

MEDIA STATEMENT

The LHDA brings prospective RSA contractors up to speed with requirements and opportunities towards the LHWP Phase II

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The twin needs of the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Republic of South Africa (RSA) determined the process for the conception of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP). The dual needs referred to speak to the need for the Kingdom of Lesotho to be self-sufficient in terms of energy supply, whilst the republic of South Africa needs to ensure security of supply for the Integrated Vaal River System that supplies primarily the province of Gauteng, and the critical Eskom and Sasol industrial activities.

The cost for the project is raised by the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA) as mandated by the government of South Africa, which process was also utilized for the LHWP Phase I, continuing into Phase II. Capital market funding is the main source of funding, supported or complemented by DFIs from major banks.

There is now for the Phase II a concerted effort by the Lesotho Highlands water Commission and the Authority to maximize participation of Lesotho and RSA contractors, especially black-owned entities, ensuring that no one consultant may manage more than one construction contracts.

All advance infrastructure work is restricted to those contractors registered in the two countries, whilst for the main works participation will be broadened further.

As this was not a tender briefing session, it will be important that at the time of the advertisement of the tenders, there will be a need to read and follow the tender instructions completely and to the letter.

There was also a deep impression made for the participants to understand that no corrupt practices are encouraged, nor will they be tolerated.

END

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