**COGNA – State Report**

State: South Dakota

Name/Title of Person submitting report: 
June Hansen, Board Chair of SD Board on Geographic Names

**Board History & Structure:** Established in 2009 by SD Legislature to rename features with Squaw & Negro & expanded to handle requests to name unnamed features. 2014 Negro was removed as offensive at request of African American SD Citizens so those remaining features were not renamed.

Board consists of representatives from 5 state agencies (State Historical Society, Tribal Relations, Tourism, Transportation and Agricultural & Natural Resources)

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<th>Include:</th>
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<td>• Legislatively mandated?</td>
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<td>• How often does your board meet:</td>
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<td>• Number of board members:</td>
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<td>• Does your State request to manage name proposals prior to submission to BGN?</td>
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SDBGN is not allowed to take any action or propose new name to rename a feature unless the SD Legislature has determined the name to be offensive or insulting.

Do you have or anticipate any changes to your board or its processes in the future? **YES** | **NO**

If so, how: ____________________________________________

Current issues/recent decisions? **No current issues or pending decisions.**

The most recent action was to propose the name of Arikara Creek for unnamed creek in Hughes County, South Dakota. SDBGN work primarily is naming unnamed geographic features in South Dakota as requested by citizens, civic groups or governmental entities.

Please return to Christine Johnson before 9/10/22 and ckjohnson@cogna50usa.org. All State Reports will be read at COGNA conference for educational purposes (whether SNA representatives are present or not).
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Is anyone from your state attending COGNA (in person or virtually) in MD this year?  

[ ] YES  
[ ] NO

Do you anticipate attending COGNA in Oregon (presently set for Sept 2023)?

[ ] YES  
[ ] NO

Do you have any final thoughts/questions that could be shared or included here in the State Round Table discussion session during the conference?

SDBGN has a very established public involvement process to ensure the public has ample opportunity to comment on any proposed names.

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