



PRESS RELEASE

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Phase I of Environmental Cleanup Completed at the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor

Bayonne, May 15, 2003 – The first phase of remediation for the environmental cleanup at The Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor has been completed – on schedule and under budget.

Phase I included cleanup of the old boiler house at area 44C, along with several other smaller sites scattered around the former Military Ocean Terminal including buildings 105 and 108.

Additionally, sludge was removed from the recently de-commissioned sewage treatment plant.

“This was a very successful cleanup project,” said James Monkowski, Bayonne’s Environmental Specialist.

“Initial cost estimates for Phase I of the clean up were close to \$2 million, the BLRA was able to complete Phase I for just under \$750,000, which provides a nice level of comfort for the BLRA as it begins the second phase of remediation,” said Monkowski.

Contractors, Clean Earth, Inc., of Winslow, NJ, excavated and removed almost 16 feet of contaminated soil from area 44C leaving a 250x150 ft. hole which was later filled with concrete aggregate recycled from buildings previously demolished on The Peninsula.

In total, 1,100 cubic yards of non-hazardous materials were shipped off-site and will be recycled. About 165 cubic yards of hazardous materials were sent off site to a landfill in Michigan. The contaminated materials were PCB's (Petroleum Hydrocarbons) from storage tanks, PAHs (polyaromatic hydrocarbons) from old boilers, along with base neutrals.

In addition, fifteen drums of oil soaked material, almost 5,000 gallons of oil and 300,000 gallons of water were removed during the Phase I clean up.

The environmental cleanup project is designed to meet both federal standards as well as New Jersey’s state regulations, which are among the most stringent in the country.

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“The completion of this first phase of remediation allows the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority (BLRA) to make more land at The Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor available for interim leasing and long term redevelopment,” said Nancy A. Kist, Executive Director, BLRA.

“Freeing up these additional parcels of land will help us generate revenues for the planning and execution of other infrastructure projects needed at the Peninsula,” Kist added.

The second phase of remediation involves cleanup and closure of the landfill left behind by the military.

“The Landfill will be the largest and toughest part of the cleanup,” said Monkowski. “It will also carry the biggest price tag.”

Bids for Phase II will go out in mid to late August and groundbreaking is anticipated to begin in October. Phase II is estimated to take well over a year to complete.

“We anticipate completion of the entire environmental cleanup by January or February of 2005,” Kist said. “

In September 2001 the BLRA and the U.S. Army agreed to the Army’s first-ever Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA). Under the terms of the ESCA the Army has provided \$11.6 million to fund the environmental clean up required to make the site suitable for the land uses outlined in redevelopment plan for The Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor.

The BLRA is responsible for the execution of the clean up program which must meet both the standards of the federal government and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP).

Future plans for The Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor call for a vibrant mixed-use waterfront development plan comprised of residential, light industrial, commercial and office space. The site will also feature a marina with ferry service, access to public transportation, more than two miles of waterfront walkway and numerous recreational areas with parks and playgrounds.

For more information, please contact Nancy Kist at the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority at (201) 823-0333.

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