

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Brittany Calame](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Friday, August 17, 2018 7:28:56 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 4:08 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS BOARD PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS TBPG

First Name: Charles

Last Name: Baugh

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with: GiF Services, LLC

Email:

City: Lewisville

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or  
Opposed: Opposed, see prior comments

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The TCEQ is the agency that appears to most utilize the Geoscience requirements and the the TCEQ already has an Occupational licensing section. As such, if abolishing the TBPG is absolutely necessary, perhaps the Geoscience registration could be moved to the TCEQ's Occupational licensing section.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Brittany Calame](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Thursday, August 16, 2018 12:11:03 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 11:59 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS BOARD PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS TBPG

First Name: Charles

Last Name: Baugh

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with: GiF Services, LLC

Email:

City: Lewisville

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I strongly disagree with the recommendation to abolish the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists based on the conclusion of "No measurable Public Benefit." First of all, if that is the sole measure of evaluation, then certification of other professionals such as teachers, cosmotologists and several other professions should have been abolished, but to my knowledge, the Sunset has not issued that recommendation. Why? because it is important to have professionals such as teachers and cosomotologists qualified and accountable. Geoscientists are no different. The Sunset Commission did not consider the current and projected decline in morals and ethics in our culture. This decline presents the necessity of vetting and accountability that comes with licensing. Secondly, Regarding the relatively high percentage of "Grandfathered" licensees, this is not unusual. Most every licensing or certifying agency started with a set of requirements that effectively grandfathers in existing professionals. With time and consideration those standards were increased. The Sunset Commissions report omitted data on the historic percentages of licensees that are certified through the current, more stringent criteria, which are increasing and will increase with time. Thirdly, The Sunset Commission appear to minimize licensing of geoscientists as a means screening professionals. A significant number of financial institutions, real estate developers, state agencies and municipal agencies require geoscience certification as one of several criteria to evaluate professionals for geoscience work as ell as environmental work. Licensure by the State of Texas is effective because it is a State Agency subject to transparency and able to conduct enforcement. A private certification agency would not have the same level of transparency and enforcement. Simpy because no disaster was identified by the Commission to have occurred due to unlicensed persons practicing geoscience, is a very low standard. In contrast, the Commission failed to compare the number of disasters that have occurred due to persons that were unlicensed in other professions. Fourthly, by the Sunset Commission's own evaluation, the TBPG is self funded and provides additional revenue to the General Revenue. Why would we not want a self funded agency that provides professional qualifications? Lastly, by not having Professional Geoscience licensing, I

would essentially be eliminated from work for clients that require it. As an environmental professional, I have often followed up on work by others in areas of practice outside of the Geoscience practice that was sub-par and possibly unethical. I have not encountered sub-par work or unethical work by licensed geoscientists.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Since I value my Geoscience licensing, I would favor an increase in fees.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree