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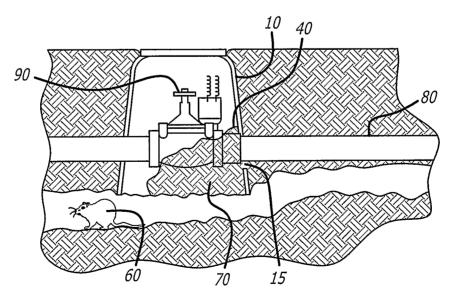
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(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS TO MAINTAIN ACCESSIBILITY AND INTEGRITY OF EQUIPMENT CONTAINED IN UNDERGROUND HOUSINGS



(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein are methods, devices and systems to maintain the accessibility and integrity of equipment contained in underground housings. The methods, devices and systems and methods of the present invention maintain the accessibility and integrity of equipment contained in underground housings by providing at least one barrier that prevents burrowing animals from off-loading displaced ground dirt or other debris into the space created by the underground housing.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US06/33177

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USPC - 220/3.8

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) USPTO EAST System (US, USPG-PUB, EPO, DERWENT), MicroPatent, PatBase

Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category* US 5,731,544 A (BURCK et al) 24 March 1998 (24.03.1998) entire document 1-18 Х US 3,913,400 A (FLOREN) 21 October 1975 (21.10.1975) entire document 1-18 Α 1-18 US 4,669,305 A (RIVERO-OLMEDO) 02 June 1987 (02.06.1987) entire document Α

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