

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Brittany Calame](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Thursday, August 16, 2018 5:02:39 PM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 4:21 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: John Gary

Last Name: Tucker

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

I am opposed to the decision to abolish the TBPG.

I am a Professional Geoscientist licensed in the States of Texas (License Number 638) and Louisiana (License Number 1200).

I work in the geotechnical consulting business where our clients rely on our consulting. Much of our consulting involves foundations and design for industrial, retail, and residential structures. Geologic hazards are a large part of the information our clients need so they can plan the life and safety of the structure. Services we provide include fault studies, geology, seismicity, hydrology, and near surface investigations.

The Sunset staff mentions: "found no examples or evidence of significant public harm directly attributable to unqualified or unlicensed geoscientists, either before or after the board's creation." Possibly the Sunset staff was looking for physical public harm. Before the board was formed, many projects were constructed without regard or knowledge to the local geology in the Greater Houston Area. As a result, there are hundreds of structures damaged by being constructed on top of active surface faults. These damages could have resulted in some physical harm to the public and I do know that much of the public has been harmed financially from not having a PG evaluate the site before construction. I have personally met and spoken to many of the public who have been financially harmed from active surface faults needlessly.

It appears to me that your biggest argument for abolishing the TBPG is for the "historical lack of meaningful enforcement action". I see nothing wrong with a profession doing good work. As a professional and a licensed geologist, I take pride in knowing that my work, advice, and recommendations can be reviewed at any time by the board to protect the public. My clients see the seal that I stamp on a report as a certification that the report is backed by the board and the State of Texas. This lets them know, that there is a system in place by our state that protects

them and the citizens of Texas.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: The alternative action I would suggest for this agency is to reverse the decision to abolish the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree