

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Friday, August 10, 2018 1:00:06 PM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 11:52 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: Joseph

Last Name: Reilly

Title: Chief Geoscientist

Organization you are affiliated with: ExxonMobil Upstream Research Comapny

Email:

City: New Ulm

State: Texas

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

TBPG #2279 (Geophysics)

I have been practicing geophysics and geology in the state of Texas (and worldwide) since 1980. In my time I have seen and heard of numerous examples of unprofessional practice by persons representing themselves as professionals in the field. When I applied for a TBPG License in 2003 it was with the understanding that the states' intent was to use these new laws and standards to raise the quality of the profession within the state of Texas.

The Commission quite correctly points out that the state regulatory bodies have not taken advantage of the TBPG enforcement provisions and that the wide exemption clauses introduced later greatly reduce the ability for the TBPG to have any effect. My objection to the Commissions report is that this is being used as an argument to sunset the TBPG; when in fact it should be an alarm bell that that too many special interest groups have prevented the TBPG from having any real impact. In my opinion - that is the core problem to solve. Many states and countries (eg. Canada) have strong geoscience Licensing programs and there is little doubt that they help to raise the level of the profession and protect the public. Sunsetting the TBPG will only serve to lower the standards in Texas, and just as important, the outside world's opinion of the quality of Texas based geoscientists. This would be an unfortunate outcome considering that Texas prides itself as the petroleum services and innovation center for the world.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

Significantly reduce the exemptions

Require associated regulatory bodies to put specific provisions in their procedures with regard to TPBG licensed professionals.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree