



South Dakota Board of Geographic Names PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

The South Dakota Board of Geographic Names (SDBGN) is a state commission created in 2009 by SDCL Chapter 1-19C to recommend revision of offensive names for geographic places. The SDBGN has adopted a Public Involvement Process which seeks public comment on the existing historic name and offering recommendations and justification for the new name. The SDBGN is also following the United States Board of Geographic Names' principles, policies, and procedures. For further information visit <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/policies.htm>.

The current legislation directs the SDBGN to rename any features with the word "Negro" in the name. As a result of public input, a number of comments have been received stating that the individuals or organizations represented do not find the word offensive. Based on those public comments, SDBGN is seeking additional input from the public regarding the use of the word "Negro" as a part of a name for geographic features in the State.

Is the use of the word "Negro" as a part of a name of a geographic feature offensive or not offensive? The board is also interested in any additional historical, ethnic or cultural comments regarding the word's use in names of geographic features. Please share your comments below.

Public Comment Regarding Use of the Word "Negro" as a part of name of geographic features:

Submitted by:

Name:

Title (if representing organization or public entity):

Organization or Public Entity (if applicable):

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email Address:

Comments should be submitted no later than August 1, 2013. Submit comments to:

SD Board on Geographic Names

Dept. of Tribal Relations

302 East Dakota

Pierre, SD 57501

Email: carol.postulka@state.sd.us

Or access Public Comment Form: <http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov/>