From: Sunset Advisory Commission

To: <u>Brittany Calame</u>

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

Date: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 4:43:51 PM

----Original Message-----

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

Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 4:36 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: Jennifer

Last Name: Rohrer

Title: Licensed Geologist

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

I support the continued licensure of Professional Geoscientists which I believe protects the public interest for several reasons.

I have worked as an environmental consultant for over 12 years (licensed for 7). One of my main responsibilities is evaluating the nature of contaminants in the subsurface and their potential pathways to sensitive receptors. My education in geology and hydrogeology has given me the expertise to determine if identified contaminants pose a risk to human health. As a licensed geologist, I am required to certify my work with my seal, which gives the reviewing regulator confidence that the data has been thoroughly analyzed by a competent geoscientist. It is my opinion that the regulatory agencies are not capable of digesting all of the data for every project, but instead need to work together with regulated geoscientists in order to make sure that the conclusions are sound and the public is protected.

Every year I am required to complete 15 hours of continuing education in order to maintain my license. In my experience, the continuing education requirement has enabled me to stay knowledgeable so that I can be more effective interpreting the fate and transport and conducting remediation of contaminants.

I have also had the opportunity to review the work conducted by consultants with experience but without a license and believe there is a recognizable decrease in the quality of work when compared to a licensed geoscientist. In my opinion, the complexities of interpreting the risks to the public caused by contamination should be performed by a licensed, regulated professional geoscientist.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: none

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree