

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend paragraphs [0021] and [0023] as shown.

[0021] The first zone begins directly after the lower oxygen deficient gas 22 is introduced at the entrance to the combustion chamber. The perforations 54 in the stationary plate 14 are holes and/or slots that are sized, shaped and oriented to provide proper air distribution and pressure drop through the stationary plate. The pressure drop through the plate is critical to providing air to all sections of the fuel bed even as the bed characteristics change in the combustion process. The specific combination, orientation and location of holes and/or slots in the perforated plate are determined by the characteristics of the fuel in that section of the bed. For example, the wet fuel entering the first combustion zone will require a different amount of air and air pressure than the dry fuel in the subsequent zones. The orientation and location of the holes reflect these changing requirements. In one embodiment, the perforations 54 can be closed or open and thus restrict or promote air that passes to the organic waste fuel on the moving grate. The detail of Figure 2 shows the partially closed configuration of the perforations 54.

[0023] Adjacent to the fuel feed hopper 12 is an ash feed hopper 48. Ash is recycled from the ash collection system 34 and reintroduced onto the moving grate 18 below the fuel 40. As clearly seen in the Ash Feed Detail of Figure 2, a A layer of

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ash 48, or waste fuel-byproduct, located between the waste fuel 40 and the moving grate 18, is preferably 1-2 inches thick and protects the moving grate 18 and stationary perforated plate from the high temperatures in the combustion chamber 10. This layer extends ~~extending~~ the longevity and reliability of the unit.