On April 5, 1971, the World Bank made a loan of $70 million for the construction of a 700-megawatt hydroelectric plant and associated transmission facilities at Salto Osorio on the Iguacu River to meet the expected growth of power demand in South Brazil.

The project, with an estimated cost of $152.3 million, is the major element in the 1971-76 construction program of the Centrais Eletricas do Sul do Brasil S.A. (Eletrosul). It will be located at a natural falls known as Salto Osorio in the State of Parana, and includes about 970 miles of 230-kilovolt transmission lines as well as engineering, training and managerial services.

Among those present at the signing of the loan documents were, The Honorable Jose Maria Villar de Queiros, Minister without Portfolio, Government of Brazil; Dr. Virgilio Barco, Executive Director of World Bank for Brazil; The Honorable Delfim Neto, Minister of Finance of Brazil; Mr. Robert S. McNamara, President of World Bank; Dr. Mario Lannes Cunha, President of Eletrosul; and Dr. Fernando Marcondes de Mattos, Finance Director of Eletrosul. Standing: Mr. Thomas Clyde and Miss M. Elisabeth Poppala, from the Legal Department of the World Bank.

Photo: Edwin G. Raffanan for WORLD BANK.