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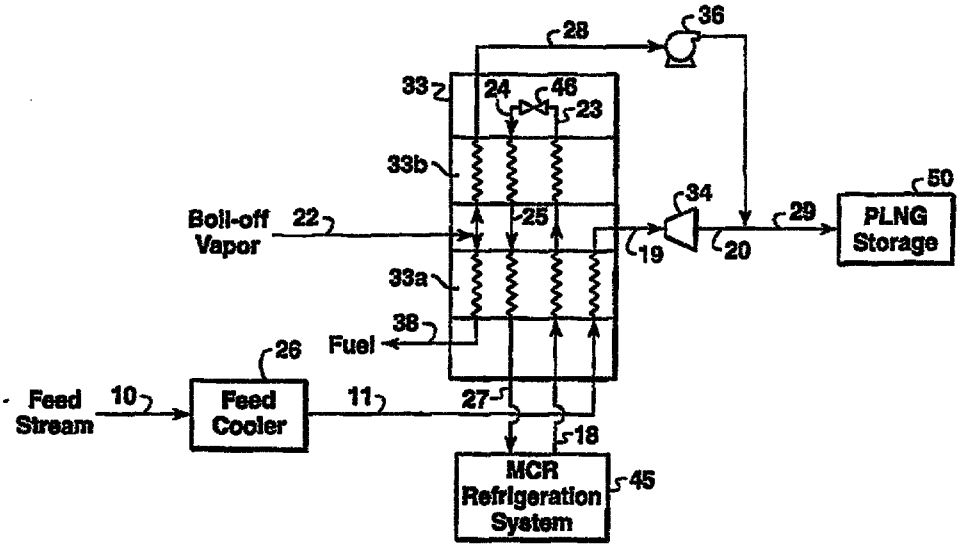
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(54) Title: IMPROVED MULTI-COMPONENT REFRIGERATION PROCESS FOR LIQUEFACTION OF NATURAL GAS



(57) Abstract

This invention relates to a process for liquefying a pressurized gas stream (10) rich in methane in which the liquefication of the gas stream occurs in a heat exchanger (33) being cooled by a closed-loop multi-component refrigeration system (45) to produce a methane-rich liquid product having a temperature above about –112 °C (–170 °F) and a pressure sufficient for the liquid product to be at or below its bubble point. The liquefied gas product is then introduced to a storage means (50) at a temperature above about –112 °C (–170 °F).