

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: TBPG Abolition-Opposed
Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:57:44 PM

From: David Brannan
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:28 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: TBPG Abolition-Opposed

To Whom It May Concern,

I am currently a practicing geoscientist in the process of obtaining my Professional Geologist license working in Midland, TX. I am in favor of abandoning the proposal to abolish the Texas Board of Professional Geologists and continue this governing body under its current status.

Licensure for the practice of geoscience is a critical aspect of maintaining standards in the geoscience workforce. Although many current license holders carry grandfathered licenses, the need for setting up standards of practice for early career geoscientists remains. In my assessment of both the environmental and oil and gas industries the abolition of the TBPG will only cause more accidents and shortfalls that will impact public health and the future of the geoscience profession.

Direct experience in the oil and gas industry as well as an outside view of government and environmental agencies supports my assessment that removing licensure from the current standards for Texas geoscientists will only intensify the need for future regulation and oversight from the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that will require future legislation and regulation in excess of current public spending and regulation practices.

Thus, it is my assessment that removing the Texas Board of Professional Geologist will only conserve public resources momentarily. After the ill effects of a profession without standards of excellence are witnessed by general society more stringent regulation and certification practices will be recommended by general society at a greater cost to public resources.

Sincerely,

David Brannan
Geologist
[CrownQuest Operating, LLC.](#)