

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Sunset of TBPB
Date: Thursday, August 30, 2018 4:30:16 PM

From: Peter Schram
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 3:52 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Sunset of TBPB

Ladies/Gentlemen:

Please accept this email as a formal reply to the proposed "sunsetting" of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPB). As a practicing geologist (both oil/gas and environmental) I am a little surprised that the recommendation of the Sunset Commission is actually being considered. While I understand that a number of geologist/geophysicist do not require PG certification as they work in the private oil and gas sector, many geologists/geophysicists work in other fields and provide real services to the general public. I assume that if the Sunset Commission is really intent on dissolving the TBPB, they will also recommend that Texas abolish licensing requirements for Professional Engineers, attorneys, hairdressers, manicurists, plumbers, electricians, etc.

Obviously, the act of abolishing the TBPB will **open our borders** to everyone from any other state to profess knowledge about the State of Texas and its rules and regulations, geology, etc., and practice for the general public without concern of liability and the knowledge that his own state will protect his "turf" from Texas PG's. This is a bad idea and one that the Sunset Commission should be held accountable for in the event that "sunsetting" occurs and legal issues arise....they in fact should be considered "culpable".

While the fee's and continuing education requirements are somewhat burdensome, the benefits of professional registration are extensive. Whereas I might not have focused on ethics (as required annually), since registration I have taken the issue to heart and only wish that other professions had the same requirements. I continue to improve with the continuing education requirements and expand my skills and knowledge on a continual basis. And while I could certainly find other ways to spend the annual fees, I personally feel that the expense benefits me by making my skills, expertise, and experience worthy of my peer's regard.

It is my hope that the individuals who recommended "sunsetting" will be convinced of their error in judgement. It can be temporary and reversed, such that the State of Texas will continue to provide certification as protection to the general public.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Peter V. Schram, PG 214, CPG 4083