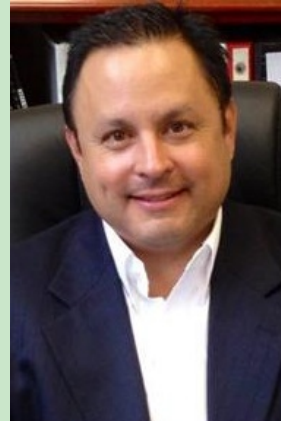




TBPG Spring Newsletter - March 2023

TBPG is pleased to present our Spring Newsletter. As we offer this update on Agency activities, I want to mention how honored and thankful we are to have served under our outgoing Board Chair, Becky Johnson. She has had an amazing impact on our business operations and we are so thankful for the many hours she dedicated to providing outreach and educational opportunities for our licensees - including numerous in person, remote, and recorded presentations and training sessions that will continue to be used for years to come.



Rene D. Truan
Executive Director

I have been honored to work with Chair Johnson since I joined TBPG in 2019. While I have worked with other Boards and many appointed board members in my 30 years of public service, I can honestly say that Becky stands at the top as a leadership example for others who desire to serve on an appointed board in state government. While I will miss Chair Johnson's leadership, she has prepared our Board to continue building on our past success and seeking new opportunities to grow and respond to the needs of this state and the needs of our licensees. All of this is Chair Johnson's legacy and we look forward to ensuring her vision and passion continues to thrive as we develop future business strategies and priorities.

As another example of her dedication to public service, I am pleased that Chair Johnson has agreed to continue serving our Board for a limited time while new board appointments are being considered

IN OTHER NEWS...

88th Texas Legislative Session...

Since January, we have had the opportunity to meet with many legislative offices to provide information about our Agency. This has been a great opportunity to 'tell our story' in terms of who we are, what we do, and the important role our Agency and our licensees have in protecting the environment and the public. We already had the opportunity to present our Legislative Appropriation Request (LAR) for the upcoming biennium (2024-2025) to the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees and are pleased with the positive comments received about our Agency and the importance of our licensees in this State. TBPG will continue to monitor and respond to proposed legislation until the 88th Texas Legislative Regular Session adjourns on May 29th, 2023.

Computer-Based Testing...

TBPG is excited to be a part of the nationwide launch of the Association of State Boards of

during the legislative session. So, you may continue to see her name on agency business but, unfortunately, we know we can't hold on to her forever. Thank you, Becky, for your leadership and service to the Board and to the overall mission of the Agency to protect the public and the environment through licensure, compliance, enforcement, education, and partnerships.

Geology (ASBOG) computer-based testing. While there are many benefits to this new testing model, we are most excited about the exams being offered in 40+ locations across Texas - and we look forward to seeing this number grow. This change creates more geographic access to the required examinations while eliminating the time and expense of traveling to a single location in Austin. This change also modernizes the examination format from a pencil and paper exam to a computer-based examination. As with any new program, we expect there will be a learning curve and areas identified for improvement but we will continue to work closely with ASBOG and recommend any necessary adjustments to provide the best examination program and experience for our licensing candidates.

As always, thank you for your partnership with TBPG and please know that we are always available to assist with any of your licensing needs.

Rene Truan
Executive Director



TBPG and Board Chair Becky Johnson are pleased to be able to provide an Ethics video on our website

A minimum of one hour of Professional Ethics is required for renewal of a P.G. license or

GIT certification. Watching this video will offer one hour of ethics credit on your CE Activity log. Please note that there is no quiz or certificate of completion; therefore, you must track this activity on your personal CE Activity log.

TBPG would like to thank Chair Johnson, P.G., for creating and providing access to these ethics videos.

[TBPG 2022 Ethics video by Chair Johnson, PG](#)

Please note that the videos and the information provided therein are the personal property of TBPG Chair Becky Johnson, P.G.



ASBOG Spring 2023 Computer-Based Examinations

The first computer-based administration of the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and Practice of Geology (PG) examinations is scheduled for March 16 & 17, 2023. Although TBPG is no longer administering the exam(s), we will continue to qualify applicants to sit for examinations and distribute exam scores to candidates.

The fall examination is scheduled for October 6th, 2023.

[New 2023 ASBOG Examinee Candidate Handbook](#)

The ASBOG Examinee Candidate Handbook is the official guide to policies and procedures for the ASBOG National Geology Examinations. This guide will provide important information to exam candidates regarding scope; content and development of the licensure exams; a step-by-step guide to register and pay for the computer-based exams and select a testing location; and example practice questions to help prepare for the ASBOG National Geology Examinations.



Highlights from the February 10, 2022 Board Meeting

Requests For Waiver of Examination

The Application Review Committee considered 8 applications for waivers, and

recommended 7 of them to the Board.

The full Board approved all 7 of the waiver requests as recommended by Committee.

Proposed Agreed Board Orders

Proposed Agreed Board Orders are disciplinary orders that are proposed by TBPG's Complaint Review Team and, subsequently, agreed to by the Respondent of a Complaint.

Two Proposed Agreed Board Orders were on the agenda

Proposed Agreed Board Order for Complaint 2023-00017. No action was taken.

Proposed Agreed Board Order for Complaint 2020-00007. No action was taken.

Proposed Amendments

Proposed Amendment to 22 TAC 851.43; GIT Certification Period and Renewal

The current rule allows for GITs to renew their certification yearly for up to eight years, and requires renewals past the eighth year to be granted at the discretion of the appointed Board. The proposed amendment allows for a GIT to be renewed indefinitely without requiring action by the Appointed Board when all other renewal requirements are met.

- The Board unanimously approved this proposed amendment for posting to the Texas Register for public comments.

Proposed Amendment to 22 TAC 851.10; Definitions

Adds the term "Digital Signature" to the definitions.

- The Board unanimously approved this proposed amendment for posting to the Texas Register for public comments.

Proposed Amendment to 22 TAC 851.156; Professional Geoscientist Seals

The TBPG recently received public comment asking that the Board clarify its rules on digital signatures. Upon review, the Board determined it necessary to include provisions in the rules defining and allowing licensees to use digital signatures to satisfy the signature requirements for electronic geoscience documents.

- The Board unanimously approved this proposed amendment for posting to the Texas Register for public comments.

Adopted Amendments

There were no amendments for adoption on the agenda.

Opportunities to Volunteer

TBPG wants to continue to build our database of volunteers to serve as

Subject Matter Experts on Workgroups and Advisory Committees when opportunities come up.

We recognize that our license holders can provide valuable input and guidance on various licensing and registration issues throughout the year.

This is a great opportunity to get involved and share your knowledge, experience and expertise with a minimal time requirement.

If you are interested in being considered, please send a message to: volunteer@tbpg.texas.gov, and please include a current CV or resume and your area(s) of expertise so we can match you with future opportunities.

Thank you!

Upcoming TBPG Meetings Austin, Texas

May 11, 2023

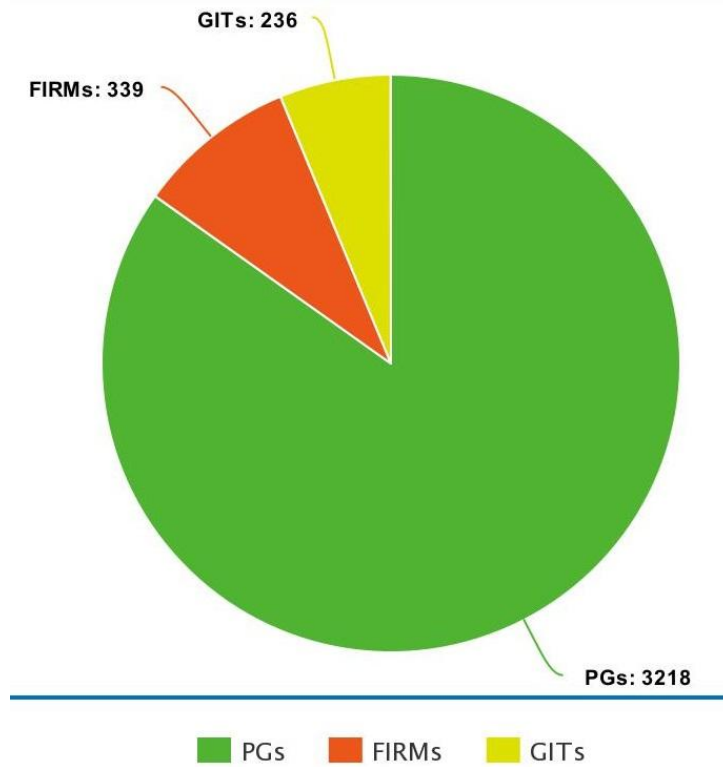
Application Review and Continuing Education Committee
General Issues Committee
Compliance and Enforcement Committee

May 12, 2023

Financial Review and Strategic Planning Committee
TBPG Board Meeting

These meetings will be available for public comment or participation via Zoom
Meeting agendas including Zoom links will be available on the TBPG website at least one week prior to the meetings.

CURRENT LICENSING, REGISTRATION, AND CERTIFICATION NUMBERS 02/28/2023



Agency Contact Information:

SUBJECT	INFORMATION	PHONE/EMAIL
GENERAL	General questions and inquiries, token numbers	512-936-4408 LICENSING@TBPG.TEXAS.GOV
COMPLAINTS	File a Complaint, Complaint inquiries	512-936-4410 COMPLIANCE@TBPG.TEXAS.GOV

CONTINUING EDUCATION	CE Program, CE Audits, CE Requirements	512-936-4410 COMPLIANCE@TBPG.TEXAS.GOV
OUTREACH	Outreach Opportunities	512-936-4401 VOLUNTEER@TBPG.TEXAS.GOV
FINANCE	Accounts Payable, Receivables, Purchasing, ITVs	512-936-4404 GWILLIAMS@TBPG.TEXAS.GOV

LICENSING	New license inquiries, Applications, Examinations, Waivers and Qualifications	512-936-4408 LICENSING@TBPG.TEXAS.GOV
OPEN RECORDS	Open Records or Public Information requests	512-936-4401 RTRUAN@TBPG.TEXAS.GOV
ONLINE ASSISTANCE	Assistance with the online	LICENSINGHELP@HPC.STATE.TX.US

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