



# **TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS**

## **Application Review and Continuing Education Committee**

April 28, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.  
Hobby Building, 333 Guadalupe Street  
Tower III, Room 102  
Austin, Texas 78701

### **AGENDA**

*The Committee may discuss and take action regarding any of the following agenda items.*

- A. Call to order, roll call, and certification of quorum.
- B. Approval of minutes from the February 4, 2016 committee meeting.
- C. Public comment (limited to five minutes per person; more time may be allotted as needed at the discretion of the committee chair).
- D. Discussion and possible recommendation to the full Board on the following:
  - Jesse G. White: Applicant for P.G. license requesting a waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology exam
  - Leigh Cunningham: Applicant for PG license requesting a waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology exam
- E. Review whether continuing education courses taught as technical/scientific courses that are equivalent to an upper division academic course with a primary learning objective of providing professional level education can be counted as “equivalent coursework” for the educational requirements for licensure per Texas Geoscience Practice Act (TGPA) §1002.255(a)(2).
- F. Consider possible changes to 22 TAC §851.31, Temporary License, to be consistent with statutory requirements found in TGPA §1002.258, for recommendation to the full Board for posting to the Texas Register for public comment.
- G. Consideration of whether all other state’s pre-ASBOG® geology competency examinations are equivalent competency examinations per TBPG Rule TAC §851.29(b)(2).
- H. Review TBPG rules and processes related to the “good moral and ethical character” license eligibility requirement in the TGPA §1002.255(a)(1). Consideration of whether any rules or processes should be changed in light of the Sunset Occupational Licensing/Regulation standard: “General Qualifications: Regulatory requirements and qualifications for licensure should be easily determined, clear, represent a current condition, and related to the practice of the profession.”
- I. Review TBPG processes related to: 1) qualifying applicants/examination candidates for examination and 2) administration for all parts of the ASBOG® and Texas Geophysics Examination (TGE). Consideration of whether any rules or processes should be changed in light of the Sunset Occupational Licensing/Regulation standard: “The agency should adopt clear procedures governing all parts of the testing process, including test admission and administration.”

- J. Review whether TBPG has a “compelling reason” for developing and using the TGE and, if so, develop a written justification for the TBPG’s use of the TGE. The Committee will consider also the explanation to the Sunset Occupational Licensing/Regulation standard: “The agency should adopt clear procedures governing all parts of the testing process, including test admission and administration” which generally states that an agency should use a national or regional testing service rather than developing its own test.
- K. Determine whether TBPG’s qualifying licensing examinations meet the Sunset Occupational Licensing/Regulation Model’s standard: “Licensing authorities should have confidence that the tests and testing processes adequately ensure the readiness of applicants to become licensed practitioners.” The Committee will assemble and review information that is available regarding the psychometric reviews each examination that demonstrates that this standard is met:
- ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology and ASBOG® Practice of Geology
  - CSSE Fundamentals of Soil Science and CSSE Practice of Soil Science
  - Texas Geophysics Examination (TGE)
- L. With regard to the explanation to the Sunset Occupational Licensing/ Regulation standard: “Educational requirements should be the minimum necessary to ensure competency of an entry level professional,” the Committee will consider whether the TBPG should have a policy relating to the substitution of experience for the education requirement for licensure. If so, the committee will draft a policy for consideration and possible adoption by the full Board.
- M. With regard to the explanation to the Sunset Occupational Licensing/ Regulation standard: “Educational requirements should be the minimum necessary to ensure competency of an entry level professional,” the Committee will consider whether the TBPG should have a policy relating to the waiver of the education requirement for licensure. If so, the committee will develop a draft policy relating to the waiver of the education requirement for licensure for consideration and possible adoption by the full Board.
- N. With regard to the explanation to the Sunset Occupational Licensing/ Regulation standard: “If the statute allows the agency discretion in the type or length of experience required or to waive experience, the agency should develop rules or written guidelines that clarify these requirements,” the Committee will consider whether the TBPG should have a policy relating to the waiver of the experience requirement for licensure. If so, the committee will develop a draft policy relating to the waiver of the experience requirement for licensure for consideration and possible adoption by the full Board.
- O. Exam Waiver Request Policy: The Committee is considering an amendment to the Boards current Policy on Examination Waivers (2008) and adoption of the proposed policy on the ASBOG® Practice of Geology examination waivers for possible recommendation to the Full Board for approval.
- P. Review of TBPG’s recent reciprocity agreement requests.
- Q. Report on Licensing Data, exam statistics, and associated equilibrium number.
- R. Date and agenda items for next meeting.
- S. Adjournment.

The Committee may meet in closed session on any agenda item listed above as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Gov. Code Chapter 551. If you require auxiliary aids, services or material in an alternate format please contact the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists at least five working days prior to the meeting date. Listed below is helpful information if assistance is required. Phone: (512) 936-4428, Fax: (512) 936-4409, email: [chorton@tbgp.state.tx.us](mailto:chorton@tbgp.state.tx.us), TDD/RELAY TEXAS: 1-800-relay-VV (for voice), 1-800-relay-TX (for TDD).