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Mr. Morgan Constantino
Sunset Advisory Commission
P. O. Box 13066
Austin, Texas 78711

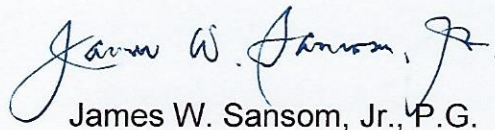
Dear Mr. Constantino:

I am writing you today relative to your review of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists. Since its inception in 2003 I have been licensed as a Geologist by the Board. Following my graduation from the University of Texas at Austin in 1963, I worked as an Engineering Geologist for four agencies: Texas Highway Department (Bridge Division Foundation Section), Texas Water Development Board (geological investigations of dam sites, canal routes, etc.), Texas Department of Water Resources (dam safety section), and the Railroad Commission of Texas (surface mine permitting of coal, lignite, and uranium mines). Since retiring from the State of Texas I have been a consulting geologist for 29 years doing Engineering Geology and Hydrogeology.

As you may or may not know, geologists are employed in numerous State Agencies (Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Water Development Board, Railroad Commission of Texas, General Land Office, Groundwater Conservation Districts, to name a few). In the Federal Government geologists are employed by the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Reclamation, Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Mines, to name a few). Also, numerous engineering and geological firms employ geologists in the consulting world. I have worked for some of these during my years as an independent consulting geologist, and they required a geologist licensed by the State of Texas to do their work because Texas State Agencies require licensed geologists to submit required submittals to them.

Most likely those in the Sunset Advisory Commission who are reviewing state agencies have had the need to employ an engineer, or architect, or accountant, or medical doctor, or geoscientist. When doing so, the criteria for hiring such professionals would include the qualifications that include an individual's education, experience in the needed field, and work history. Licensing by these State Professional Boards requires individuals to provide their qualifications and pass qualified testing in order to be licensed by the State of Texas. These licensing laws protect the public.

Sincerely,



James W. Sansom, Jr., P.G.