

**BGN CORRESPONDENCE FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 6, 2024**

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**Sent:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024 4:00 AM

**To:** Matthew Rothstein <[Matthew.Rothstein@lakecountyca.gov](mailto:Matthew.Rothstein@lakecountyca.gov)>

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**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for Lake County's recommendation on Kelseyville to Konocti name change

Good morning Mr. Rothstein. Thank you for contacting us regarding this matter.

How long do you anticipate this matter will be under review?

--- It's not possible to predict the timeframe. The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) meets monthly but will not vote on the matter until all parties have had an opportunity to provide input.

Do you anticipate making FAQ sheets or other information on BGN's process/approach in connection to this specific matter publicly available?

--- The BGN does not prepare FAQ sheets or other information for pending proposals. A summary of the proposal, i.e., the information and input received at the time the case brief is prepared, is provided via the Quarterly Review List available at <https://www.usgs.gov/us-board-on-geographic-names/dnc-review-lists> (this proposal is included on Review List 454, pgs. 7-11 of the PDF document).

Will comments be formally invited from members of the public during a prescribed period of time (in addition to ongoing informal submittal of comments)?

--- The introduction to each Review List notes that any interested party is welcome to comment, and that input can be submitted to the BGN by mail or email. There is no process for formally inviting the public to comment.

Will submitted comments be published on BGN webpages? Will they be vetted for accuracy?

--- A summary of the comments received will be included in the final docket, i.e., the case summary that is provided to the BGN members prior to the meeting at which the decision will be made. They will not be made public, nor does the BGN have the ability or resources to vet each comment that is submitted.

What level of research into this application and public input provided do you anticipate will be undertaken by BGN?

--- The BGN staff researches the history of the existing name and the proposed replacement, relying on available sources, both online and in the BGN's library of place name books, and from information provided by interested parties. The BGN relies on the county government, the State Geographic Names Authority, Federal land management agencies (if the feature is located on federally managed land), and federally recognized Tribes to provide input. The BGN does not have the resources to conduct additional research, but trusts that the aforementioned parties will do so and will do additional outreach as needed. The BGN recognizes that county boards are elected to represent their citizens and trusts they will issue a recommendation that represents the opinions of those citizens.

Will work products of BGN's own analysis be made publicly available?

--- The only publicly available documents are the Quarterly Review List, which is prepared shortly after receipt of the proposal, and the monthly meeting docket, which is appended to the meeting minutes and posted online following approval at the following meeting.

Are Federal resources typically provided to Counties when a name change is under consideration within their boundaries? If so, do you have information on how the County of Lake would access these?

--- The BGN does not have resources to provide to local jurisdictions, but its staff is available to respond to any questions.

Best regards,  
Jennifer