

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Abolishment of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists
Date: Friday, August 24, 2018 10:11:29 AM

From: Anna Williamson
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 9:39 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission <Sunset@sunset.texas.gov>
Subject: Proposed Abolishment of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists

Hello:

It was brought to my attention by my employer, Laura Rectenwald (of Titanium Environmental Services, LLC), that the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission has recommended abolishing the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists. I feel that this is a mistake based on the services that professional geoscientists (PGs) provide, such as looking into contaminated sites that may fall under CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act). No one wants more environmental disasters like Love Canal (New York) or Tar Creek (Oklahoma), where citizens suffered adverse health effects and had to be removed from the area.

The PG license provides the service of having a qualified environmental professional assess the possibly contaminated area under a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA). This license helps to protect the innocent landowner that may have bought the contaminated site without a proper background being done of the property and can help make sure that the guilty are not continuing their unlawful, hazardous actions and can be brought to justice. The PG license is important to Texas when selecting an environmental professional qualified to provide a Phase I ESA that will satisfy the requirements of 40 CFR 312. In 40 CFR Part 312, the United States Environmental Protection Agency defines an "environmental professional" as a person that holds as license as a professional engineer, a professional geologist, or a registration from a state to perform environmental inquiries. In Texas, the PG license provides a means for professionals in Texas other than engineers to perform these assessments.

Someone once said, "We did not inherit our future from our ancestors, we have borrowed it from our children." Help us protect future generations from past transgressions and keep the PG licenses in the hands of people that are qualified to recognize environmental hazards because the health and safety of citizens and environment are paramount.

Respectfully,
Anna Claire Williamson