

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, August 27, 2018 3:46:01 PM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2018 2:16 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: Greg

Last Name: Sengelmann

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Gonzales

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or
Opposed:
August 27, 2018

Kevin Levine, Director
Texas Sunset Advisory Commission
P.O. Box 13066
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Mr. Levine:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report on the Texas Board of professional Geoscientists (TPBG).

I am opposed to the Staff Report recommendation to discontinue the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG).

Strong oversight by a competent board is encouraged for protecting the public through licensure of individuals and firms that perform certain geoscience services in Texas. The licensing process ensures the public that those performing geoscience work for the public in Texas have met defined levels of education and experience. The mere presence of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists and its rules and licensing processes have been highly successful in preventing abuses by non-qualified persons acting in the capacity of a geoscientist.

The overall key finding statement of the Sunset Commission staff was that the regulation of Professional Geoscientists "did not provide meaningful public protection." I disagree, and offer the following information to

substantiate my opposition.

I am the General Manager of a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD).

Decisions made by Groundwater Conservation Districts rely extensively on reports produced by geoscientists. Every day permitting decisions are premised in a mandate to balance the protection of landowners' rights with the management of the resource. Regional permitting decisions, that ultimately affect the State Water Plan, are fundamentally premised in long term planning decisions to protect the public and ensure that there is sufficient water for future needs. As such, demands on geology and geoscience are much greater today than they were in the past. Credible geoscience is essential to a GCD's ability to make sound, science based decisions, to ensure the protection of both landowners and the resource.

The 2012 Texas State Water Plan states that if drought of record conditions recur and water management strategies are not implemented annual economic losses from not meeting water supply needs could result in an approximate reduction in income of \$116 billion, lost commerce of \$9.8 billion, and lost jobs by 1.1 million by 2060. In addition, 50% of the state's population would face a water need of at least 45 percent of their demand by 2060. These are measurable impacts on protection of the public.

I urge that the Sunset Commission consider at least a 10 year extension for the TBPG in order to allow for further data gathering and analysis on the TBPG processes and impacts on the regulated community, the general public, and any impacts on other governmental entities, such as County governments, Groundwater Districts, etc.

Sincerely,
Greg Sengelmann
Greg Sengelmann, P. G.
TPGB License No. 1762

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: None

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree