

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 28, 2026

McCRACKEN COUNTY FISCAL COURT ADDRESSES CONCERNS REGARDING SOIL REMOVAL FROM GENERAL MATTER SITE

County emphasizes transparency, factual review, and protection of public health and private property

PADUCAH, Ky. — The McCracken County Fiscal Court is responding to community concerns regarding the reported removal of soil from the property leased by General Matter at the U.S. Department of Energy's Paducah site and the reported placement of that soil on private property within McCracken County.

The Fiscal Court recognizes that residents have questions about the origin of the soil, the locations where it may have been transported, the approvals or requirements applicable to the activity, and whether appropriate environmental and public-health safeguards were followed.

The publicly released Leasing Data Package for Leasing Parcel A contains extensive information concerning the approximately 100-acre General Matter lease property, including site history, records searches, inspections, environmental sampling, risk evaluations, land-use controls, groundwater restrictions, and other safeguards. The document concludes that the property is suitable for industrial use subject to the lease requirements and protections described in the package.

"McCracken County residents deserve clear, accurate information about material removed from an industrial site and placed elsewhere in the county," Judge/Executive Craig Clymer said on behalf of the Fiscal Court. "Transparency requires identifying what occurred, where the material was taken, and which standards and safeguards applied. We want the public's concerns addressed with facts. The dirt being removed from the site is deemed safe for removal. "

The county will encourage the appropriate entities to make responsive records and findings available to the public to the extent permitted by law.

This commitment promotes transparency in new growth by giving residents access to the information needed to understand how development activities are conducted and reviewed. Open communication also allows questions to be identified early, helps responsible parties respond directly, and supports public confidence that economic development will proceed with accountability.

The Fiscal Court cautions that community concerns should not be treated as confirmed findings before the relevant facts and records are reviewed. The county will communicate verified information as it becomes available through appropriate public channels.

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McCracken County Fiscal Court