# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant  $\boxtimes$ 

Filed by a party other than the Registrant  $\Box$ 

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- □ Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12



## Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

PAYMENT OF FILING FEE (CHECK ALL BOXES THAT APPLY):

 $\boxtimes$  No fee required

- □ Fee paid previously with preliminary materials
- Fee computed on table in exhibit required by Item 25(b) per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11

On November 19, 2024, Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. (the "Company") issued the following press release:

# News Release



Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. 1940 Air Products Boulevard, Allentown, PA 18106-5500 www.airproducts.com

#### **Air Products Issues Statement**

LEHIGH VALLEY, Pa., (November 19, 2024) – Air Products (NYSE:APD) today issued the following statement regarding the nomination of director candidates by Mantle Ridge for election to the Air Products Board of Directors at the Company's 2025 Annual Meeting:

Air Products' Board of Directors has received Mantle Ridge's nomination notice and director nominees. The Board will present its formal recommendation regarding director nominees in the Company's proxy materials to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in due course. Air Products shareholders are not required to take any action at this time.

### **About Air Products**

Air Products (NYSE:<u>APD</u>) is a world-leading industrial gases company in operation for over 80 years focused on serving energy, environmental, and emerging markets and generating a cleaner future. The Company supplies essential industrial gases, related equipment and applications expertise to customers in dozens of industries, including refining, chemicals, metals, electronics, manufacturing, medical and food. As the leading global supplier of hydrogen, Air Products also develops, engineers, builds, owns and operates some of the world's largest clean hydrogen projects, supporting the transition to low- and zero-carbon energy in the industrial and heavy-duty transportation sectors. Through its sale of equipment businesses, the Company also provides turbomachinery, membrane systems and cryogenic containers globally.

The Company had fiscal 2024 sales of \$12.1 billion from operations in approximately 50 countries and has a current market capitalization of over \$65 billion. Approximately 23,000 passionate, talented and committed employees from diverse backgrounds are driven by Air Products' higher purpose to create innovative solutions that benefit the environment, enhance sustainability and reimagine what's possible to address the challenges facing customers, communities, and the world. For more information, visit <u>www.airproducts.com</u> or follow us on <u>LinkedIn, X, Facebook</u> or <u>Instagram</u>.

This release contains "forward-looking statements" within the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements are based on management's expectations and assumptions as of the date of this release and are not guarantees of future performance. While forward-looking statements are made in good faith and based on assumptions, expectations and projections that management believes are reasonable based on currently available information, actual performance and financial results may differ materially from projections and estimates expressed in the forward-looking statements because of many factors, including the risk factors described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023 and other factors disclosed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Except as required by law, we disclaim any obligation or undertaking to update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in the assumptions, beliefs or expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances upon which any such forward-looking statements are based.

#### Important Additional Information and Where to Find It

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. (the "Company") plans to file proxy materials with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the Company's 2025 annual meeting of shareholders (the "2025 Annual Meeting"). Prior to the 2025 Annual Meeting, the Company will file a definitive proxy statement (the "Proxy Statement") together with a WHITE proxy card. SHAREHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE PROXY STATEMENT (INCLUDING ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS THERETO) AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS THAT THE COMPANY WILL FILE WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY AND IN THEIR ENTIRETY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. Shareholders will be able to obtain, free of charge, copies of the Proxy Statement, any amendments or supplements thereto and any other documents (including the WHITE proxy card) when filed by the Company with the SEC at the SEC's website (http://www.sec.gov) or at the Company's website https://investors.airproducts.com or by Innisfree M&A Incorporated, toll-free at (877) 750-0537 banks and brokers call collect at (212) 750-5833.

## **Certain Information Regarding Participants**

The Company, its directors and certain of its executive officers and other employees may be deemed to be "participants" (as defined in Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) in the solicitation of proxies from shareholders in connection with the 2025 Annual Meeting. Additional information regarding the identity of these potential participants and their direct or indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, will be set forth in the Proxy Statement and other materials to be filed with the SEC in connection with the 2025 Annual Meeting. Information relating to the foregoing can also be found in the Company's definitive proxy statement for its 2024 annual meeting of shareholders, filed with the SEC on December 8, 2023. Information regarding the ownership of the Company directors and executive officers in the shares of the Company common stock is included in their SEC filings on Forms 3, 4, and 5, which can be found at the SEC's website at <u>www.sec.gov</u>. More detailed and updated information regarding the identity of potential participants, and their direct or indirect interests (by security holdings or otherwise), will be set forth in the proxy statement and other materials to be filed with the SEC. These documents can be obtained free of charge from the sources indicated above.

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## Media Inquiries:

Katie McDonald, tel: (610) 481-3673; email: mcdonace@airproducts.com

#### **Investor Inquiries:**

Eric Guter, tel: (610) 481-1872; email: <u>guterej@airproducts.com</u> Mun Shieh, tel: (610) 481-2951; <u>shiehmh@airproducts.com</u> Also on November 19, 2024, the Company posted the press release on its intranet and issued a social media post linking to the press release, each of which appear below:



#### 19 November 2024

Air Products (NYSEAPD) today tasked the following statement regarding the nomination of director candidates by Mantie Ridge for election to the Air Products Board of Directors at the Company's 2025 Annual Meeting:

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#### About Air Products

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