

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 7:58:36 AM

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

From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov <sunset@sunset.texas.gov> On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:16 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 TPG

First Name: Joel

Last Name: White

Title:

Organization you are affiliated with:

Email:

City: Austin

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: I am writing to oppose the Sunset Staff Report Issue 1. I do not think the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists should be abolished. I think geoscientists should be licensed in order to perform work, just like engineers need to be, because they oversee work relating to earthquakes, flooding, groundwater quality and remediation, and other issues that can directly effect public safety. The TPG provides an ethical framework and means of ensuring that competent professionals perform work in Texas. When a geologist makes decisions about how to clean up groundwater at a Superfund site, the decisions they make can result in people who drink that water being kept safe, or exposed to toxins. The state should have a role in ensuring that only people with appropriate credentials get to make decisions like that.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Instead of recommending the TPG be abolished for reasons such as too many geoscientists being exempt from licensing (i.e. oil and gas) and not enough disciplinary actions being taken, tighten the rules regarding exemption of licensing. The answer to an agency without enough teeth could be to give it better teeth, rather than to scrap it altogether.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree