actual payment is made.

**Expenses**

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Company and are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants and benefit payment transactions are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses.

**C. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

The Plan follows FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, which defines and establishes a framework for measuring fair value and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (i.e. an exit price). FASB ASC 820 includes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described below:

Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible to the Plan at the measurement date for identical assets and liabilities.

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities that are observable either directly or indirectly for substantially the full term of the asset or liability. Level 2 inputs include the following:

- Quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets of liabilities in active markets
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability
- Inputs that are derived principally from, or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**C. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS – Continued**

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the assets or liabilities (i.e., supported by little or no market activity). Level 3 inputs include management’s own assumption about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability (including assumptions about risk).

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

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value.

*Group Trust - 103-12 Investment Entity:* The investment is valued based on the value of the underlying assets owned by the fund, minus its liabilities, and then divided by the number of shares outstanding. The Net Asset Value (“NAV”) is based on the market value of the underlying investments. The NAV is not a publicly quoted price in an active market.

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

Investments, at fair value, that are valued using NAV as a practical expedient totaled \$6,775,802 and \$7,585,827 at December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively. There are no unfunded commitments at December 31, 2024 or 2023. The fund has a daily redemption frequency and redemption notice period.

**D. INVESTMENT IN RETIREMENT PLAN GROUP TRUST**

The Plan invests in a group trust, The Contractors Retirement Plan Master Trust (Trust), sponsored by Fringe Benefit Group, Inc. Under the terms of the plan document, all assets of the Plan are maintained in the Trust.

The Trust files a Form 5500 as a 103-12 Investment Entity.

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**D. INVESTMENT IN RETIREMENT PLAN GROUP TRUST – Continued**

The Plan Administrator has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-12 of the Department of Labor Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, as permitted under such election, the following information was not subjected to any auditing procedures performed by the Plan's independent auditor other than comparing such information provided by the Trust to information included in the Plan's financial statements and supplemental schedule:

- Investments, at fair value, as shown in the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023.
- Total investment income as shown in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024.
- Schedule H, line 4i – schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2024.

The Contractors Retirement Plan Master Trust does not meet the definition of a master trust as that term is most commonly used. The Plan's investment in the Trust represents the allocated net portion of the Trust that is attributable to The Contractors Retirement Plan sponsored by Linde Corporation and includes all the Plan's investments.

The Plan's share of the net assets of the Trust is based on the underlying participant account values including the effects of contributions, allocated net investment income, withdrawals, and allocated administrative expenses. Net investment income, gains and losses are allocated to participating plans on a daily basis based on participants' investment choices. At December 31, 2024 and 2023, the Plan's interest in the net assets of the Trust was approximately less than 1%.

The following summarizes the assets of the Trust:

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**D. INVESTMENT IN RETIREMENT PLAN GROUP TRUST – Continued**

	December 31,	
	2024	2023
Investments, at Fair Value:		
Pooled Separate Accounts	\$ 1,427,223,139	\$ 510,310,635
Insurance Company General Account	–	1,013,072,811
Collective Trusts	1,338,183	–
	1,428,561,322	1,523,383,446
Investments, at Contract Value:		
Insurance Company General Account	25,507,673	–
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,702,844	8,623,074
Other Receivables	64,528	–
	\$1,457,836,367	\$1,532,006,520

Investment income for the Trust for the year ended December 31, 2024 is as follows:

**Investment Income**

Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments	\$ 171,568,349
	\$ 171,568,349

During the year ended December 31, 2023, Administration of the Trust elected to consolidate the assets of the Trust to a single insurance company, and on December 28, 2023, all investments held by Nationwide Trust Company were transferred to Transamerica Life Insurance Company. The investments held in the Trust are stated at either fair or contract value. Investments are valued based on unit values as reported to the Trust Transamerica Life Insurance Company holding assets for the Trust.

**E. PARTY IN INTEREST TRANSACTIONS**

The Plan is part of the Trust whose recordkeeper and sponsor is Fringe Benefit Group, Inc. Various administrative expenses and asset charges of the Trust are paid to Fringe Benefit Group, Inc. and are allocated to the Plan. The Plan Administrator for the Plan is the employer, or any other individual, committee or group appointed by the employer to serve in that capacity.

Effective January 1, 2024, Transamerica Retirement Solutions (“TRS”) was assigned certain transactional and recordkeeping duties of the Plan.

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED  
(Modified Cash Basis)**

**E. PARTY IN INTEREST TRANSACTIONS – Continued**

The Plan Administrator, Special Trustee as referenced in Note A, Investment Manager and the Trustee are named as fiduciaries under the Plan. The sponsor of the Trust, Investment Manager, and Trustee are fiduciaries of the Trust as described in the Trust Agreement. All the above-named service providers for the Plan are considered parties in interest under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and are subject to ERISA rules concerning transactions with the Plan.

**F. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE STATUS**

The Master Plan Sponsor obtained its latest opinion letter, dated August 24, 2020, in which the Internal Revenue Service stated that the Master Plan was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code. Such an opinion is not a determination as to whether The Contractors Retirement Plan sponsored by Linde Corporation itself qualifies under IRC Section 401(a); however, the Plan Administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, they believe the Plan was qualified as of the financial statement date.

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

**G. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Plan evaluated its December 31, 2024 financial statements for subsequent events through August 26, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**DECEMBER 31, 2024**

**THE CONTRACTORS RETIREMENT PLAN  
SPONSORED BY  
LINDE CORPORATION**

**SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)  
(MODIFIED CASH BASIS)**

**DECEMBER 31, 2024**

(a)	(b) Identity	(c) Description of Investment	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	Contractors Retirement Plan			
	Master Trust	103-12 I.E.	**	\$ 6,775,802
*	Participant Loans	3.25%-9.50%	-	171,488

\*Denotes Party-in-Interest

\*\*Historical cost information is not required as all investments are participant-directed.

EIN 20-4372172

PN 001

**Name of Plan: The Contractors Retirement Plan**  
**Plan Sponsor's Name: Linde Corporation**  
**EIN No.: 20-4372172, Plan No. 001**  
**Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets**  
**Plan Year Ending: 12/31/2024**

(a)	(b) Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment, Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Par or Maturity Value	(d) CURRENT VALUE
	Contractors Ret Plan Master Trust	103-12 IE	\$ 6,775,802
*	Participants	Notes Receivable with interest rates of 3.25% to 9.50%	\$ 171,488
<b>TOTAL PLAN ASSETS</b>			<b>\$ 6,947,290</b>

\* Indicates Party-In-Interest to the Plan