SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] The foregoing needs are met, to a great extent, by the present invention, wherein various respects a system, device, and method of mixing fluid in a tank is provided.

[0008] An embodiment of the present invention pertains to a system for mixing a fluid in a tank. The system includes a mixer assembly, a housing, and an actuator. The mixer assembly has a motor, a shaft, and an impeller. The housing is disposed in a side wall of the tank. The housing has sufficient volume to contain the impeller. The actuator is configured to retract the mixer assembly and draw the impeller into the housing. The mixer assembly has a first conformation and a second conformation. In the first conformation the impeller is disposed in a main portion of the tank and configured to mix the fluid in response to rotation of the impeller via the motor and shaft. In the second conformation the impeller is disposed in the housing and out of the main portion of the tank.

[0009] Another embodiment of the present invention relates to a mixer assembly. The mixer assembly includes an impeller, a motor to rotate the impeller, and a shaft affixed to the impeller and convey torque from the motor to the impeller. The mixer assembly additionally includes housing having sufficient volume to contain the impeller~~, a seal, and an actuator~~. ~~The~~A seal is disposed in the housing. The seal is configured to facilitate rotation of the shaft and being configured to facilitate longitudinal sliding the shaft while reducing leakage of a fluid across the seal. The actuator is configured to urge the shaft to move longitudinally. The impeller is drawn into the housing in response to the actuator moving the shaft.

[0010] Yet another embodiment of the present invention pertains to a method of drawing a fluid from a tank having a floating roof. In this method, if it is determined the roof is below a predetermined minimum level an impeller is retracted from the tank and into a chamber affixed to a side of the tank. In this manner, additional fluid may be drawn from the tank and the roof is allowed to descend below