

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Brittany Calame](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 14, 2018 5:17:07 PM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 5:17 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: Edward

Last Name: Ficker

Title: Professional Geologist

Organization you are affiliated with: Bennett, Bullock, and Associates LLC

Email:

City: Bertram

State: Texas

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

My name is Edward Ficker, Texas-licensed Professional Geoscientist No. 10033.

I am opposed to the recommendation of the Sunset Commission that the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG) be abolished because it serves no "protection of the public" purpose.

Licensure by the TBPG is a reliable means by which Texans are assured qualified individuals and companies adhere to standards of care and possess the academic rigor necessary to evaluate risks to human health and the environment. Specifically, the state's increasing population and their increasing demands on water resources underscore the need for protections offered by TBPG licensure.

The TBGP benefits the public by imposing continuing education requirements on individuals and companies practicing geoscience. State agencies such as Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Railroad Commission of Texas cannot and will not provide this assurance. Nor will these agencies require personnel to demonstrate competency prior to employment or as a condition to maintain permanent employment.

The cost of licensure and renewal is not a financial burden to me nor is it a burden to my clients. TBPG is solvent and adds revenue to the state's general fund.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The State Has a Continuing Need for the TBPG. Continue the TBPG for another 12 years.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree