

For the first period of time after concluding the contract one will agree upon a smaller reduction, because a general reduction of water losses generally comes along with a network redevelopment. Through the increase of pressure due to the repair of leaks new leaks will occur, which will also have to be localized and repaired so that a network as a whole is improved.

In some cases the installation of pressure-relief valves was necessary because the increase of pressure in the network caused too many new leaks.

Such contracts have been executed successfully; in many cases the water supply has successfully taken over the continuing maintenance works itself.

### 3.14 Invitation to tender through the water supply

When a water supply wants to issue an invitation to tender for the performance of water loss reduction they will carefully think about the definition of the tender.

The simplest way to issue a tender "evaluation of the water network for losses, approximately 120 km" is not sufficient anymore. In this case a leak locator could just quickly "listen" to the network with simple devices, some leaks are always found, these will be repaired. One is very surprised, however, to see that the losses have not been reduced considerably, because maybe new leaks have been created at the old leaking

spots due to the increase in pressure.

Maybe one will even perform one or more false excavations for which the leak locator has not given any guarantee. The following wording would be a much more demanding tender:

Reduction of the minimum inflow of currently approximately 5 m<sup>3</sup>/h to below 1 m<sup>3</sup>/h with excavation guarantee.

There are, of course, a lot of other wording possibilities other than these two extremes (illustration 65).

#### Different formulations of the call for tender for the reduction of water losses at small water supplies, variations:

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Control of the distribution network  | - insufficient --    |
| 2. Reduction of losses (actual 25%)   | - insufficient -     |
| 3. Reduction of losses of 2/3 from actual 25%   | - insufficient -     |
| 4. Reduction of losses from actual 25% to lower than 10% (measured after the reparation of leaks) with excavation guarantee | - good formulation - |

*Illustration 65: The client can influence the work quality through clear definitions in the call for tender*