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(71) Applicant: **HALLIBURTON ENERGY SERVICES, INC.** [US/US]; 3000 N. Sam Houston Parkway E., Houston, Texas 77032-3219 (US).

(72) Inventors: **FRIPP, Michael Linley**; 3826 Cemetery Hill Rd, Carrollton, Texas 75007 (US). **GRECI, Stephen Michael**; 3113 Luminara Dr., Little Elm, Texas 75068 (US). **PELTO, Christopher Michael**; 2218 Autumn Trail, Garland, Texas 75040 (US).

(74) Agent: **PARKER, Greg H.** et al.; Parker Justiss, P.C., 14241 Dallas Parkway, Suite 620, Dallas, Texas 75254 (US).

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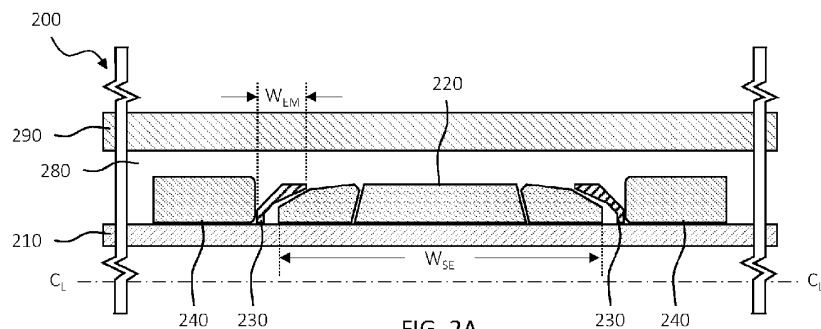
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(54) Title: EXPANDABLE METAL AS BACKUP FOR ELASTOMERIC ELEMENTS



(57) Abstract: Provided is a sealing tool, a method for sealing an annulus within a wellbore, and a well system. The sealing tool, in at least one aspect, includes a sealing assembly positioned about a mandrel. In at least one aspect, the sealing assembly includes one or more elastomeric sealing elements having a width (WSE), the one or more elastomeric sealing elements operable to move between a radially relaxed state and a radially expanded state. In at least this aspect, the sealing assembly includes a pair of expandable metal features straddling the one or more elastomeric sealing elements, each of the pair of expandable metal features comprising a metal configured to expand in response to hydrolysis and having a width (WEM), and further wherein the width (WSE) is at least three times the width (WEM).

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