

March 2012

## Another major demolition along the River Corridor – Hanford’s 308 Building

The Fuels Development Laboratory (308 Building) required extensive preparations to stabilize the heavily contaminated laboratory before demolition

### Background

The 308 Building, which was constructed in 1960, served two missions, including research using plutonium as nuclear fuel and fuel fabrication. Completing the demolition involves workers removing the Training, Research, Isotopes, General Atomics (TRIGA) reactor currently covered with shielding blocks adjacent to the building.

308 Building

A primary mission for the 308 Building included research using plutonium as nuclear fuel. Fifty-two enclosed research units inside the facility were used to stabilize hazardous materials during radiological experimental research and testing. Washington Closure Hanford workers had to stabilize contamination and hazardous waste for disposal before demolition began. The next step after demolition of the main structure is the removal of the TRIGA reactor from its current below-ground location.



Above: Construction of the 308A high-bay facility in 1971. It contains the TRIGA test reactor and tested nuclear fuel components.

Left: WCH workers stabilized contaminated equipment and glove boxes before demolition began at the 308 Building.



*A worker inspects a glove box in the 308 Building.*



*One of 52 glove boxes removed for disposal in preparation for building demolition.*



*Above: The 308 and 308A Building during operations.*

*Right: Demolition of the 308 Building began in February 2012.*



*Above: The 308 Building demolition on the north side of the building. The two-story structure tested reactor fuel.*

