



# ANSN Resolution No. 14/2026:

what changes for those engaged in  
**decommissioning** activities

The publication of the Resolution No. 14 dated March 31, 2026, by the Brazilian National Nuclear Safety Authority (ANSN) establishes new requirements for the registration of facilities and the management of naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM) in the oil and gas exploration and production (E&P) sector, including decommissioning activities.

The regulation took effect on April 1, 2026, and revoked the CNEN Resolution No. 288/2021, replacing a more restrictive framework for a model applicable to the entire operational lifecycle.

**For companies engaged in decommissioning, this means that NORM management must be considered from the technical planning through to the final disposal of materials.**

Regarding the registration, the resolution establishes that companies performing activities involving NORM and E&P concessionaires shall register with ANSN, even if they don't operate directly. A key point is that registration is now mandatory on a per-facility basis, rather than just per company, which directly impacts projects involving multiple assets or operational fronts. Service providers may be exempt from registration if they operate exclusively within already registered facilities and do not assume responsibility for NORM management, while remaining subject to the applicable controls.



A relevant point of attention is liability. Even where operational activities are outsourced, the responsibility for the management and final disposal of contaminated materials, waste, and NORM residues remains with the concessionaire.

This aspect is expressly provided by the Article 9 of the resolution, which also introduces an important technical element: the prioritisation of decontamination and reuse whenever feasible, prior to the final disposal.



**Article 9.** *Concessionaires are responsible for the management of materials contaminated with NORM, as well as NORM waste and residues generated under their title, including those originating from contracted or subcontracted companies, up to the final disposal, and shall ensure the implementation of control measures, as well as the supervision, oversight, and auditing of services performed by third parties.*

*Sole paragraph. Materials contaminated with NORM shall be assessed for the technical feasibility of cleaning and decontamination, which shall be prioritised, where applicable, prior to reuse, recycling, or final disposal.*



In practical terms, this means that concessionaires may engage contractors to remove pipelines, clean equipment, or treat waste, but they do not transfer the regulatory risk associated with the final disposal.

The resolution establishes a mandatory sequence of regulatory assessments for materials containing NORM, which must guide technical decisions in decommissioning. This means that, before determining how a material will be treated or disposed of, it must be classified within the categories set out in the regulation.



Initially, it must be assessed whether the material meets the criteria for exemption from regulatory control, in accordance with parameters established in ANSN regulations. If not, the possibility of clearance from regulatory control must be evaluated, which may be unconditional or conditional, subject to compliance with technical requirements and, where applicable, submission to ANSN. Only when these alternatives are not applicable will the material remain under regulatory control and be managed as NORM waste or residue until its final disposal.

In addition, each registered facility shall implement a formal radiological governance framework, requiring a Radiological Protection Plan (RPP), a NORM Management Plan (NMP), and a Radiological

Protection Service (RPS), with qualified technical oversight. These instruments are intended to structure risk management, information traceability, and compliance with regulatory requirements. The regulation also reinforces the technical distinction between contaminated materials, NORM waste, and NORM residues, with specific regulatory treatment for each category.

The Resolution No. 14/2026 consolidates a significant shift in how NORM management shall be addressed in decommissioning.

In practical terms, it requires greater integration between technical planning, operational execution, and regulatory classification, particularly for those projects involving multiple contractors. The regulation redefines the expected standard of organisation, control, and traceability of these activities throughout the entire lifecycle of facilities.

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