

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Friday, August 17, 2018 7:28:59 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 6:00 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: Paul

Last Name: Ware

Title: Texas PG

Organization you are affiliated with: Paul Ware Geoscience LLC

Email:

City: Bellaire

State: Texas

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

I have been registered as a PG since the board's inception. While it is true that a huge number of people were grandfathered in at the beginning, it is also true that many people have subsequently let their registration lapse once they realized that there were requirements (annual tests, Continuing Education hours incl. Ethics questions, etc). Of course, that's not the only reason. Colleagues have told me that they resent the cost (I pay a personal fee of \$300 plus an additional \$300 for my

LLC) when there seems to be little point in the qualification if they work within the freewheeling confines of the Petroleum industry. I think this last point is the key. Big corporations emasculated the legislation from the start and--since the majority of geoscientists work in Texas are associated with oil and gas work--the Board actually only regulates a small fraction of the workforce.

Note: I love engineers--I couldn't do my work without them--but they do not have more than a basic knowledge of geophysics and geology (and vice versa).

If the Professional Geoscientists Board disappears, the Engineers will take over the function--just like they used to. That may not matter to the average voter, who knows little about what engineers and geoscientists do, let alone their differences, but it should. Why not get rid of Professional boards for lawyers, dentists and heart surgeons and let their jobs be done (and only done) by engineers?

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Instead of adopting a Trumpian view of ALL regulation being evil, why not improve the applicability of the current rules and enforce them more? Include all geoscience functions and make the testing more relevant to all aspects of the science? The climate is changing, aging dams and infrastructure needs to be designed for future weather systems, not just by pouring more concrete in watersheds; earthquakes due to misplaced water disposal wells are increasing; droughts and declining groundwater are leading to devastating fires; and charlatans with talk of billions of barrels of "discovered" oil in the Permian basin are manipulating markets. Is this really a good time to just give up?

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree