

Clemson finds new spot for Duke Energy steam plant

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Clemson University has announced a new spot for the generating plant Duke Energy plans to build to serve the city and campus.

"It's going in a section of campus called Kite Hill, which still meets the needs of the university but also addresses the concerns of residents," according to university spokesman Mark Land. "The site will minimize the visibility of the facility,

and what noise the plant will produce won't be audible off campus.

"The university very much appreciates the feedback it received from the community and took those concerns to heart in finding a solution that allows this important project, which will benefit both the university and the larger community, to move forward," Land continued.

Land said university officials have met with Duke and

city officials to confirm the new spot.

The plant would sit on the down slope of Kite Hill facing back into campus, just west of the intersection of Perimeter Road and U.S. 76.

It will generate up to 16 megawatts of electricity for the power grid and produce heat for campus buildings.

Clemson Mayor J.C. Cook briefed the city council on the plan Monday night, and the council voted to hold a public

meeting Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall for any residents who want to learn more.

A public uproar in early April forced Duke and the university to rethink plans to build on university-owned land next to the Clemson Armory property on U.S. 76, near several homes on Vineyard Road and Roslyn Drive.

Neighbors objected to 75-foot emission stacks looming over their neighborhood, and the city council voted to oppose the proposed site.