

Proposed ANSTO Changes - CAS, ERTG, NMRTG, HRTG

For more than a year, ANSTO has been working to refresh its priorities - to provide better support for its workforce, support financial stability for the long term and ensure the focus is on the delivery of our core functions and support of national priorities.

To achieve this, the organisation has proposed changes to its capabilities, instruments, activities and staffing requirements, among other measures. Consultation on these proposed measures is currently underway.

Centre for Accelerator Science

The Centre for Accelerator Science (CAS) would expand its operations as a national user facility in the proposed measures by retiring its single standalone research-only position (not embedded in access/delivery) while continuing capability development and supporting internal research via the same peer-reviewed access pathway. No instrument or core capability cessation is proposed.

Users of the in-situ C-14 platform capability should note that while the laboratory and equipment will remain within CAS, the proposal is to withdraw specialised support for this capability in 2026.

All research proposals would be processed through a single merit access scheme (with limited exceptions only where statutory or contractual obligations apply). Student access through the Australian Institute for Nuclear Science and Engineering (AINSE) would be formalised.

Environment Research and Technology Group

The proposed changes would prioritise the group's focus towards environmental research aligned with ANSTO's strategy in water, environmental change including climate change, and contaminant impacts. This may impact roles currently providing support for platform activities within CAS including sample processing for in-situ C-14 and radiocarbon preparation.

The proposed changes would also cease commercial activities related to the construction of new commercial radon detectors, with radon detector construction being limited to those supporting ANSTO research activity.

Health Research and Technology Group

The proposed changes could involve some re-structuring of teams, the consolidation of management roles, including the reduction of a senior management role, and the integration of research capabilities to maximise research and development output and enhance collaboration opportunities.

Nuclear Materials Research and Technology Group

The proposed changes would prioritise the group's focus towards applied materials research that more directly addresses ANSTO operations and future materials challenges, as well as supporting future Australian stakeholder nuclear research requirements. This could impact

research roles that are focussed on topics at earlier stages of materials development or reactor system design.

As no final decision has been made, you may continue to submit proposals. Acceptance and scheduling will be subject to the outcome of consultation.

If you have any queries, please contact the ANSTO User Office (user.office.nsw@ansto.gov.au).

ANSTO welcomes stakeholder feedback and questions on the proposed changes via nstfeedback@ansto.gov.au up to 7th November 2025.

These proposed changes are essential to ensuring ANSTO is optimally positioned to continue to deliver the benefits of nuclear science and technology to Australia. Final decisions are anticipated to be advised by December 2025. ANSTO will continue to deliver world-class user programs and research, including capital enhancements to infrastructure.