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JT CLEARY INSTILLS KINGPILE BULKHEAD AT SOUTHWEST BROOKLYN MARINE TRANSFER STATION

Chestnut Ridge, NY

By Carol Shobrook
ew York-based marine contractor JT Cleary recently completed installation of a new Kingpile bulkhead on the east side of the Southwest Brooklyn marine transfer station for the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY). JT Cleary used a barge-mounted crane to install a heavy Kingpile system used to fender waste barges. JT Cleary was teamed with Prismatic Development Corp, the general contractor, to provide marine work, including the east bulkhead, dredging, marine demolition, and timberwork.

The bulkhead runs alongside an existing retaining wall and is part of the conversion of the Southwest Brooklyn marine transfer station. The upgrade is part of DSNY’s plan to replace truck-based export of solid waste with a reliable and environmentally sustainable system. Barges and rail are the preferred modes of transport under this plan, and the new east bulkhead will service barge traffic at the newly re-constructed transfer station for DSNY-managed waste.

“The New York Harbor is an underutilized asset. Today, highways are backed up for miles, but when you look at the waterway, you see only a few vessels, where there used to be hundreds. It is time to get garbage trucks off congested streets and start using the waterway again. The new bulkhead and dredged basin will ensure safe and efficient barge traffic and help realize the vision of a sustainable waste management program for the City. Our company is glad to be a part of it,” noted Jim Cleary, President & CEO of JT Cleary.

JT Cleary used its expertise to overcome challenges at the project site, including underwater debris and obstruction that the company had to remove, such as historical wharves, an old car, and a sunken boat. Accustomed to working in New York’s harsh winter weather, the company took extra safety precautions, due to the location’s exposure to northwesterly winds.