

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, August 13, 2018 7:39:13 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Sunday, August 12, 2018 10:19 PM
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: Alex

Last Name: Broun

Title: District Geologist

Organization you are affiliated with: Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

Email:

City: Dripping Springs

State: Texas

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

I am in favor of retaining the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists as the Texas agency certifying professional geoscientists and in their efforts to protect the public, the environment and the future of the natural resources of this State. I began my career in geology in 1956 joining a major, international oil company and retired from the same company many years later. I currently work as a volunteer geoscientist for a small groundwater conservation district. Overseas, working in Oil and Gas, it was the company that assumed the responsibility of professional work and ethical standards.

After retiring to Texas I was pleased to work as a volunteer and be certified as a professional by a well respected State agency. I am a professional geologist and I serve the public cause.

The groundwater district requires that a Professional Geoscientist or Engineer certify specific technical documents (aquifer pumping tests, major groundwater permits) submitted to the agency. We analyze the documents and make our recommendations but rely on the professional standards of the geoscientist or engineer that certifies not only the interpretation but the data acquisition. It is their "professional stamp" that is on the line, not just a check box. It is the public interest that is protected.

Our county requires a Water Availability Study for each new subdivision platted. The county forwards the study to our district for comment. The study must have the certification of a Professional Geoscientist or Engineer. We will work the problem but require that the study be of an acceptable professional standard. The TDLR, TCEQ and TWDB establish the regulations and guidelines but the TBPG sets the professional standards for the geoscientist.

I reiterate my support for the TBPG.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alex S. Broun P.G. 4845; Member AAPG (1960); Member AGS

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: None at this time.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree