

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, August 13, 2018 12:31:55 PM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 11:56 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: Graciela

Last Name: Moore

Title: Senior Geologist

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

I am opposed to abolishing the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists and the licensure they support. Professional geoscientists provide valuable assessments and research related to groundwater, subsurface concerns, and other areas. We have been trained and have the background knowledge to provide scientifically sound conclusions to protect the safety of the public.

Our knowledge of the subsurface and environmental interactions allow us to assess the protection of potential potable groundwater sources and the interactions of released hazardous constituents that could potentially cause harm to the environment and biota. In addition, geoscientists can provide geologically supported data and conclusions concerning geotechnical investigations in which construction of new infrastructure is involved. Without unregulated practice, the safety of the public concerning these matters is left in the hands of non-practicing, un-trained, persons that could potentially result in a situation that poses significant harm to the environment and its inhabitants. The fact that the Board has not received a complaint that posed significant harm or risk to the public should be a testament to having a regulated entity; no unqualified persons are submitting or providing assessment conclusions that are unsupported. Leaving the sole review of geologic assessments or permits to the regulating agencies is unfair on an already resource limited group as well as expensive.

As a practicing, licensed in several states, geologist, I have been involved with many projects that require a trained professional to assess the protection of underground sources of drinking water. I have also been involved with projects that require a trained professional to assess the protection of the environment from non-point source contaminants. For the safety of the public now and our future, I feel it is critical to have a regulated entity that guides a group of professionally trained geoscientists to be the qualified persons to review the safety of public health and the environment.

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

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree