



**Barton Springs  
Edwards Aquifer**

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

August 17, 2018

Texas Sunset Advisory Commission  
P.O. Box 13066, Austin, Texas 78711  
Email: [sunset@sunset.texas.gov](mailto:sunset@sunset.texas.gov)

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission,

I, as the General Manager of the Barton Creek/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (BSEACD), am stating my opposition to the Sunset Commission's recommendation to abolish the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG). Instead of abolishing protections afforded to the public, I respectfully ask that the Sunset Commission rather than abolish the agency and the standards of geoscience practice, it should recommend ways to improve the rules, protocols, and actions that would result in raising the bar of practice even higher.

By removing the TBPG, there would be no vehicle to keep the public's interests at the forefront of geoscience work, nor a mechanism (other than litigation) to keep out bad practitioners and provide restitution. A professional geologist licensure assures my agency AND the public of minimum standards of practice and the Code of Professional Conduct under which a geoscientist/geologist work is done.

Protecting the public health, safety, welfare, and the natural resources of Texas was the intent of the TBPG when it was formed. With the incredible growth of Texas, this mission is ever-more critical. The experience and perspective that is needed to manage groundwater in Texas—a vital resource – can only be assured through the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Reinmund-Martinez  
General Manager  
Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District