

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Monday, August 13, 2018 7:39:09 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Sunday, August 12, 2018 9:52 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: Robert

Last Name: Voorhies

Title: Senior Environmental Scientist

Organization you are affiliated with: A&B Environmental Services, Inc

Email:

City: Sugar Land

State: Texas

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

I am writing in opposition to abolishing the TBPG. After 10 years as a petroleum geologist I moved to the field of Environmental Geology in 1990 and have been active in that area since. Before licensing I saw many instances of unqualified people providing geology related services that were poorly planned and carried out and resulted in junk reports that mislead clients.

This was especially true in Phase 2 type investigations with the public receiving reports that indicated a contaminated property was clean and instances where a property that had no regulated levels of contaminants was found to have problems and required additional testing, with the additional costs being paid by the clients. I have seen these problems drastically reduced since the establishment of licensing for Geologists. Based on my professional experiences it is obvious that the PG licensing has been protective to the public.

I take exception with the comment that persons who were licensed in the 1st year without taking the ASBOG examinations may somehow be less competent.

This was also done for licensed Asbestos Consultants and Mold Consultants, who are required to have Bachelors degrees in science or engineering. In the 1st year of licensing for both this requirement was waived and replaced by proof of experience. Does this mean that those people are also less competent? All PG applicants were required to have a minimum of a BS degree and 5 years of verifiable experience. Any PGs who were licensed in that 1st year are now the most experienced and knowledgeable in the field.

I will be retiring in a few years so elimination of the TBPG will have little personal impact on me. Based on my 28 years of experience the PG licensing has been instrumental in ensuring that the citizens of Texas receive competent professional services that protects their interests in the assessment of properties for contamination. This includes protection of drinking water and economic impact for property transactions.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I strongly believe that the TBPG should be allowed to continue in their current role.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree