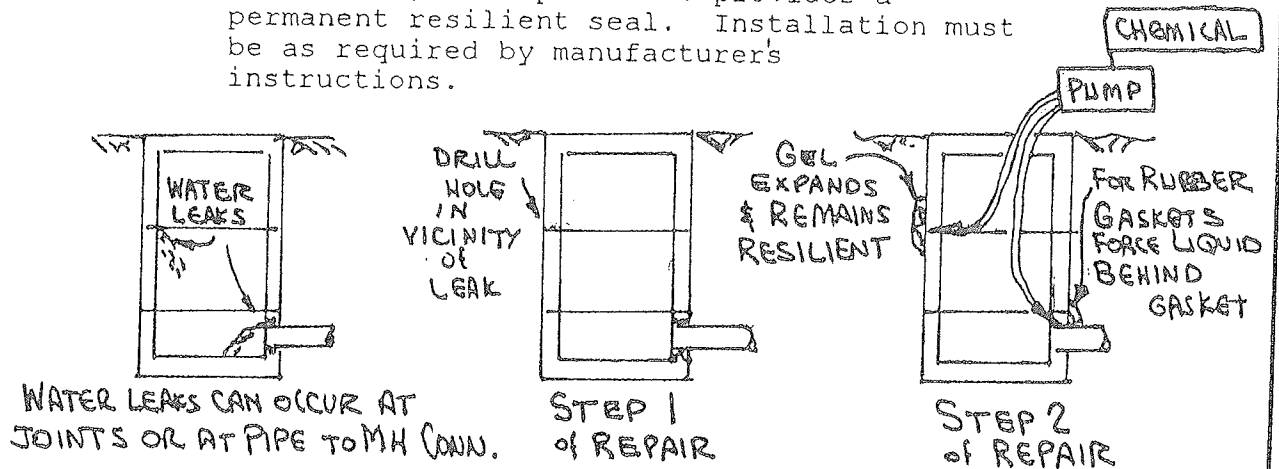


GARY K. MUNKELT, PE

IV. Most precast concrete structures on sanitary sewer projects must be watertight. Occasionally leaks occur at the joints or at the pipe to manhole connection. These leaks are easily repaired using chemical grouts that expand when exposed to water. The procedure is to drill a small hole in the area of the leak and pump the chemical into the hole. When the chemical is in contact with water, it expands and provides a permanent resilient seal. Installation must be as required by manufacturer's instructions.



V. There have been situations where contractors will place backfill material on one side of the structure all the way to grade. This places loads on the concrete that are different than the design. Several problems can occur:

First, a tall thin structure such as a 48" diameter manhole could be tilted leaving the chamber exposed to leaks from ground water.

