

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Brittany Calame](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:28:52 AM

---

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:12 AM  
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: James

Last Name: Smith, P.G.

Title: General Manager

Organization you are affiliated with: Mesquite Groundwater Conservation District

Email:

City: Wellington

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: Mesquite Groundwater Conservation District has contracted with a TBPG certified professional geoscientist since the creation of the TBPG. The District also employs a TBPG professional geoscientist as the General manager. The District's mission is "to develop, promote, and implement water conservation, augmentation, and management strategies to protect groundwater resources for the present and future benefit of the citizens, economy, and environment". The mission directly impacts the welfare of all of the District's citizens, protecting their groundwater rights and to provide each citizen a secure, managed and sustainable groundwater supply for the future. Sealed TBPG documents are required for many district reports, research documents, and some court room proceedings. It is critical for the District to have highly qualified and professionally liable geoscientists to assist the District to complete this stated mission. The District's TBPG geologist must be able to interpret complex subsurface geology, create and interpret complex potentiometric surface maps in a multi-aquifer setting, calculate groundwater availability, build predictive and 3D geological groundwater models, provide professional litigation support, determine subsurface geological sources of contamination and provide professional counsel to the District's Manger and elected Board members. Professional engineers do not have the experience, or the professional skill sets to complete these tasks. Professional engineers are subject to reprimand and/or de-licensure for practicing in an area for which they do not have professional competency in. The removal of the TBPG would lead to the probable deterioration of the quality of reports and encourage the District's and other State agencies to hire professional geologists from other states. Professional geoscientists clearly provide for the protection of life and property of the state's citizens. The District opposes the closing of the TBPG.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The District recommends that TBPG be exempted from further Sunset review and be made a permanent agency of the state.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree