

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Brittany Calame](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Thursday, August 16, 2018 11:22:06 AM

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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 11:16 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: Keith

Last Name: Copeland

Title: Project Geologist

Organization you are affiliated with: Ranger Environmental Services

Email: kjcope@RangerEnv.com

City: Austin

State: Texas

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

I have been a practicing environmental geologist since the early 1980s. I am convinced the TBPG and the Geoscience Practice Act have and continue to accomplish the intended purpose. I am opposed to the findings and recommendations of the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission concerning TBPG. The public has benefited greatly due to the higher standards now required for environmental work. This includes the thousands of environmental assessments conducted by PGs. The Texas business community has benefited millions of dollars from this program. Qualified PGs conduct and oversee geologic investigations identifying potential environmental impacts which results in savings in significant remediation and litigation costs.

The groundwater quality of the Edwards Aquifer has been protected significantly by the Geoscience Practice Act. Professional Geologists are required to conduct geologic assessments all along the Edwards Aquifer Recharge zone. These assessments have to be conducted by licensed PGs as required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. These assessments identify sensitive recharge features and assure that construction and development do not affect recharge quantity or quality. Only qualified licensed geologists can competently conduct these type of investigations. How do you put a beneficial cost saving to a groundwater resource that provides the majority of the water to the 7th largest city in the United States. I venture to state the beneficial cost savings to the public is astronomical.

Thank you for your consideration.

Keith Copeland, P.G.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I support continuing the TBPG. If it is to sunset, I

suggest merging it's duties and responsibilities with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree