will be requesting that DOE-RL place a hold on the document until it meets the standards that we impose on it. This is one of these problems that occurs often when one group does not know what another group is doing. They are out of money and time. They need to have the report completed by the end of the year, so their time is very limited. Additionally, they have spent all their money and are in fact working on their own time to complete the report. I wish that there was something we could do for them but it appears they they are at the end of their rope with no chance of obtaining additional funding or time.

I was requested to represent DOE-RL and the ground-water program during an assessment that was being made by the DOE-HQ. The meeting appeared to go quite well. However, one of the DOE-HQ representatives discussed the ground-water monitoring program with someone (name only upon request) at GRED. This individual is also doing some work for DOE-HQ, but must have felt that he could obtain additional funding by "bad-mouthing" the existing program. His statements were given to DOE-RL by the DOE-HQ representative and as a result, I was again called by DOE-RL to explain what was going on at Battelle. If the comments are not written up in the assessment of DOE-RL, everything will be dropped. However, if the statements made are reflected in the assessment, then DOE-RL expects us to take some sort of action that shows that Battelle is in fact giving them a quality program, even by Battelle standards.

There is some good news: May you have a Merry Christmas and a great New Year and I'll see (I hope) you next year!

PAE:ks