

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)
Date: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 3:58:05 PM

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

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 10:08 AM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Form submission from: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Submitted on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 - 10:08

Agency: DEPARTMENT STATE HEALTH SERVICES DSHS

First Name: Douglas

Last Name: Shotwell

Title: President

Organization you are affiliated with: Enviro-Con Services, Inc.

City: Houston

State: Texas

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

Over 1,000 species of mold have been identified in US homes and buildings, of which 200 can produce mycotoxins. Some of the mycotoxins produced are carcinogens and others are mutagens and teratogens (birth defects). Mold, when uncontrolled, can be allergenic and exasperate asthma. Other species are pathogenic and cause deep tissue infection that can be fatal. There are millions of dollars spent a year in Texas alone on medical conditions caused by mold, primarily allergies and asthma.

The state of Texas experienced a "mold rush" in early 2000. Everyone wanted to get in the mold business. At the time, there were no regulations so anyone could call themselves a mold expert. There were many unethical practitioners in the mold business, and as a result, mold became regulated by the Texas Department of State Health Services in late 2004. With accredited classes, state exams and licenses, it helped to eliminate a lot of the corruption in the mold business.

Texas happens to be the leader over all other states with our mold regulations. There are several thousand licensed people employed in the mold business whose jobs would be jeopardized if the TMARR were rescinded. These regulations also create revenue for the state which is used for enforcement to protect public health. Without state oversight, regulation and enforcement, this industry will not regulate itself and again we will see the corruption of early 2000. Keep TMARR in place.

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Revise state exam.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree