



Contributed

A 2024 rendering of the Paducah Laser Enrichment Facility — a proposed \$1.76 billion project developed by Global Laser Enrichment.

# LASER

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In its petition filed May 5, the Kentucky Resources Council questioned whether the DOE has the authority to sell or transfer depleted uranium to a private company and whether the environmental analysis completed for the facility is sufficient.

Regarding the legality of the DOE transferring depleted uranium, the KRC pointed to the 1996 USEC Privatization Act.

“Congress, however, limited this authority in 1996 when it passed the USEC 15 Privatization Act, which prohibits the Secretary of Energy from transferring or selling any uranium except as consistent with the act’s specific terms and conditions,” the petition states.

The organization also questioned whether the environmental review complied with the National Environmental Policy Act, sharing that they see a “failure to develop and provide sufficient site-specific

analysis of the proposed facility.”

“The NRC staff cannot lawfully fulfill its National Environmental Policy Act obligations by relying on a draft document that has not undergone final public resolution,” the petition states.

The Sun reached out to the KRC for more clarity and information regarding the petition, but has not heard back as of the time of publication. The Sun also reached out to Global Laser Enrichment, which had no comment on the petition.

# VIRAL

FROM PAGE A1

I mean, the debris was everywhere, and there’s no other second car,” Mouser said. “I was like, ‘I need to make a video on that to try to help this lady out.’”

His post on TikTok and Facebook collectively had more than 100,000 views and many comments.

“Everybody’s just asking, I mean, what caused it and where it is,” Mouser said. “I’m not sure if it was a drunk driver (or) somebody not paying attention, but the fact that they fled the scene tells me it was probably a drunk driver not being smart with his actions. I mean, anybody in their right mind would have definitely stopped and made stuff right.”

He said he thinks many hit-and-runs happen downtown.

“I’ve seen a lot more action downtown. I mean, throughout the week or weekends, it really doesn’t matter the day. Alcohol runs deep on these streets down here with all these local bars,” Mouser said.

Paducah Police Department’s Community Engagement Officer Blake Quinn said hit-and-run investigations are common.

“There are a number of crimes that occur in Paducah; however, we do see quite a bit of hit-and-runs throughout the city at all hours of the day and night,” Quinn said. “Because we have so much vehicle traffic, they occur all over town. It could be somewhere here in Midtown, all the way out west. It’s really dependent on the time and the day when those hit-and-runs occur.”

Locals downtown also shared similar experiences with hit-and-run collisions. Quinn said there are a variety of causes for these types of collisions.

“Very often, what they could be is something as simple as inattention. If someone’s on their phone or they’re playing with the radio or anything like that, it could draw their attention away from the roadway,” Quinn said. “But there could be other instances; if it’s in the evening, it could be attributed to a combination of factors such as inattention and driving while intoxicated.”

He said finding the culprit depends on the evidence.

“If there’s compelling evidence, that certainly makes our jobs easier. That would be good eyewitness accounts, or video cameras, whether it be from a business or a residence,” Quinn



ZOE LEWIS | The Sun

After a hit-and-run incident on Mother’s Day weekend, debris sits on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in Paducah.

said. “We’re going to work this case as hard as we can and develop as many leads as possible to make sure that we hold someone responsible for the incident.”

Quinn explains that there are many ways someone can prevent their car from being involved in a hit-and-run accident.

“If you do park on the street or you park in a public space, some recommendations we would encourage are, if you have the ability, park in a driveway or behind a residence. If you do that, that will reduce

your chance of being struck,” Quinn said.

He also said the damage from hit-and-run collisions varies.

“There’s not going to be a common damage for that because it varies. Depending on the incident, it could be something as simple as a paint scrape or a little bump in the bumper, or it could be something where the vehicles are totaled,” Quinn said. “That’s something that we’re going to work closely with the vehicle owner and the insurance company to get an assessment of

that damage and do what we can to make sure that they’re compensated.”

Quinn explains that most hit-and-runs happen when the vehicles are occupied.

“However, there are instances that occur if the vehicle is unoccupied. When we get those types of calls, we’re going to do what we can to investigate that thoroughly. We take every one of these cases very seriously, so we’re going to do our part to make sure that we do what we can to find the person responsible for it,” Quinn said.

According to PPD’s 2024 Annual Report, 47% of all collisions were caused by inattention. He said drivers also need to be attentive to the road while they’re driving to avoid incidents like these.

“If you’re operating a motor vehicle, that responsibility falls on you and the vehicles around you, so people are trusting you to make good decisions. Take the time, put the cell phone down, stop messing with the radio and do what you can to help keep the public safe,” Quinn said.

PPD Assistant Chief of Operations Jordan Murphy said they are still investigating the collision on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, and no one has turned themselves in.

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