

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Federal Trade Commission

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Statement of Commissioner Rebecca Kelly Slaughter Joined by Chair Lina M. Khan In the Matter of Linde AG; Praxair, Inc.; and Linde PLC Commission File No. 1710068

November 15, 2022

As the Commission once again modifies the consent order in the Matter of Linde AG and Praxair, Inc., we write to explain and emphasize that orders with numerous, complicated, and long-standing entanglements like this one are strongly disfavored. Notwithstanding concerns about the original consent order, the Commission has an obligation to modify existing orders when reasonable fixes are required to facilitate the most competitive outcome possible. The history of this consent order and the multiple modifications that have been necessary demonstrate why such orders are currently and will continue to be disfavored.

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¹ Decision and Order, *In re Linde AG; Praxair, Inc.; and Linde PLC.*, Docket No. C- 4660 (FTC File No. 1710068 (February 28, 2019)