

16 February 2023

ICANN Final Determination

Re: Notice of Registry Operator Request for Termination of Registry Agreement - .linde

On 22 November 2022, Linde Aktiengesellschaft notified ICANN org of its intent to terminate the .linde Registry Agreement entered into on 04 December 2014. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, Registry Operator may terminate the Registry Agreement for any reason upon one hundred eighty (180) calendar day advance notice.

Pursuant to the terms of Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified by Section 6 of Specification 13 for this .Brand TLD), ICANN org consulted with Linde Aktiengesellschaft to assess whether to transition operation of the .linde top-level domain (TLD) to a successor Registry Operator.

On 15 December 2022, ICANN org made a preliminary determination that operation of the .linde TLD need not be transitioned to a successor Registry Operator based on the following rationale:

1. .linde qualifies as a .Brand TLD.
2. Transitioning the TLD is not necessary to protect the public interest.

On 14 January 2023, after a 30-day period for comments by interested parties, no comments were received. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, ICANN org will proceed to terminate the .linde Registry Agreement by 21 May 2023.

In conformance with Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified by Section 6 of Specification 13 for this .Brand TLD), ICANN org may not delegate the TLD to a successor registry operator for a period of two years without Registry Operator's consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

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