NSW GOVERNMENT | Geographical Names Board

Naming a place

The Geographical Names Board of New South Wales (GNB) is the official body for naming and recording details of places and geographical names.

A place name is the most common way to identify your location or where you live. It connects people to a place. How we apply names is important for many reasons including emergency services, economic development, preserving history and creating community.

Anyone who is interested in submitting an application to name a place should be aware of the GNB application process below.

Naming a place (e.g. a park or railway station)

1 Council, government authority or the community submit a proposed name to the GNB.

2 GNB Secretariat reviews the submission against relevant policies and principles and prepares a report for the next Board meeting for consideration.

If the name is proposed by the community it is forwarded to the relevant local council or government agency for its endorsement.

3 GNB's possible options:

✖ If rejected, GNB will contact the applicant and advise them to reconsider the submission.

🕐 If deferred, GNB will seek further information

✔ If supported, GNB Secretariat opens the proposed name to the members of the public for comment. Advertising period is open for one month.

4 If no objections are submitted by the public, the name becomes official and the GNB updates the official NSW mapping database and Geographical Names Register, or

⚠ If any objections are submitted they will be forwarded to relevant local council or government authority for comments. The Board will review submissions and either reject, alter or endorse the name. A report which sets out the grounds for the submissions is prepared for the Minister. If approved, it becomes the official geographical name and NSW mapping databases and the Geographical Names Register are updated.

Useful links from gnb.nsw.gov.au:

Place Naming Policy

Guidelines for the Determination of Place Names

Propose a Place Name