

RSA (Post-1994): Lesotho Highlands Water Project: Katse Dam

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Form: Circular

By: Truggi(?) (onv,) / S, Johnson (rev.)

Date: 1997

Ref: Laidlaw: 1330;

Variations:

Size	Metal	Mass	Value
61 mm	Bronze	112.9 gm	\$20

Edge: Plain. Thickness 4 mm.

Obverse: View of Katse Dam, the dam wall and mountains behind. Signed: "truggi" at the bottom. Legend above: "H.W.V. - LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER VENTURE (IMPREGGIO SPONSOR).LHC" and below between stops: "1991 KATSE DAM 1997"

Reverse: Against a background map of the Lesotho river system, at top the coat of arms of Lesotho; below that a square marker "KATSE / DAM"; and at the bottom the emblem of the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority. Signed: "S. JOHNSON" at bottom right. Legend above: "KINGDOM OF LESOTHO" and below between : "LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER PROJECT"

Notes: The Katse dam is part of a larger scheme to harness the water resources of the Lesotho Highlands. A consortium of local and South African contractors constructed the dam between 1991 and 1997.

The Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) is a multi-phased project to provide water to the Gauteng region of South Africa and to generate hydro-electricity for Lesotho. It was established by the 1986 Treaty signed by the governments of the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Republic of South Africa. The project entails harnessing the waters of the Senqu/Orange River in the Lesotho highlands through the construction of a series of dams for the mutual benefit of the two countries. Phase I of the project was completed in 2003 and inaugurated in 2004, and Phase II is currently underway. The project has been plagued by corruption but is expected to be completed by 2026.