

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Thursday, August 16, 2018 5:58:36 PM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 5:34 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: William

Last Name: Smith

Title: Senior 2 Geologist

Organization you are affiliated with: Wood.

Email:

City: El Paso

State: Texas

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

1. The Sunset Advisory Commission (SAC) used wording from correspondence prior to enactment of legislation and TBPG as a basis for TBPG relevancy, which is inappropriate as no such language is in the charter.
2. The SAC cites no meaningful enforcement action has been taken against an individual or firm and TBPG has only issued minor offenses. The board's responsibility is to insure that all TXPG's are abiding by the guidance of the charter. The fact that only minor offenses have been noted to date suggests that the existing PG's take great responsibility in providing best practices.
3. The SAC suggested that only half of the States in the US have a PG requirement but all states have a PE. This is an inappropriate conclusion as not all states had PE mandate at the same time. More and more states are requiring PG licensing for environmental professionals. The bordering states to Texas have a PG requirement.
4. PG's and PE's work together to develop geotechnical and environmental plans for the state agencies (A Public Entity). If the PG is unqualified to categorize soil and other media the data the PE has to work with is mute.
5. A PG signs and stamps a variety of geological and environmental documents that benefits both private and public entities. The seal indicates that the person providing the conclusions and recommendations has the qualifications to support the conclusion.
6. The reason half of the states geologist are not required to be a PG, is the legislature would not pass the legislation due to resistance from the oil lobbies and companies.
7. The fact that the TBPG is a well run organization that does not apply a drag to the financial resources to the State of Texas and actually contributes unused funds to the General Revenue fund should be regarded as a plus.
8. The requirements to be a PG in the State of Texas are high. You must complete additional study a year to maintain your license which insures that the PG is up to date with the latest technological advances in which to apply best practices to private and public entities.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency:

- 1.Recommend keeping the PG practice.
- 2.Updating and notifying public about the PG practice and its benefit to the public.
3. Start a program to inform/recruit Junior/Senior/Graduate college students (who are on an environmental career tract) to look at the PG program so they can prepare and take course work that helps them advance to obtaining a PG.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree