From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Brittany Calame</u>

Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

**Date:** Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:19:20 PM

----Original Message-----

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission

Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:07 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: Fabienne

Last Name: Rambaud

Title: Geologist

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Email: fabienne.rambaud@tceq.texas.gov

City: Austin

State: Texas

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

Dear Sunset Commission members,

I am opposed to the abolishment of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists for the following reasons: The TBPG serves as a regulating entity for geoscientists by providing licenses to practice geology and keeping geoscientists accountable for their continuing education by logging in a minimum of training hours per year.

On permit applications received by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), geologic work is required to be sealed by a Professional Geoscientist (P.G.). That seal is a guarantee of quality. Without that P.G. seal there are no guaranties. I recently reviewed work sealed by a Professional Engineer where elevations below the surface and at mean sea level (MSL) were confused, a mistake a P.G. would most than likely have avoided. I need to be able to trust that the work submitted to me is reliable, that I will not have to go into the field to double check the information presented to me. The P.G. seal is a seal of trust, quality, and ethics.

The existing system works well. Why change it? The TBPG does not cost money.

It makes money. Geologists want to keep the Board. The Board gives us credibility and status. It differentiates people with experience from people without experience. Maybe there has not been any reports of malpractice because the system works and prevented bad work from being submitted.

Licenses matter to the public. A licensed professional stands with dignity and responsibility supervised by a Board that has power to revoke a license for misconduct. If the Board is abolished, we will be left with nothing.

Please keep the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: None

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree