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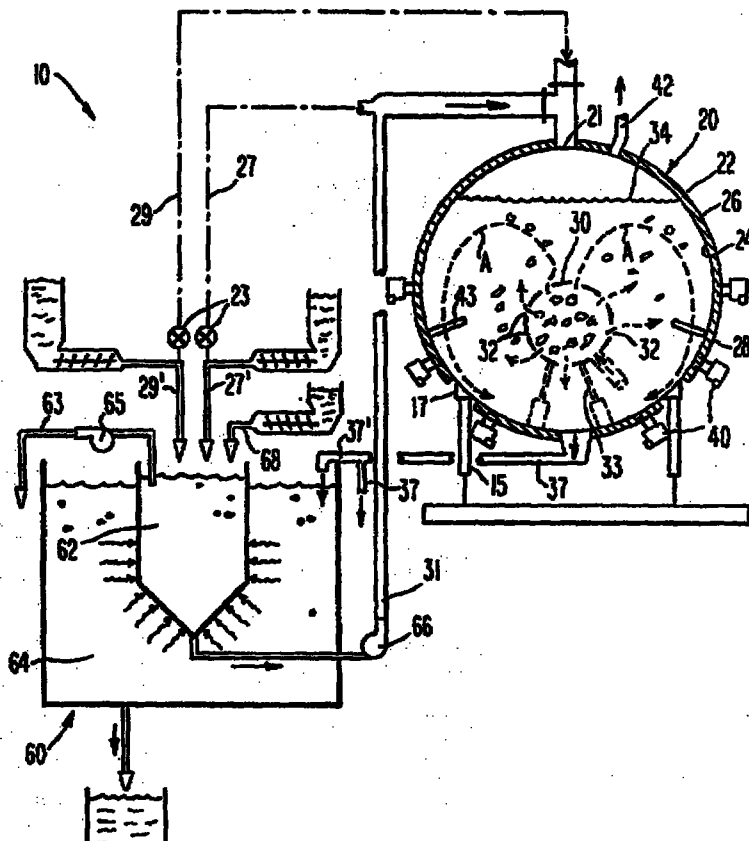
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(54) Title: **PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR LIQUID SLUDGE STABILIZATION**

(57) Abstract

A process and apparatus (10) for treatment of sludge is provided. The process includes providing sludge (34) in a substantially liquid form and an alkaline additive (29) to a preferably substantially closed reactor vessel (20), mixing the sludge and additive to ensure that the pH is greater than about 12, maintaining the pH for a period of time, optionally supplying supplemental heat through heating elements (40) to the sludge mixture (34) in the reactor vessel to achieve an elevated temperature for a period of time, maintaining the sludge mixture (34) in a substantially fluid liquid condition, and discharging the sludge and additive mixture (34) from the reactor vessel (20) in a substantially liquid form such that it lends itself to be handled by gravity flow.



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