

# **LHDA Brings Electricity to Pontšeng Communities and Schools**

The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) has connected 198 households and two primary schools in the Mohale Catchment to the national electricity grid. This project, funded with M17,834,551.23 from communal compensation for communities affected by the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP), is being carried out by Tough Services Construction company.

The Lesotho Electricity Company awarded the contract to Tough Services for this 15-month project, which began on March 1, 2025, and is set to finish by May 31, 2026. The project brings electricity to seven villages: Ha Likomisi, Ha Makhobalo, Ha Lebiletsa, and its five sub-villages (Seteisheneng, Ha Mphakho, Ha Tholoana, Ha Matsoai, and Phomolo), as well as Pontšeng and Ha Mphakho Primary Schools.

Ha Lebiletsa Chief, Mr. Robose Phohleli, said the project bridges the gap between urban and rural lifestyles. He noted that it supports LHDA's social development goals, uplifts rural livelihoods, and boosts local economies.



Local Councillor Honourable Montle Mokhele added, "This is more than just electricity. It transforms lives by enabling electric lighting, refrigeration, and appliances for modern living. It also helps small businesses and schools operate more effectively and safely." Resident Mrs. Makopano Nkalosi expressed excitement, saying, "Our children can study at night, we can charge phones at home, and preserve food better."

This electrification project replaces paraffin lamps and firewood with clean, efficient energy. It supports better education, job creation, and livestock safety, aligning with LHDA's commitment to improving lives in Lesotho.