

Standard Development Timeline

This section is maintained by the drafting team during the development of the standard and will be removed when the standard becomes effective.

Description of Current Draft

This draft of CIP-003-7 is addressing the directive issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) in paragraph 73 of Order No. 822 which reads:

[T]he Commission concludes that a modification to the Low Impact External Routable Connectivity definition to reflect the commentary in the Guidelines and Technical Basis section of CIP-003-6 is necessary to provide needed clarity to the definition and eliminate ambiguity surrounding the term “direct” as it is used in the proposed definition. Therefore, pursuant to section 215(d)(5) of the FPA, we direct NERC to develop a modification to provide the needed clarity, within one year of the effective date of this Final Rule approving revisions to the cybersecurity Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) standards.

~~Previously, the Guidelines and Technical Basis had approximately 10 pages of explanation and numerous reference models to describe different forms of direct vs. indirect access that could be used to determine whether Low Impact External Routable Connectivity existed and thus whether a Low Impact BES Cyber System Electronic Access Point (LEAP) was required.~~

~~In this revision, the term *Low Impact External Routable Connectivity* has been changed to *Low Impact External Routable Communication (LERC)* and simplified so that it is an attribute of a BES asset concerning whether there is routable protocol communications across the asset boundary without regard to 'direct vs. indirect' access that may occur. This greatly simplifies and clarifies the definition of LERC. It removes the dependency between the electronic access controls that may be in place and having those controls determine whether LERC exists or not. For those BES assets that have LERC, the SDT changed the requirement from requiring a LEAP to requiring electronic access controls to “permit only necessary electronic access to low impact BES Cyber Systems” (revised Attachment 1, Section 3.1) within the BES asset and expanded the Guidelines and Technical Basis with numerous examples of electronic access controls.~~

~~Given the modified definition of LERC and~~In this revision, the SDT revised Sections 2 and 3 of Attachments 1 and 2 in CIP-003-7 and removed the terms *Low Impact External Routable Connectivity (LERC)* and *Low Impact BES Cyber System Electronic Access Point (LEAP)*. The modifications incorporate concepts and select language from the LERC definition into Attachment 1, Section 3 and focus the requirement on implementing electronic access controls for asset(s) containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). The SDT simplified Section 3 of Attachment 1 to require the Responsible Entity to permit only necessary inbound and outbound electronic access when using a routable protocol entering or leaving the asset between low impact BES Cyber System(s) and a Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset containing low impact BES Cyber system(s). When this communication is present, Responsible Entities are required to

implement electronic access controls unless that communication meets the exclusion language (previously in the definition of LERC) contained in (iii) which reads: “not used for time-sensitive protection or control functions between intelligent electronic devices (e.g. communications using protocol IEC TR-61850-90-5 R-GOOSE)”.

The defined term LEAP is no longer necessary because the SDT changed the requirement from requiring a LEAP to requiring electronic access controls. Additionally, since the SDT is removing the term LERC, the exclusion language that was previously in the definition of LERC was integrated into the Attachment 1, Section 3.1 requirement.

Because the proposed modifications ~~into~~ Reliability CIP-003-7, ~~there is no longer a~~ ~~eliminate the~~ need for the NERC Glossary ~~term~~terms: Low Impact External Routable Connectivity (LERC) and Low Impact BES Cyber System Electronic Access Point (LEAP). ~~Consequently,~~ NERC is ~~proposing that term for retirement.~~

In summary, the CIP Standard Drafting Team revised CIP-003-7, Attachments 1 and 2, Sections 2 and 3 and ~~requesting these terms be retired in~~ the associated Implementation Plan.

Additionally, the SDT:

- revised the associated Lower and High VSLs for Requirement R2 to complement the requirement revisions;
- corrected a mistake in the Severe VSL for Requirement R2. ~~Non~~;
- made non-substantive changes to the Moderate and High VSLs for Requirement R2 to align with the order of the requirement;
- removed repetitive text from Requirement R1, Part 1.2.3 to make it consistent with Parts 1.2.1 and 1.2.2;
- updated the Guidelines and Technical Basis section of the standard to reflect the revisions made to the Attachments; and
- made non-substantive errata changes ~~were also made within~~ throughout the standard, including changing such as replacing “ES-ISAC” ~~to~~with “E-ISAC”.

| Completed Actions | Date |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Standard Authorization Request (SAR) approved | July 20, 2016 |
| Draft 1 of CIP-003-7 posted for formal comment and initial ballot | July 21 – September 6, 2016 |
| <u>Draft 2 of CIP-003-7 posted for formal comment and additional ballot</u> | <u>October 21 – December 5, 2016</u> |

| Anticipated Actions | Date |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 10-day final ballot | October, 2016 <u>January, 2017</u> |
| NERC Board of Trustees (BOT) adoption | November, 2016 <u>February, 2017</u> |
| <u>Petition filed with FERC</u> | <u>March, 2017</u> |

A. Introduction

1. **Title:** Cyber Security — Security Management Controls
2. **Number:** CIP-003-7
3. **Purpose:** To specify consistent and sustainable security management controls that establish responsibility and accountability to protect BES Cyber Systems against compromise that could lead to misoperation or instability in the Bulk Electric System (BES).
4. **Applicability:**
 - 4.1. **Functional Entities:** For the purpose of the requirements contained herein, the following list of functional entities will be collectively referred to as “Responsible Entities.” For requirements in this standard where a specific functional entity or subset of functional entities are the applicable entity or entities, the functional entity or entities are specified explicitly.
 - 4.1.1 **Balancing Authority**
 - 4.1.2 **Distribution Provider** that owns one or more of the following Facilities, systems, and equipment for the protection or restoration of the BES:
 - 4.1.2.1 Each underfrequency Load shedding (UFLS) or undervoltage Load shedding (UVLS) system that:
 - 4.1.2.1.1 is part of a Load shedding program that is subject to one or more requirements in a NERC or Regional Reliability Standard; and
 - 4.1.2.1.2 performs automatic Load shedding under a common control system owned by the Responsible Entity, without human operator initiation, of 300 MW or more.
 - 4.1.2.2 Each Special Protection System (SPS) or Remedial Action Scheme (RAS) where the SPS or RAS is subject to one or more requirements in a NERC or Regional Reliability Standard.
 - 4.1.2.3 Each Protection System (excluding UFLS and UVLS) that applies to Transmission where the Protection System is subject to one or more requirements in a NERC or Regional Reliability Standard.
 - 4.1.2.4 Each Cranking Path and group of Elements meeting the initial switching requirements from a Blackstart Resource up to and including the first interconnection point of the starting station service of the next generation unit(s) to be started.
 - 4.1.3 **Generator Operator**
 - 4.1.4 **Generator Owner**

- 4.1.5 Interchange Coordinator or Interchange Authority
- 4.1.6 Reliability Coordinator
- 4.1.7 Transmission Operator
- 4.1.8 Transmission Owner

4.2. Facilities: For the purpose of the requirements contained herein, the following Facilities, systems, and equipment owned by each Responsible Entity in [Section 4.1](#) above are those to which these requirements are applicable. For requirements in this standard where a specific type of Facilities, system, or equipment or subset of Facilities, systems, and equipment are applicable, these are specified explicitly.

4.2.1 Distribution Provider: One or more of the following Facilities, systems and equipment owned by the Distribution Provider for the protection or restoration of the BES:

4.2.1.1 Each UFLS or UVLS System that:

- 4.2.1.1.1** is part of a Load shedding program that is subject to one or more requirements in a NERC or Regional Reliability Standard; and
- 4.2.1.1.2** performs automatic Load shedding under a common control system owned by the Responsible Entity, without human operator initiation, of 300 MW or more.

4.2.1.2 Each SPS or RAS where the SPS or RAS is subject to one or more requirements in a NERC or Regional Reliability Standard.

4.2.1.3 Each Protection System (excluding UFLS and UVLS) that applies to Transmission where the Protection System is subject to one or more requirements in a NERC or Regional Reliability Standard.

4.2.1.4 Each Cranking Path and group of Elements meeting the initial switching requirements from a Blackstart Resource up to and including the first interconnection point of the starting station service of the next generation unit(s) to be started.

4.2.2 Responsible Entities listed in 4.1 other than Distribution Providers:

All BES Facilities.

4.2.3 Exemptions: The following are exempt from Standard CIP-003-7:

4.2.3.1 Cyber Assets at Facilities regulated by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

4.2.3.2 Cyber Assets associated with communication networks and data communication links between discrete Electronic Security Perimeters (ESPs).

4.2.3.3 The systems, structures, and components that are regulated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission under a cyber security plan pursuant to 10 C.F.R. Section 73.54.

4.2.3.4 For Distribution Providers, the systems and equipment that are not included in section 4.2.1 above.

5. Effective Dates:

See Implementation Plan for CIP-003-7.

6. Background:

Standard CIP-003 exists as part of a suite of CIP Standards related to cyber security, which require the initial identification and categorization of BES Cyber Systems and require organizational, operational, and procedural controls to mitigate risk to BES Cyber Systems.

The term policy refers to one or a collection of written documents that are used to communicate the Responsible Entities' management goals, objectives and expectations for how the Responsible Entity will protect its BES Cyber Systems. The use of policies also establishes an overall governance foundation for creating a culture of security and compliance with laws, regulations, and standards.

The term documented processes refers to a set of required instructions specific to the Responsible Entity and to achieve a specific outcome. This term does not imply any naming or approval structure beyond what is stated in the requirements. An entity should include as much as it believes necessary in its documented processes, but it must address the applicable requirements.

The terms program and plan are sometimes used in place of documented processes where it makes sense and is commonly understood. For example, documented processes describing a response are typically referred to as plans (i.e., incident response plans and recovery plans). Likewise, a security plan can describe an approach involving multiple procedures to address a broad subject matter.

Similarly, the term program may refer to the organization's overall implementation of its policies, plans, and procedures involving a subject matter. Examples in the standards include the personnel risk assessment program and the personnel training program. The full implementation of the CIP Cyber Security Reliability Standards could also be referred to as a program. However, the terms program and plan do not imply any additional requirements beyond what is stated in the standards.

Responsible Entities can implement common controls that meet requirements for multiple high, medium, and low impact BES Cyber Systems. For example, a single

cyber security awareness program could meet the requirements across multiple BES Cyber Systems.

Measures provide examples of evidence to show documentation and implementation of the requirement. These measures serve to provide guidance to entities in acceptable records of compliance and should not be viewed as an all-inclusive list.

Throughout the standards, unless otherwise stated, bulleted items in the requirements and measures are items that are linked with an “or,” and numbered items are items that are linked with an “and.”

Many references in the Applicability section use a threshold of 300 MW for UFLS and UVLS. This particular threshold of 300 MW for UVLS and UFLS was provided in Version 1 of the CIP Cyber Security Standards. The threshold remains at 300 MW since it is specifically addressing UVLS and UFLS, which are last ditch efforts to save the BES. A review of UFLS tolerances defined within Regional Reliability Standards for UFLS program requirements to date indicates that the historical value of 300 MW represents an adequate and reasonable threshold value for allowable UFLS operational tolerances.

B. Requirements and Measures

R1. Each Responsible Entity shall review and obtain CIP Senior Manager approval at least once every 15 calendar months for one or more documented cyber security policies that collectively address the following topics: *[Violation Risk Factor: Medium] [Time Horizon: Operations Planning]*

1.1 For its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems, if any:

1.1.1. Personnel and training (CIP-004);

1.1.2. Electronic Security Perimeters (CIP-005) including Interactive Remote Access;

1.1.3. Physical security of BES Cyber Systems (CIP-006);

1.1.4. System security management (CIP-007);

1.1.5. Incident reporting and response planning (CIP-008);

1.1.6. Recovery plans for BES Cyber Systems (CIP-009);

1.1.7. Configuration change management and vulnerability assessments (CIP-010);

1.1.8. Information protection (CIP-011); and

1.1.9. Declaring and responding to CIP Exceptional Circumstances.

1.2 For its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, if any:

1.2.1. Cyber security awareness;

1.2.2. Physical security controls;

1.2.3. Electronic access controls ~~for Low Impact External Routable Communication (LERC) and Dial-up Connectivity~~; and

1.2.4. Cyber Security Incident response

M1. Examples of evidence may include, but are not limited to, policy documents; revision history, records of review, or workflow evidence from a document management system that indicate review of each cyber security policy at least once every 15 calendar months; and documented approval by the CIP Senior Manager for each cyber security policy.

R2. Each Responsible Entity with at least one asset identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems shall implement one or more documented cyber security plan(s) for its low impact BES Cyber Systems that include the sections in Attachment 1. *[Violation Risk Factor: Lower] [Time Horizon: Operations Planning]*

Note: An inventory, list, or discrete identification of low impact BES Cyber Systems or their BES Cyber Assets is not required. Lists of authorized users are not required.

- M2.** Evidence shall include each of the documented cyber security plan(s) that collectively include each of the sections in Attachment 1 and additional evidence to demonstrate implementation of the cyber security plan(s). Additional examples of evidence per section are located in Attachment 2.
- R3.** Each Responsible Entity shall identify a CIP Senior Manager by name and document any change within 30 calendar days of the change. *[Violation Risk Factor: Medium]*
[Time Horizon: Operations Planning]
- M3.** An example of evidence may include, but is not limited to, a dated and approved document from a high level official designating the name of the individual identified as the CIP Senior Manager.
- R4.** The Responsible Entity shall implement a documented process to delegate authority, unless no delegations are used. Where allowed by the CIP Standards, the CIP Senior Manager may delegate authority for specific actions to a delegate or delegates. These delegations shall be documented, including the name or title of the delegate, the specific actions delegated, and the date of the delegation; approved by the CIP Senior Manager; and updated within 30 days of any change to the delegation. Delegation changes do not need to be reinstated with a change to the delegator. *[Violation Risk Factor: Lower]* *[Time Horizon: Operations Planning]*
- M4.** An example of evidence may include, but is not limited to, a dated document, approved by the CIP Senior Manager, listing individuals (by name or title) who are delegated the authority to approve or authorize specifically identified items.

C. Compliance

1. Compliance Monitoring Process

1.1. Compliance Enforcement Authority:

As defined in the NERC Rules of Procedure, “Compliance Enforcement Authority” (CEA) means NERC or the Regional Entity in their respective roles of monitoring and enforcing compliance with the NERC Reliability Standards.

1.2. Evidence Retention:

The following evidence retention periods identify the period of time an entity is required to retain specific evidence to demonstrate compliance. For instances where the evidence retention period specified below is shorter than the time since the last audit, the CEA may ask an entity to provide other evidence to show that it was compliant for the full time period since the last audit.

The Responsible Entity shall keep data or evidence to show compliance as identified below unless directed by its CEA to retain specific evidence for a longer period of time as part of an investigation:

- Each Responsible Entity shall retain evidence of each requirement in this standard for three calendar years.
- If a Responsible Entity is found non-compliant, it shall keep information related to the non-compliance until mitigation is complete and approved or for the time specified above, whichever is longer.
- The CEA shall keep the last audit records and all requested and submitted subsequent audit records.

1.3. Compliance Monitoring and Assessment Processes:

Compliance Audits

Self-Certifications

Spot Checking

Compliance Investigations

Self-Reporting

Complaints

1.4. Additional Compliance Information:

None-

2. Table of Compliance Elements

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|---------------------|--------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| R1 | Operations Planning | Medium | <p>The Responsible Entity documented and implemented one or more cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems, but did not address one of the nine topics required by R1. (R1.1)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity did not complete its review of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1 within 15 calendar months but did</p> | <p>The Responsible Entity documented and implemented one or more cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems, but did not address two of the nine topics required by R1. (R1.1)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity did not complete its review of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1 within 16 calendar months but did</p> | <p>The Responsible Entity documented and implemented one or more cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems, but did not address three of the nine topics required by R1. (R1.1)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity did not complete its review of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1 within 17 calendar months but did complete this review in less than or equal to 18</p> | <p>The Responsible Entity documented and implemented one or more cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems, but did not address four or more of the nine topics required by R1. (R1.1)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity did not have any documented cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1. (R1.1)</p> <p>OR</p> |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | complete this review in less than or equal to 16 calendar months of the previous review. (R1.1) OR The Responsible Entity did not complete its approval of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1 by the CIP Senior Manager within 15 calendar months but did complete this approval in less than or equal to 16 calendar months of | complete this review in less than or equal to 17 calendar months of the previous review. (R1.1) OR The Responsible Entity did not complete its approval of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1 by the CIP Senior Manager within 16 calendar months but did complete this approval in less than or equal to 17 calendar months of | calendar months of the previous review. (R1.1) OR The Responsible Entity did not complete its approval of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1 by the CIP Senior Manager within 17 calendar months but did complete this approval in less than or equal to 18 calendar months of the previous approval. (R1) OR The Responsible Entity documented one or more cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact | The Responsible Entity did not complete its review of the one or more documented cyber security policies as required by R1 within 18 calendar months of the previous review. (R1) OR The Responsible Entity did not complete its approval of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its high impact and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1 by the CIP Senior Manager within 18 calendar months of |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|--|--|---|---|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | the previous approval. (R1.1) OR The Responsible Entity documented one or more cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but did not address one of the four topics required by R1. (R1.2) OR The Responsible Entity did not complete its review of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems as | the previous approval. (R1.1) OR The Responsible Entity documented one or more cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but did not address two of the four topics required by R1. (R1.2) OR The Responsible Entity did not complete its review of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems as | BES Cyber Systems, but did not address three of the four topics required by R1. (R1.2) OR The Responsible Entity did not complete its review of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1 within 17 calendar months but did not complete this review in less than or equal to 18 calendar months of the previous review. (R1.2) OR The Responsible Entity did not complete its approval of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its | the previous approval. (R1.1) OR The Responsible Entity documented one or more cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but did not address any of the four topics required by R1. (R1.2) OR The Responsible Entity did not have any documented cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems as required by R1. (R1.2) |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|--|--|---|---|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | <p>required by Requirement R1 within 15 calendar months but did not complete this review in less than or equal to 16 calendar months of the previous review. (R1.2)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity did not complete its approval of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems as required by Requirement R1 by the CIP Senior Manager within 15 calendar months but did not complete this</p> | <p>required by Requirement R1 within 16 calendar months but did not complete this review in less than or equal to 17 calendar months of the previous review. (R1.2)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity did not complete its approval of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems as required by Requirement R1 by the CIP Senior Manager within 16 calendar months but</p> | <p>assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems as required by Requirement R1 by the CIP Senior Manager within 17 calendar months but did not complete this approval in less than or equal to 18 calendar months of the previous approval. (R1.2)</p> | <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity did not complete its approval of the one or more documented cyber security policies for its assets identified in CIP-002 containing low impact BES Cyber Systems as required by Requirement R1 by the CIP Senior Manager within 18 calendar months of the previous approval. (R1.2)</p> |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-------|--|--|---|--|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | approval in less than or equal to 16 calendar months of the previous approval. (R1.2) | did complete this approval in less than or equal to 17 calendar months of the previous approval. (R1.2) | | |
| R2 | Operations Planning | Lower | <p>The Responsible Entity documented its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to document cyber security awareness according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 1. (R2)</p> <p>OR</p> <p><u>The Responsible Entity implemented electronic access controls but failed to document its cyber security plan(s) for</u></p> | <p>The Responsible Entity documented its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to reinforce cyber security practices at least once every 15 calendar months according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 1. (R2)</p> <p>OR</p> <p><u>The Responsible Entity documented its cyber security plan(s) for its assets</u></p> | <p><u>The Responsible Entity documented the physical access controls for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to implement the physical security controls according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 2. (R2)</u></p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>The Responsible Entity documented <u>its cyber security plan(s)</u> for electronic access controls for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but</p> | <p>The Responsible Entity failed to document or<u>and</u> implement one or more cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1. (R2+)</p> |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|--|---|---|------------|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | <p><u>electronic access controls according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 3. (R2)</u></p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>The Responsible Entity documented its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to document one or more Cyber Security Incident response plans according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 4. (R2)</p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>The Responsible Entity documented one or more Cyber Security Incident response plans</p> | <p><u>containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to document physical security controls according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 2. (R2)</u></p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p><u>The Responsible Entity documented its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to document electronic access controls according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 3. (R2)</u></p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p><u>The Responsible Entity documented</u></p> | <p>failed to <u>permit only necessary inbound and outbound</u> electronic access controls according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 3.1. (R2)</p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>The Responsible Entity documented one or more Cyber Security Incident response plans within its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to test each Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) at least once every 36 calendar months according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 4. (R2)</p> <p><u>OR</u></p> | |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|--|--|---|------------|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | <p>within its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to update each Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) within 180 days according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 4. (R2)</p> | <p><u>its cyber security plan(s) for electronic access controls but failed to implement authentication for all Dial-up Connectivity that provides access to low impact BES Cyber System(s), per Cyber Asset capability according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 3.2 (R2)</u></p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>The Responsible Entity documented one or more incident response plans within its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to include the process for identification,</p> | <p>The Responsible Entity documented the determination of whether an identified Cyber Security Incident is a Reportable Cyber Security Incident, but failed to notify the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC) according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 4. (R2)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity documented electronic access controls for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to implement the electronic access controls according to Requirement R2,</p> | |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|---------------------------------------|--|--|------------|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | | classification, and response to Cyber Security Incidents according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 4. (R2) OR The Responsible Entity documented its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to document the determination of whether an identified Cyber Security Incident is a Reportable Cyber Security Incident and subsequent notification to the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center | Attachment 1, Section 3- (R2) OR The Responsible Entity documented the physical access controls for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to implement the physical security controls according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 2- (R2) | |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|---------------------------------------|---|----------|------------|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | | <p>(E-ISAC) according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 4. (R2)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity documented its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed to document physical security controls according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 2. (R2)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The Responsible Entity documented its cyber security plan(s) for its assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, but failed</p> | | |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | | to document electronic access controls according to Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 3. (R2) | | |
| R3 | Operations Planning | Medium | The Responsible Entity has identified by name a CIP Senior Manager, but did not document changes to the CIP Senior Manager within 30 calendar days but did document this change in less than 40 calendar days of the change. (R3) | The Responsible Entity has identified by name a CIP Senior Manager, but did not document changes to the CIP Senior Manager within 40 calendar days but did document this change in less than 50 calendar days of the change. (R3) | The Responsible Entity has identified by name a CIP Senior Manager, but did not document changes to the CIP Senior Manager within 50 calendar days but did document this change in less than 60 calendar days of the change. (R3) | The Responsible Entity has not identified, by name, a CIP Senior Manager. OR The Responsible Entity has identified by name a CIP Senior Manager, but did not document changes to the CIP Senior Manager within 60 calendar days of the change. (R3) |
| R4 | Operations Planning | Lower | The Responsible Entity has identified a delegate by name, | The Responsible Entity has identified a delegate by name, | The Responsible Entity has identified a delegate by name, title, date of | The Responsible Entity has used delegated authority |

| R # | Time Horizon | VRF | Violation Severity Levels (CIP-003-7) | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|--|--|---|--|
| | | | Lower VSL | Moderate VSL | High VSL | Severe VSL |
| | | | title, date of delegation, and specific actions delegated, but did not document changes to the delegate within 30 calendar days but did document this change in less than 40 calendar days of the change. (R4) | title, date of delegation, and specific actions delegated, but did not document changes to the delegate within 40 calendar days but did document this change in less than 50 calendar days of the change. (R4) | delegation, and specific actions delegated, but did not document changes to the delegate within 50 calendar days but did document this change in less than 60 calendar days of the change. (R4) | for actions where allowed by the CIP Standards, but does not have a process to delegate actions from the CIP Senior Manager. (R4) OR The Responsible Entity has identified a delegate by name, title, date of delegation, and specific actions delegated, but did not document changes to the delegate within 60 calendar days of the change. (R4) |

D. Regional Variances

None.

E. Interpretations

None.

F. Associated Documents

None.

Version History

| Version | Date | Action | Change Tracking |
|---------|----------|--|-----------------|
| 1 | 1/16/06 | R3.2 — Change “Control Center” to “control center.” | 3/24/06 |
| 2 | 9/30/09 | <p>Modifications to clarify the requirements and to bring the compliance elements into conformance with the latest guidelines for developing compliance elements of standards.</p> <p>Removal of reasonable business judgment.</p> <p>Replaced the RRO with the RE as a responsible entity.</p> <p>Rewording of Effective Date.</p> <p>Changed compliance monitor to Compliance Enforcement Authority.</p> | |
| 3 | 12/16/09 | <p>Updated Version Number from -2 to -3</p> <p>In Requirement 1.6, deleted the sentence pertaining to removing component or system from service in order to perform testing, in response to FERC order issued September 30, 2009.</p> | |
| 3 | 12/16/09 | Approved by the NERC Board of Trustees. | |
| 3 | 3/31/10 | Approved by FERC. | |
| 4 | 1/24/11 | Approved by the NERC Board of Trustees. | |

| Version | Date | Action | Change Tracking |
|---------|----------|--|--|
| 5 | 11/26/12 | Adopted by the NERC Board of Trustees. | Modified to coordinate with other CIP standards and to revise format to use RBS Template. |
| 5 | 11/22/13 | FERC Order issued approving CIP-003-5. | |
| 6 | 11/13/14 | Adopted by the NERC Board of Trustees. | Addressed two FERC directives from Order No. 791 related to identify, assess, and correct language and communication networks. |
| 6 | 2/12/15 | Adopted by the NERC Board of Trustees. | Replaces the version adopted by the Board on 11/13/2014. Revised version addresses remaining directives from Order No. 791 related to transient devices and low impact |

| Version | Date | Action | Change Tracking |
|---------|---------|---|---|
| | | | BES Cyber Systems. |
| 6 | 1/21/16 | FERC Order issued approving CIP-003-6. Docket No. RM15-14-000 | |
| 7 | TBD | Adopted by the NERC Board of Trustees. | Revised to address FERC Order 822 directive regarding definition of LERC. |

Attachment 1

Required Sections for Cyber Security Plan(s) for Assets Containing Low Impact BES Cyber Systems

Responsible Entities shall include each of the sections provided below in the cyber security plan(s) required under Requirement R2.

Responsible Entities with multiple-impact BES Cyber Systems ratings can utilize policies, procedures, and processes for their high or medium impact BES Cyber Systems to fulfill the sections for the development of low impact cyber security plan(s). Each Responsible Entity can develop a cyber security plan(s) either by individual asset or groups of assets.

Section 1. Cyber Security Awareness: Each Responsible Entity shall reinforce, at least once every 15 calendar months, cyber security practices (which may include associated physical security practices).

Rationale for Modifications to Sections 2 and 3 of Attachment 1 (Requirement R2):

Requirement R2 mandates that entities develop and implement one or more cyber security plan(s) to meet specific security control objectives for assets containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). In Paragraph 73 of FERC Order No. 822, the Commission directed NERC to modify “...the Low Impact External Routable Connectivity definition to reflect the commentary in the Guidelines and Technical Basis section of CIP-003-6...to provide needed clarity to the definition and eliminate ambiguity surrounding the term “direct” as it is used in the proposed definition...within one year of the effective date of this Final Rule.

The revisions to Section 3 incorporate select language from the LERC definition into Attachment 1 and focus the requirement on implementing electronic access controls for asset(s) containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). This change requires the Responsible Entity to permit only necessary inbound and outbound electronic access when using a routable protocol entering or leaving the asset between low impact BES Cyber System(s) and a Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset containing low impact BES Cyber system(s). When this communication is present, Responsible Entities are required to implement electronic access controls unless that communication meets the exclusion language (previously in the definition of LERC) contained in (iii) which reads: “not used for time-sensitive protection or control functions between intelligent electronic devices (e.g. communications using protocol IEC TR-61850-90-5 R-GOOSE)”.

The revisions to Section 2 of Attachment 1 complement the revisions to Section 3; consequently, the requirement now mandates the Responsible Entity control physical access to “the Cyber Asset(s), as specified by the Responsible Entity, that provide electronic access control(s) implemented for Section 3.1, if any.” The

focus on electronic access controls rather than on the Low Impact BES Cyber System Electronic Access Points (LEAPs) eliminates the need for LEAPs.

Given these revisions to Sections 2 and 3, the NERC Glossary terms: Low Impact External Routable Connectivity (LERC) and Low Impact BES Cyber System Electronic Access Point (LEAP) will be retired.

Section 2. Physical Security Controls: Each Responsible Entity shall control physical access, based on need as determined by the Responsible Entity, to (1) the asset or the locations of the low impact BES Cyber Systems within the asset, and (2) the Cyber Asset(s), as specified by the Responsible Entity, that provide electronic access control(s) implemented for Section 3.1, if any.

Section 3. Electronic Access Controls: ~~Each~~For each asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s) identified pursuant to CIP-002, the Responsible Entity shall implement electronic access controls to:

3.1 ~~Implement~~Permit only necessary inbound and outbound electronic access control(s) ~~as determined by the Responsible Entity for LERC, if any, to permit only necessary electronic access to~~ communications that are:

- i. between a low impact BES Cyber System(s) and a Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s);
- ii. ~~Implement authentication for~~using a routable protocol when entering or leaving the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s); and,
- iii. not used for time-sensitive protection or control functions between intelligent electronic devices (e.g. communications using protocol IEC TR-61850-90-5 R-GOOSE).

3.2 Authenticate all Dial-up Connectivity, if any, that provides access to low impact BES Cyber System(s), per Cyber Asset capability.

Section 4. Cyber Security Incident Response: Each Responsible Entity shall have one or more Cyber Security Incident response plan(s), either by asset or group of assets, which shall include:

- 4.1** Identification, classification, and response to Cyber Security Incidents;
- 4.2** Determination of whether an identified Cyber Security Incident is a Reportable Cyber Security Incident and subsequent notification to the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC), unless prohibited by law;
- 4.3** Identification of the roles and responsibilities for Cyber Security Incident response by groups or individuals;
- 4.4** Incident handling for Cyber Security Incidents;

- 4.5** Testing the Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) at least once every 36 calendar months by: (1) responding to an actual Reportable Cyber Security Incident; (2) using a drill or tabletop exercise of a Reportable Cyber Security Incident; or (3) using an operational exercise of a Reportable Cyber Security Incident; and
- 4.6** Updating the Cyber Security Incident response plan(s), if needed, within 180 calendar days after completion of a Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) test or actual Reportable Cyber Security Incident.

Attachment 2

Examples of Evidence for Cyber Security Plan(s) for Assets Containing Low Impact BES Cyber Systems

Section 1. Cyber Security Awareness: An example of evidence for Section 1 may include, but is not limited to, documentation that the reinforcement of cyber security practices occurred at least once every 15 calendar months. The evidence could be documentation through one or more of the following methods:

- Direct communications (for example, e-mails, memos, or computer-based training);
- Indirect communications (for example, posters, intranet, or brochures); or
- Management support and reinforcement (for example, presentations or meetings).

Section 2. Physical Security Controls: Examples of evidence for Section 2 may include, but are not limited to:

- Documentation of the selected access control(s) (e.g., card key, locks, perimeter controls), monitoring controls (e.g., alarm systems, human observation), or other operational, procedural, or technical physical security controls that control physical access to both:
 - a. The asset, if any, or the locations of the low impact BES Cyber Systems within the asset; and
 - b. The Cyber Asset specified by the Responsible Entity that provides electronic access controls implemented for Section 3.1, if any.

Section 3. Electronic Access Controls: Examples of evidence for Section 3 may include, but are not limited to:

1. Documentation, such as representative diagrams or lists of implemented electronic access controls (e.g., restricting IP addresses, ports, or services; ~~authenticating users; air gapping networks; terminating routable protocol sessions on a non-BES Cyber Asset;~~ implementing unidirectional gateways) showing that ~~for LERC~~ at each asset or group of assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, ~~is confined,~~ routable communication between a low impact BES Cyber System(s) and a Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset is restricted by electronic access controls to permit only ~~to~~ inbound and outbound electronic access that ~~access~~ the Responsible Entity deems necessary, except where an entity provides rationale that communication is used for time-sensitive protection or control functions between intelligent electronic devices; and
2. Documentation of authentication for Dial-up Connectivity (e.g., dial out only to a preprogrammed number to deliver data, dial-back modems, modems that must

be remotely controlled by the control center or control room, or access control on the BES Cyber System).

Section 4. Cyber Security Incident Response: An example of evidence for Section 4 may include, but is not limited to, dated documentation, such as policies, procedures, or process documents of one or more Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) developed either by asset or group of assets that include the following processes:

1. to identify, classify, and respond to Cyber Security Incidents; to determine whether an identified Cyber Security Incident is a Reportable Cyber Security Incident and for notifying the Electricity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (E-ISAC);
2. to identify and document the roles and responsibilities for Cyber Security Incident response by groups or individuals (e.g., initiating, documenting, monitoring, reporting, etc.);
3. for incident handling of a Cyber Security Incident (e.g., containment, eradication, or recovery/incident resolution);
4. for testing the plan(s) along with the dated documentation that a test has been completed at least once every 36 calendar months; and
5. to update, as needed, Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) within 180 calendar days after completion of a test or actual Reportable Cyber Security Incident.

Guidelines and Technical Basis

Section 4 – Scope of Applicability of the CIP Cyber Security Standards

Section “4. Applicability” of the standards provides important information for Responsible Entities to determine the scope of the applicability of the CIP Cyber Security Requirements.

Section “4.1. Functional Entities” is a list of NERC functional entities to which the standard applies. If the entity is registered as one or more of the functional entities listed in Section 4.1, then the NERC CIP Cyber Security Standards apply. Note that there is a qualification in Section 4.1 that restricts the applicability in the case of Distribution Providers to only those that own certain types of systems and equipment listed in 4.2.

Section “4.2. Facilities” defines the scope of the Facilities, systems, and equipment owned by the Responsible Entity, as qualified in Section 4.1, that is subject to the requirements of the standard. In addition to the set of BES Facilities, Control Centers, and other systems and equipment, the list includes the set of systems and equipment owned by Distribution Providers. While the NERC Glossary term “Facilities” already includes the BES characteristic, the additional use of the term BES here is meant to reinforce the scope of applicability of these Facilities where it is used, especially in this applicability scoping section. This in effect sets the scope of Facilities, systems, and equipment that is subject to the standards.

Requirement R1:

In developing policies in compliance with Requirement R1, the number of policies and their content should be guided by a Responsible Entity's management structure and operating conditions. Policies might be included as part of a general information security program for the entire organization, or as components of specific programs. The Responsible Entity has the flexibility to develop a single comprehensive cyber security policy covering the required topics, or it may choose to develop a single high-level umbrella policy and provide additional policy detail in lower level documents in its documentation hierarchy. In the case of a high-level umbrella policy, the Responsible Entity would be expected to provide the high-level policy as well as the additional documentation in order to demonstrate compliance with CIP-003-7, Requirement R1.

If a Responsible Entity has any high or medium impact BES Cyber Systems, the one or more cyber security policies must cover the nine subject matter areas required by CIP-003-7, Requirement R1, Part 1.1. If a Responsible Entity has identified from CIP-002 any assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, ~~also referred to herein as BES assets~~, the one or more cyber security policies must cover the four subject matter areas required by Requirement R1, Part 1.2.

Responsible Entities that have multiple-impact rated BES Cyber Systems are not required to create separate cyber security policies for high, medium, or low impact BES Cyber Systems. The Responsible Entities have the flexibility to develop policies that cover all three impact ratings.

Implementation of the cyber security policy is not specifically included in CIP-003-7, Requirement R1 as it is envisioned that the implementation of this policy is evidenced through successful implementation of CIP-003 through CIP-011. However, Responsible Entities are encouraged not to limit the scope of their cyber security policies to only those requirements in

NERC cyber security Reliability Standards, but to develop a holistic cyber security policy appropriate for its organization. Elements of a policy that extend beyond the scope of NERC's cyber security Reliability Standards will not be considered candidates for potential violations although they will help demonstrate the organization's internal culture of compliance and posture towards cyber security.

For Part 1.1, the Responsible Entity should consider the following for each of the required topics in its one or more cyber security policies for medium and high impact BES Cyber Systems, if any:

1.1.1 Personnel and training (CIP-004)

- Organization position on acceptable background investigations
- Identification of possible disciplinary action for violating this policy
- Account management

1.1.2 Electronic Security Perimeters (CIP-005) including Interactive Remote Access

- Organization stance on use of wireless networks
- Identification of acceptable authentication methods
- Identification of trusted and untrusted resources
- Monitoring and logging of ingress and egress at Electronic Access Points
- Maintaining up-to-date anti-malware software before initiating Interactive Remote Access
- Maintaining up-to-date patch levels for operating systems and applications used to initiate Interactive Remote Access
- Disabling VPN "split-tunneling" or "dual-homed" workstations before initiating Interactive Remote Access
- For vendors, contractors, or consultants: include language in contracts that requires adherence to the Responsible Entity's Interactive Remote Access controls

1.1.3 Physical security of BES Cyber Systems (CIP-006)

- Strategy for protecting Cyber Assets from unauthorized physical access
- Acceptable physical access control methods
- Monitoring and logging of physical ingress

1.1.4 System security management (CIP-007)

- Strategies for system hardening
- Acceptable methods of authentication and access control
- Password policies including length, complexity, enforcement, prevention of brute force attempts

- Monitoring and logging of BES Cyber Systems
- 1.1.5 Incident reporting and response planning (CIP-008)
- Recognition of Cyber Security Incidents
 - Appropriate notifications upon discovery of an incident
 - Obligations to report Cyber Security Incidents
- 1.1.6 Recovery plans for BES Cyber Systems (CIP-009)
- Availability of spare components
 - Availability of system backups
- 1.1.7 Configuration change management and vulnerability assessments (CIP-010)
- Initiation of change requests
 - Approval of changes
 - Break-fix processes
- 1.1.8 Information protection (CIP-011)
- Information access control methods
 - Notification of unauthorized information disclosure
 - Information access on a need-to-know basis
- 1.1.9 Declaring and responding to CIP Exceptional Circumstances
- Processes to invoke special procedures in the event of a CIP Exceptional Circumstance
 - Processes to allow for exceptions to policy that do not violate CIP requirements

Requirements relating to exceptions to a Responsible Entity's security policies were removed because it is a general management issue that is not within the scope of a reliability requirement. It is an internal policy requirement and not a reliability requirement. However, Responsible Entities are encouraged to continue this practice as a component of their cyber security policies.

In this and all subsequent required approvals in the NERC CIP Reliability Standards, the Responsible Entity may elect to use hardcopy or electronic approvals to the extent that there is sufficient evidence to ensure the authenticity of the approving party.

Requirement R2:

~~Using the list of assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems from CIP-002, the intent of the requirement~~The intent of Requirement R2 is for each Responsible Entity to create, document, and implement one or more cyber security plan(s) that ~~addresses~~address the security objective ~~criteria~~ for the protection of low impact BES Cyber Systems. ~~The protections required by Requirement R2 reflect the level of risk that misuse or the unavailability of low impact BES Cyber Systems poses to the BES. The intent is that the~~The required protections are designed to

be part of a program that covers the low impact BES Cyber Systems collectively ~~either~~ at an asset ~~or site~~-level (based on the list of assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems identified in CIP-002), but not at an individual device or system level.

~~There are four subject matter areas, as identified in Attachment 1, that must be covered by the cyber security plan: (1) cyber security awareness, (2) physical security controls, (3) electronic access controls for LERC and Dial-up Connectivity, and (4) Cyber Security Incident response.~~

Requirement R2, Attachment 1

As noted, Attachment 1 contains the sections that must be included in the cyber security plan(s). The intent is to allow entities that have a combination of high, medium, and low impact BES Cyber Systems the flexibility to choose, if desired, to cover their low impact BES Cyber Systems (or any subset) under their programs used for the high or medium impact BES Cyber Systems rather than maintain two separate programs. ~~Guidance for each of the four subject matter areas of Attachment 1 is provided below~~The purpose of the cyber security plan(s) in Requirement R2 is for Responsible Entities to use the cyber security plan(s) as a means of documenting their approaches to meeting the subject matter areas. The cyber security plan(s) can be used to reference other policies and procedures that demonstrate “how” the Responsible Entity is meeting each of the subject matter areas, or Responsible Entities can develop comprehensive cyber security plan(s) that contain all of the detailed implementation content solely within the cyber security plan itself. To meet the obligation for the cyber security plan, the expectation is that the cyber security plan contains or references sufficient details to address the implementation of each of the required subject matters areas.

Guidance for each of the subject matter areas of Attachment 1 is provided below.

Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 1 – Cyber Security Awareness

The intent of the cyber security awareness program is for entities to reinforce good cyber security practices with their personnel at least once every 15 calendar months. The entity has the discretion to determine the topics to be addressed and the manner in which it will communicate these topics. As evidence of compliance, the Responsible Entity should be able to produce the awareness material that was delivered according to the delivery method(s) (e.g., posters, emails, or topics at staff meetings, etc.). The Responsible Entity is not required to maintain lists of recipients and track the reception of the awareness material by personnel.

Although the focus of the awareness is cyber security, it does not mean that only technology-related topics can be included in the program. Appropriate physical security topics (e.g., tailgating awareness and protection of badges for physical security, or “If you see something, say something” campaigns, etc.) are valid for cyber security awareness. The intent is to cover topics concerning any aspect of the protection of BES Cyber Systems.

Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 2 – Physical Security Controls

The Responsible Entity must document and implement methods to control physical access to (1) the asset or the locations of low impact BES Cyber Systems within the asset, and (2) Cyber Assets that implement the electronic access control(s) specified by the Responsible Entity in Section 3.1, if any. If these Cyber Assets implementing the electronic access controls are located within the ~~BES~~same asset as the low impact BES Cyber Asset(s) and inherit the same physical access controls outlined in Section 2, this can be noted by the Responsible Entity in either its policies or cyber security plan(s) to avoid duplicate documentation of the same controls.

The Responsible Entity has the flexibility ~~in the selection of~~to select the methods used to meet the objective ~~to control~~of controlling physical access to (1) the asset(s) containing low impact BES Cyber System(s) or the low impact BES Cyber Systems themselves, ~~as well as physical protection of~~ and (2) the electronic access control Cyber Assets specified by the Responsible

Entity, if any. The Responsible Entity may use one or a combination of physical access controls, monitoring controls, or other operational, procedural, or technical physical security controls. Entities may use perimeter controls (e.g., fences with locked gates, guards, or site access policies, etc.) or more granular areas of physical access control in areas where low impact BES Cyber Systems are located, such as control rooms or control houses. ~~User authorization programs and lists of authorized users for physical access are not required although they are an option to meet the security objective.~~

The security objective is to control the physical access based on need as determined by the Responsible Entity. The need for physical access can be documented at the policy level ~~for access to the site or systems.~~ The requirement does not obligate an entity to specify a need for each physical access or authorization of ~~a user~~an individual for physical access.

Monitoring as a physical security control can be used as a complement or an alternative to physical access control. Examples of monitoring controls include, but are not limited to: (1) alarm systems to detect motion or entry into a controlled area, or (2) human observation of a controlled area. Monitoring does not necessarily require logging and maintaining logs but could include monitoring that physical access has occurred or been attempted (e.g., door alarm, or human observation, etc.). The monitoring does not need to be per low impact BES Cyber System but should be at the appropriate level to meet the security objective of controlling physical access.

User authorization programs and lists of authorized users for physical access are not required although they are an option to meet the security objective.

Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 3 – Electronic Access Controls

Section 3 requires the establishment of electronic access controls for assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, ~~also referred to herein as BES assets~~ when ~~external~~there is routable protocol communication (~~LERC~~) or Dial-up Connectivity ~~is present to or from~~between Cyber Asset(s) outside of the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) and the low impact BES Cyber System(s) within such asset. The establishment of electronic access controls is intended to reduce the risks associated with uncontrolled communication using routable protocols or Dial-up Connectivity. ~~In the case where there is no LERC or Dial-up Connectivity, the Responsible Entity can document the absence of such communication in its low impact cyber security plan(s).~~

When implementing Section 3.1, Responsible Entities should note that electronic access controls to permit only necessary inbound and outbound electronic access are required for communications when those communications meet all three of the criteria identified in Section 3.1. The Responsible Entity should evaluate the communications and when all three criteria are met, the Responsible Entity must document and implement electronic access control(s).

When identifying electronic access controls, Responsible Entities are provided flexibility in the selection of the electronic access controls that meet their operational needs while meeting the security objective of allowing only necessary inbound and outbound electronic access to low

impact BES Cyber Systems that use routable protocols between a low impact BES Cyber System(s) and Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset.

In essence, Responsible Entities are to determine LERC whether there is communication between a low impact BES Cyber System(s) and a Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s) that uses a routable protocol when entering or leaving the asset or Dial-up Connectivity for their BES assets and then, if to the low impact BES Cyber System(s). Where such communication is present, Responsible Entities should document and implement electronic access control(s).

Determining LERC

~~The defined term Low Impact External Routable Communication (LERC) is used to avoid confusion with the term External Routable Connectivity (ERC) used for high and medium impact BES Cyber Systems as these terms. Where routable protocol communication for time-sensitive protection or control functions between intelligent electronic devices that meets the exclusion language is present, Responsible Entities should document that communication, but are different concepts. not required to establish any specific electronic access controls.~~

~~The input/inputs to this requirement from are the assets identified in CIP-002 is a list of assets as containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, System(s); therefore LERC is an attribute of a BES asset and involves, the determination of routable protocol communications to or from the BES asset (crossing the asset boundary) without regard to connectivity to Cyber Assets within the BES asset. ERC on the other hand or Dial-up Connectivity is an attribute of an individual high or medium impact BES Cyber System and is relative to an Electronic Security Perimeter (ESP).~~

~~With LERC being a BES asset level attribute, it is used as a higher level filter to exclude from further consideration those assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems that have no routable protocol communications to them from outside the BES asset. Responsible Entities can then concentrate their electronic access control efforts on those BES assets that do have LERC, the asset. However, this also means that LERC can exist for a BES asset even if there is no routable protocol connectivity to any any communication that provides no access to or from the low impact BES Cyber System within the BES asset(s), but happens to be located at the asset with the low impact BES Cyber System(s), does not require evaluation for electronic access controls.~~

Electronic Access Control Exclusion

In order to avoid future technology issues, the ~~LERC definition specifically excludes obligations for electronic access controls exclude~~ communications between intelligent electronic devices that use routable communication protocols for time-sensitive protection or control functions ~~between non-Control Center BES assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems, such as IEC TR-61850-90-5 R-GOOSE messaging. This does not exclude Control Center to field communication but rather excludes the communication between the intelligent electronic devices (e.g. relays) in the field~~ Time-sensitive in this context generally means functions that would be negatively impacted by the latency introduced in the communications by the required electronic access controls. This time-sensitivity exclusion does not apply to SCADA communications which typically operate on scan rates of 2 seconds or greater. While

technically time-sensitive, SCADA communications over routable protocols can withstand the delay introduced by electronic access controls. Examples of excluded time-sensitive communications are those communications which may necessitate the tripping of a breaker within a few cycles. A Responsible Entity using this technology is not expected to implement the electronic access controls noted herein. This exception was included so as not to inhibit the functionality of the time-sensitive requirements/characteristics related to this technology ~~nor~~ and not to preclude the use of such time-sensitive reliability enhancing functions if they use a routable protocol in the future.

Considerations for Determining Asset Boundary/Routable Protocol Communications

As LERC is a BES asset level attribute, it involves a determination by the ~~In order for~~ Responsible Entity ~~of Entities to determine whether electronic access controls need to be implemented, the~~ Responsible Entity needs to determine whether there is communication between a low impact BES Cyber System(s) and a Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) that use a BES-routable protocol when entering or leaving the asset.

When determining whether a routable protocol is entering or leaving the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s), Responsible Entities have flexibility in identifying an approach to making this evaluation. One approach is for Responsible Entities to identify an “electronic boundary for their assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems. This” associated with the asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). This is not an Electronic Security Perimeter *per se*, but a demarcation that demonstrates the routable protocol communication entering or leaving the asset between a low impact BES Cyber System and Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset to then have electronic access controls implemented. This electronic boundary will may vary by BES asset type (Control Center, substation, generation resource) and the specific configuration of the BES-asset. ~~The~~ if this approach is used, the intent is for the Responsible Entity to define the ~~BES-asset~~ electronic boundary such that the low impact BES Cyber System(s) ~~that are~~ located at the BES-asset are contained within the ~~BES-asset~~ “electronic boundary.” This is strictly for determining ~~what constitutes the BES “asset” and for determining~~ which routable protocol communications and networks are internal or inside or local to the BES-asset and which are external to or outside the BES-asset. ~~This is not an Electronic Security Perimeter or Physical Security Perimeter as defined for medium and high impact BES Cyber Systems. For the asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s), the BES-asset boundary is synonymous to the concept of a “logical border” demarcation where routable protocol communication (e.g. LERC) enters and exits the BES asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System. Some examples of ways a asset.~~

Alternatively, the Responsible Entity may ~~determine~~ find the concepts of what is inside and outside to be intuitively obvious for a Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s) communicating to a low impact BES Cyber System(s) inside the asset. This may be the case when a low impact BES Cyber System(s) is communicating with a Cyber Asset many miles away and a clear and unambiguous demarcation exists. In this case, a Responsible Entity may decide not to identify an “electronic boundary,” but rather to simply leverage the unambiguous asset boundaries are: demarcation to ensure that the electronic access controls

are placed between the low impact BES Cyber System(s) and the Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset.

- ~~For Control Centers~~
 - ~~Designated areas (room(s) or floor(s)) if the Control Center is located within a larger building.~~
 - ~~A building if in a dedicated building on a shared campus.~~
 - ~~The property/fence line if the Control Center is a dedicated facility on dedicated property.~~
- ~~For substations, this could be the property/fence line or the control house.~~

• ~~For generation resources:~~

- ~~○ Fossil/hydro generating facilities: This could be the property/fence line. If pumps or wells or other equipment that are part of the plant asset are outside the property line, then the BES asset boundary could expand to accommodate all that is considered part of the plant.~~
- ~~○ Solar farms: This could be the property line(s) or fence(s) surrounding all solar panels and interconnection facilities.~~
- ~~○ Wind farms: This could be the collection of individual turbines plus the equipment needed for interconnection.~~
- ~~○ Cogeneration facilities: This could be the identified portion of the larger plant that performs generation.~~

Determining Electronic Access Controls

Once a Responsible Entity has determined that ~~LERC exists at~~ there is routable communication between a low impact BES Cyber System(s) and a Cyber Asset(s) outside the BES-asset boundary, containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) that uses a routable protocol when entering or leaving the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s), the Responsible Entity documents and implements its chosen electronic access control(s). The control(s) must allow only “necessary” inbound and outbound electronic access as determined by the Responsible Entity ~~and they need to.~~ The Responsible Entity must be able to explain the reasons for the electronic access permitted ~~with their electronic access controls.~~ The reasoning for the “necessary” inbound and outbound electronic access controls can be documented within the Responsible Entity’s cyber security plan(s) or other policies or procedures associated with the electronic access controls.

Concept Diagrams

The diagrams on the following pages are provided as examples to illustrate various electronic access controls at a conceptual level. Regardless of the concepts or configurations chosen by the Responsible Entity, the security objective of permitting only necessary inbound and outbound electronic access ~~to~~ for communication between low impact BES Cyber Systems and Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) using a routable protocol when entering or leaving the asset must be met ~~when there is LERC to a BES-asset.~~

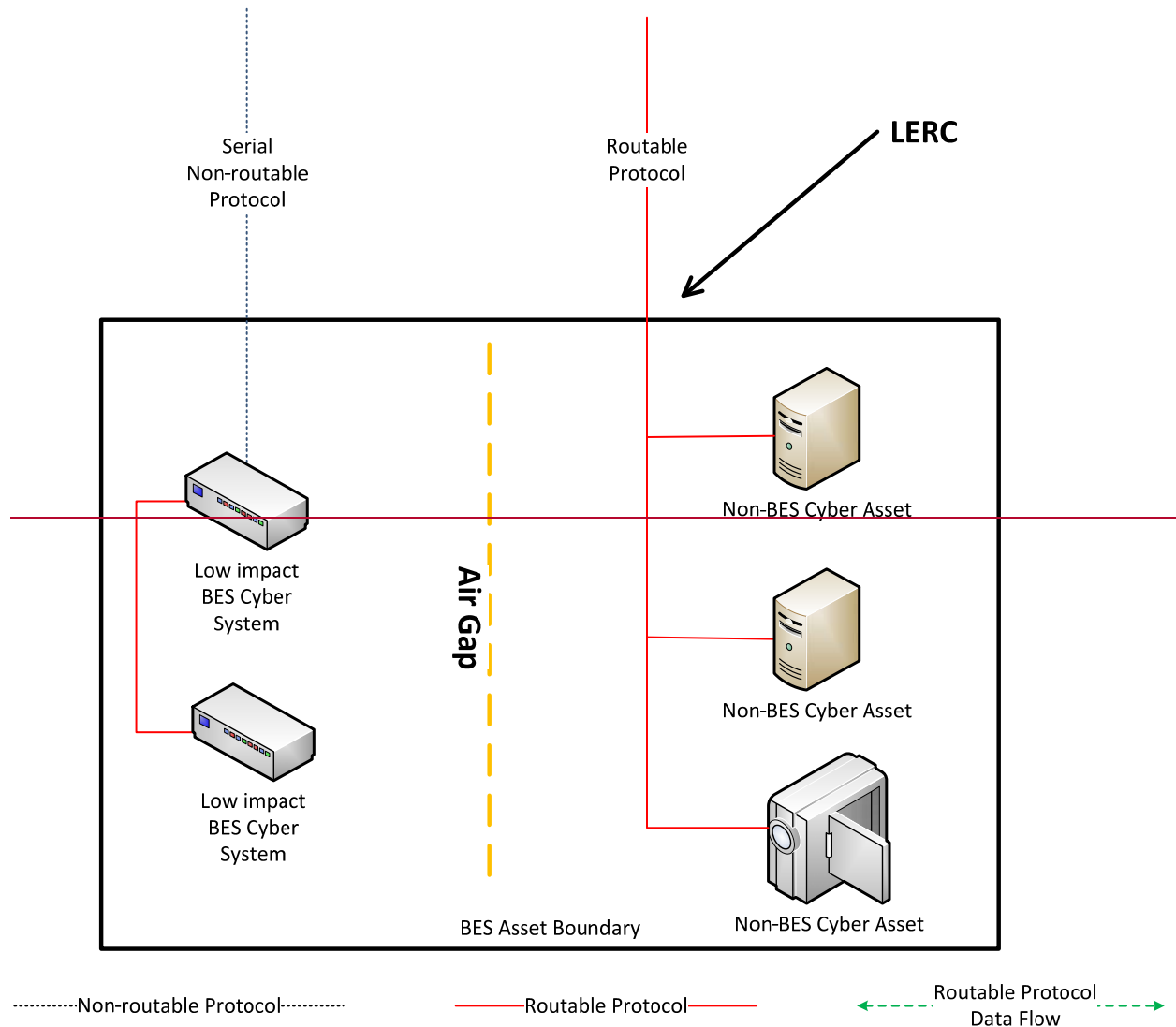
NOTE:

- This is not an exhaustive list of applicable concepts.
- ~~• LERC is present in each diagram.~~
- The same legend is used in each diagram; however, the diagram may not contain all of the articles represented in the legend.
- ~~• The term “BES Asset Boundary” is capitalized in the diagrams but it is not a defined term.~~

~~LERG~~

Reference Model 1 – Physical Isolation

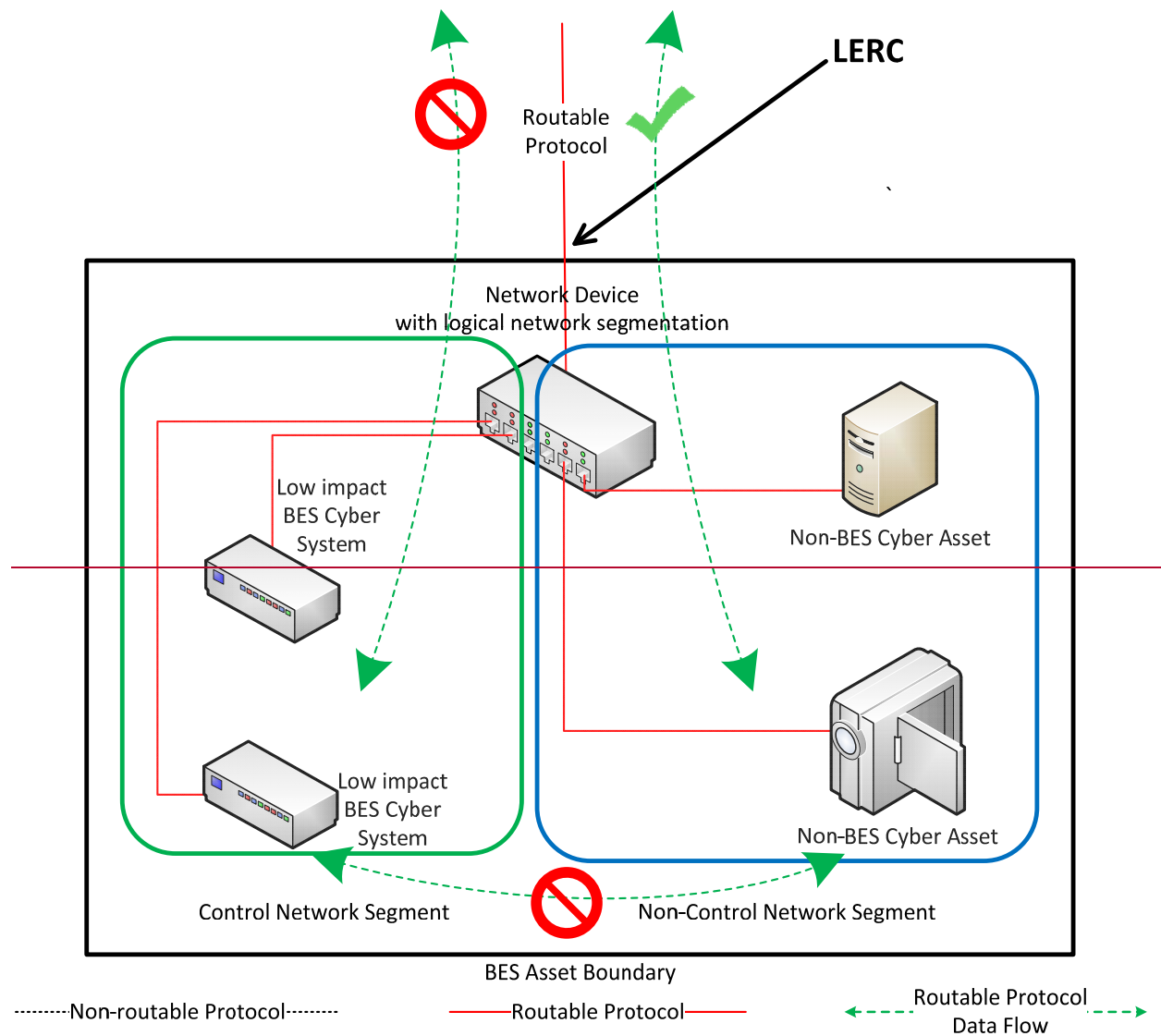
The Responsible Entity may choose to physically isolate the low impact BES Cyber System(s) from the LERC. This control is commonly referred to as an ‘air gap’. The serial non-routable protocol connection and the routable protocol LERC are completely isolated from each other. There is no equipment shared with the low impact BES Cyber System(s).



Reference Model 1

LERC Reference Model 2 — Logical Isolation

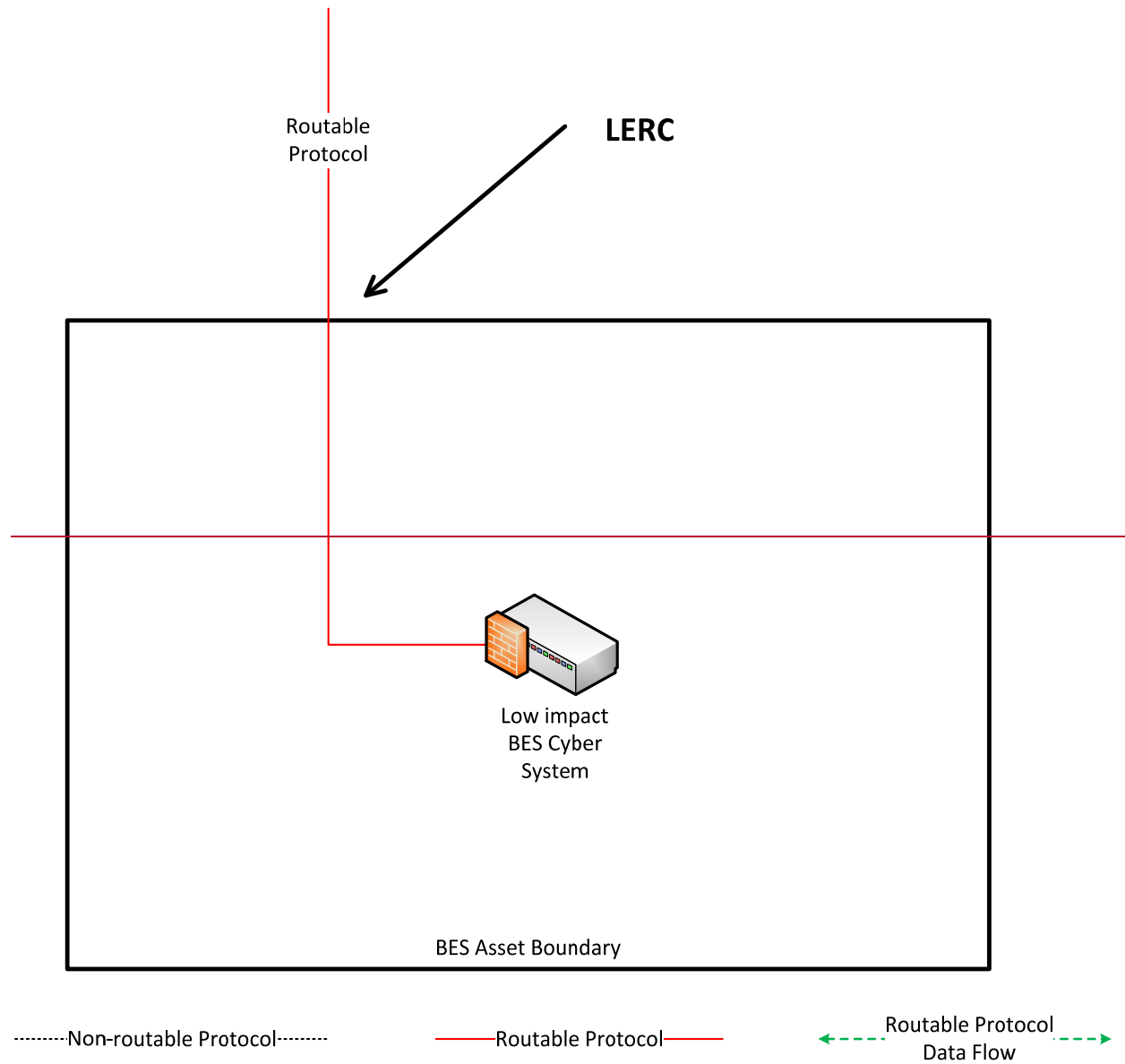
The Responsible Entity may choose to logically isolate the low impact BES Cyber System(s) from the LERC. The low impact BES Cyber System(s) is on an isolated network segment with logical controls preventing routable protocol communication into or out of the network containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s).

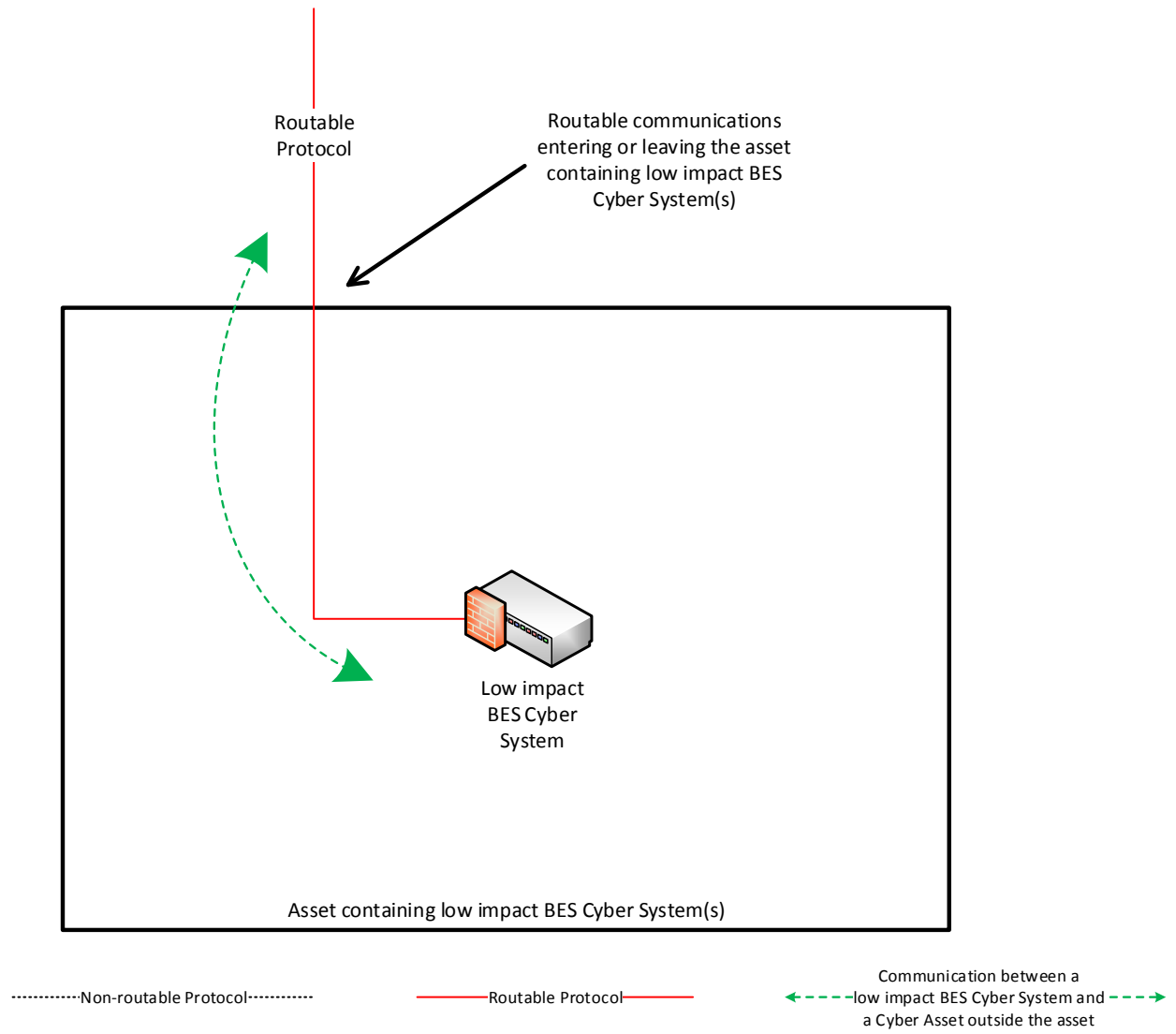


Reference Model 2

~~LERC Reference Model 3~~ – Host-based Inbound & Outbound Access Permissions

The Responsible Entity may choose to utilize a host-based firewall technology on the low impact BES Cyber System(s) itself that manages the inbound and outbound electronic access ~~permission~~permissions so that only necessary inbound and outbound routable protocol access is allowed ~~to the low impact BES Cyber System(s), between the low impact BES Cyber System(s) and the Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s).~~ When permitting the inbound and outbound electronic access permissions, at a minimum, the permissions need to restrict source and destination addresses, or a range of addresses when necessary. Responsible Entities may further restrict electronic access using ports and services based on the capability of the electronic access control, low impact BES Cyber System, application, etc.

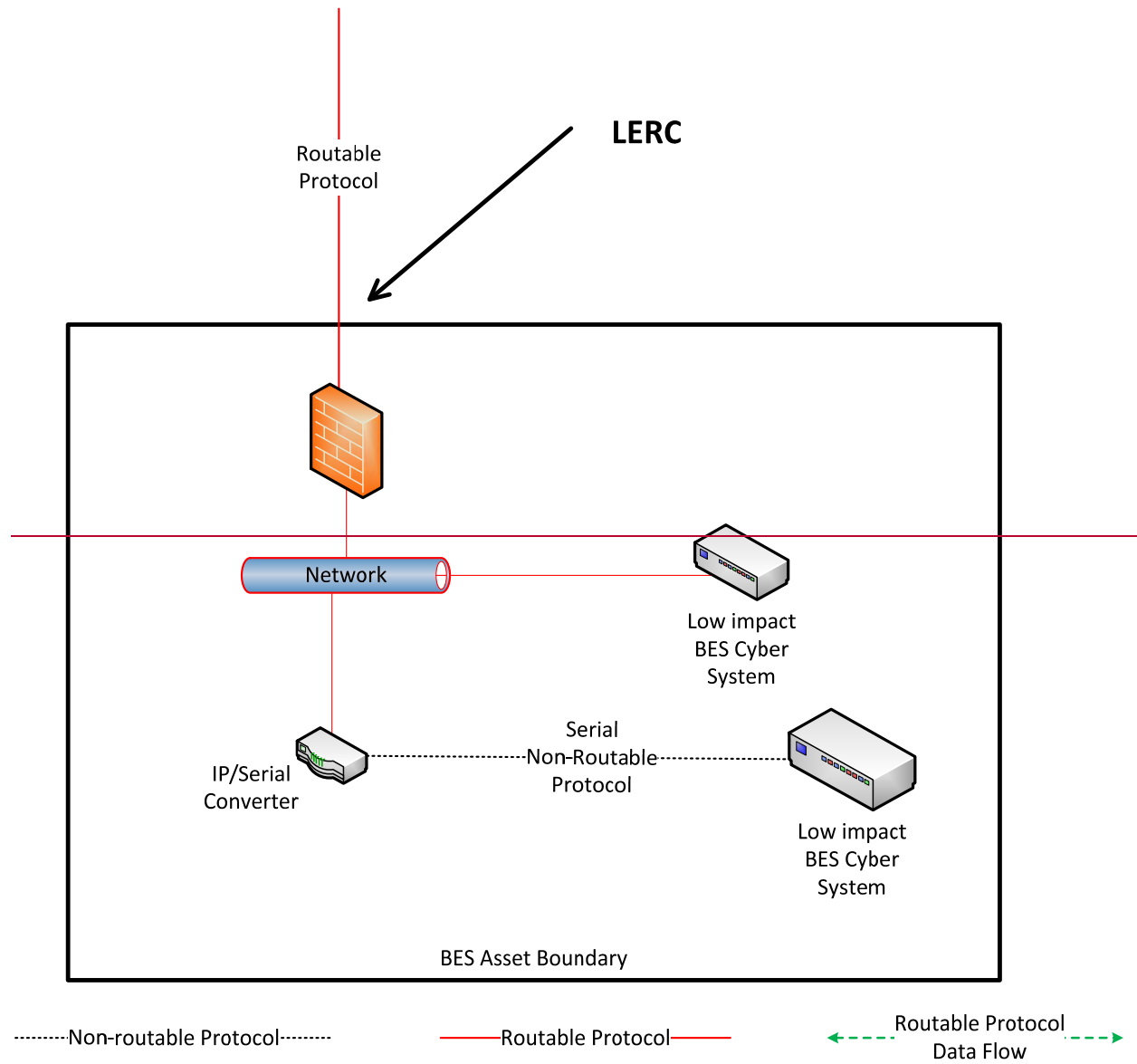


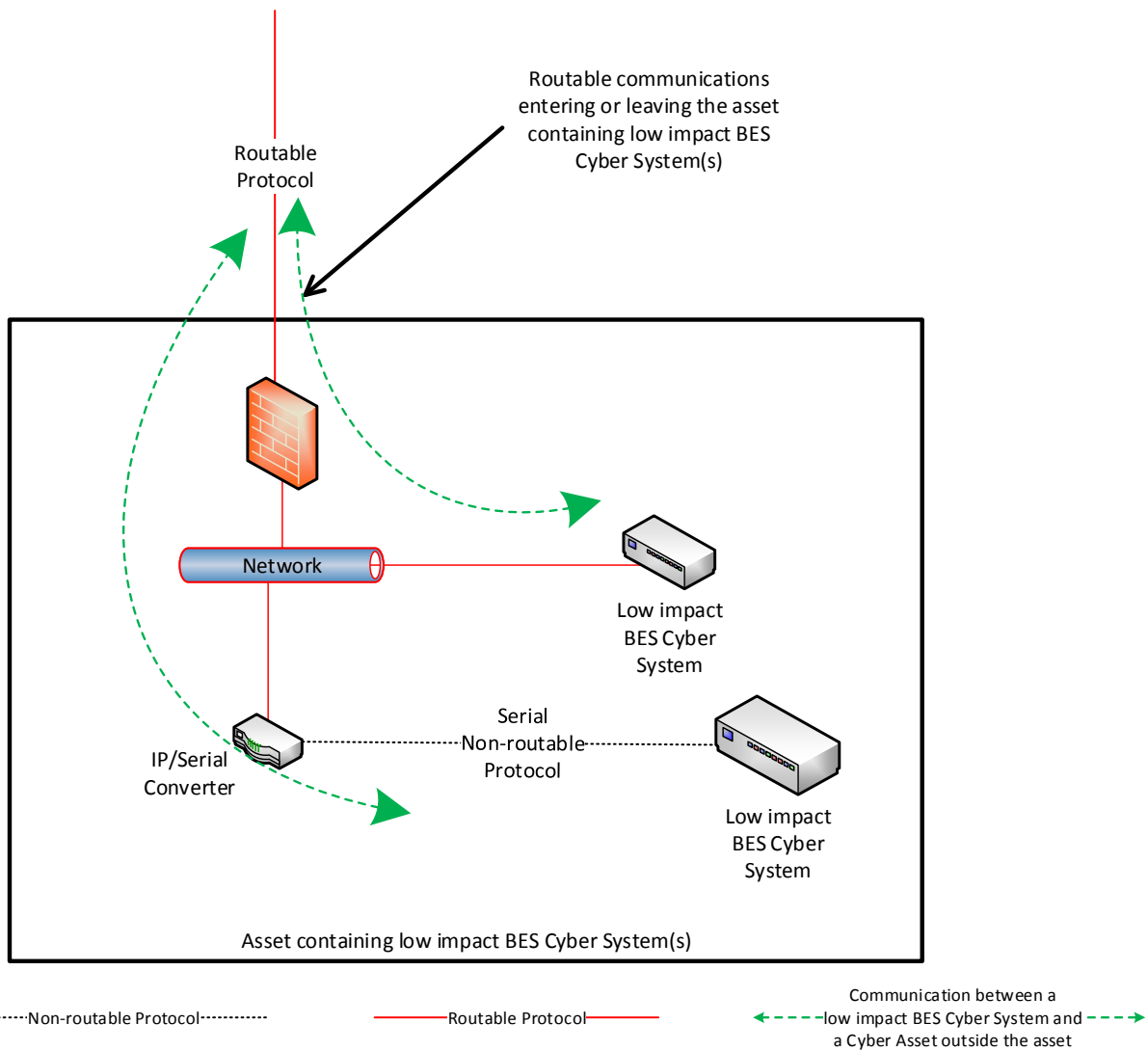


Reference Model 31

~~LERC~~ Reference Model ~~4~~2 – Network-based Inbound & Outbound Access Permissions

The Responsible Entity may choose to ~~utilize~~use a security device that permits only necessary inbound and outbound electronic access to the low impact BES Cyber System(s) within the ~~BES asset~~asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s). In this example, two low impact BES Cyber Systems are accessed ~~over the LERC as the~~using the routable protocol that is entering or leaving the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s). The IP/Serial converter is continuing the same communications session from ~~device~~the Cyber Asset(s) that are outside the ~~BES-asset-boundary~~ to the low impact BES Cyber ~~Systems~~System(s). The security device provides the electronic access controls to permit only necessary inbound and outbound routable protocol access to the low impact BES Cyber ~~Systems~~System(s). When permitting the inbound and outbound electronic access permissions, at a minimum, the permissions need to restrict source and destination addresses, or a range of addresses when necessary. Responsible Entities may further restrict electronic access using ports and services based on the capability of the electronic access control, low impact BES Cyber System, application, etc.



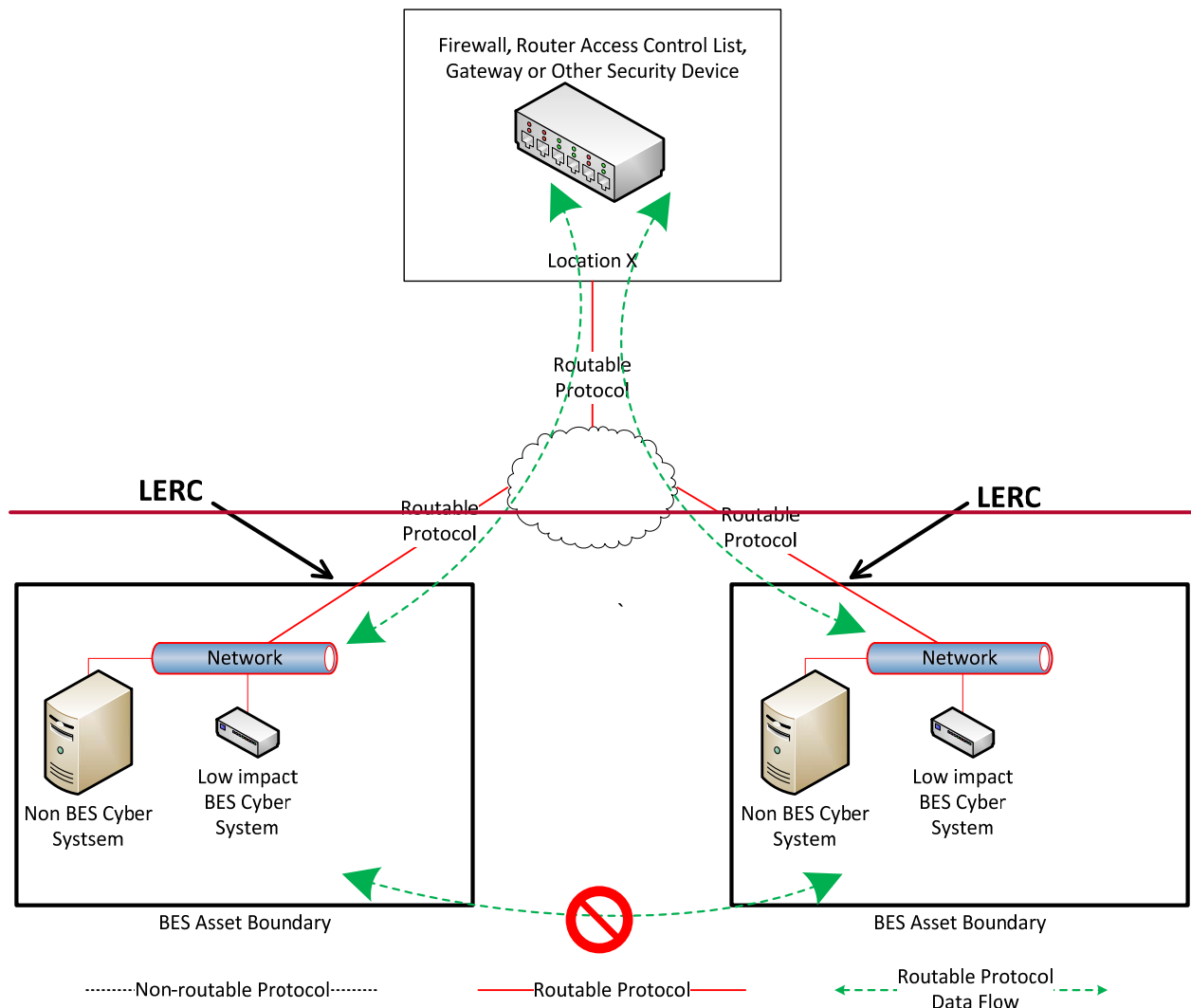


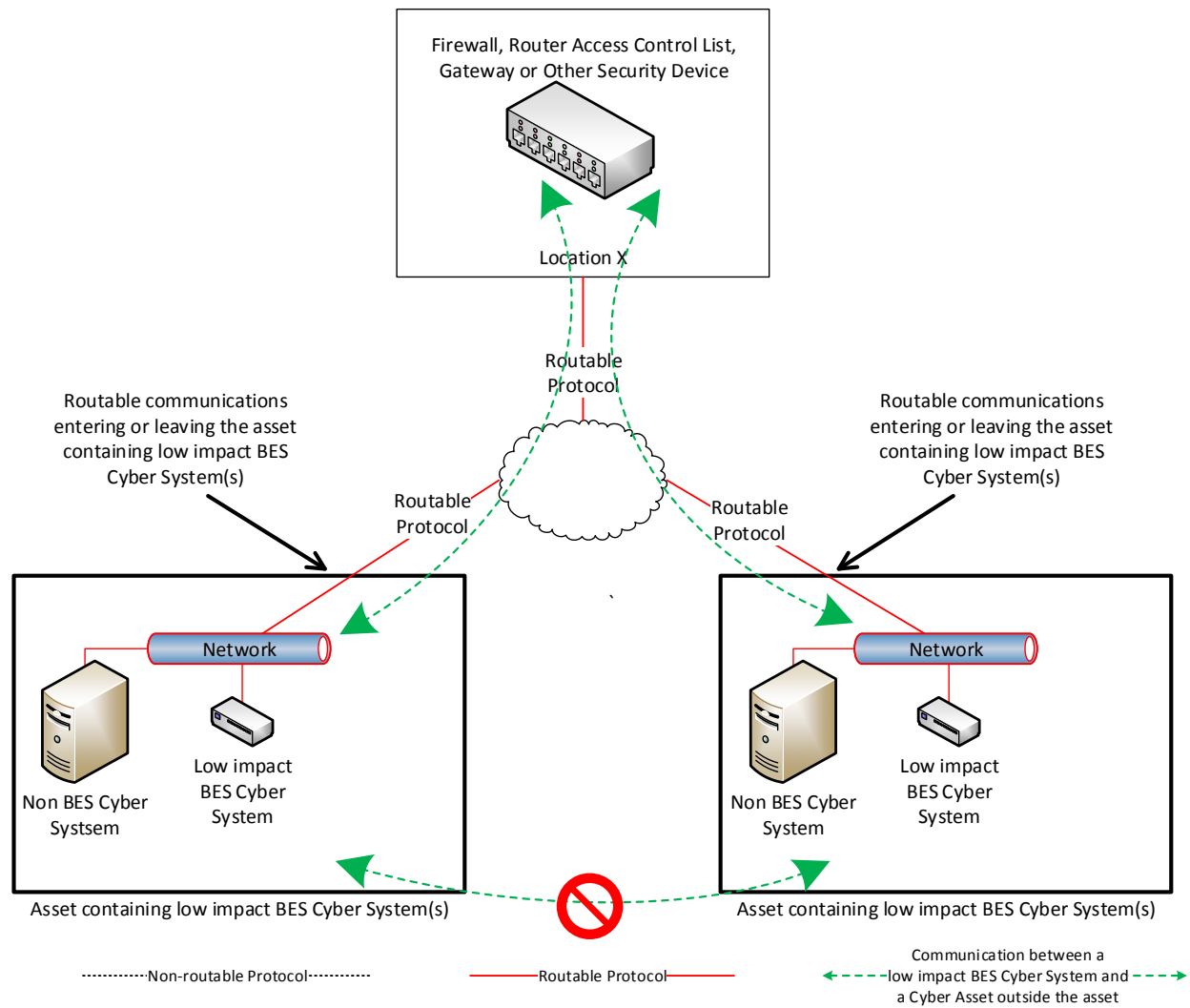
Reference Model 2

Reference Model 4

LERC Reference Model 5.3 – Centralized Network-based Inbound & Outbound Access Permissions

The Responsible Entity may choose to utilize a security device at a centralized location that may or may not be another ~~BES asset~~ asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). The electronic access control(s) do not necessarily have to reside inside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s). A security device is in place at “Location X” to act as the electronic access control and permit only necessary inbound and outbound routable protocol access ~~to~~ between the low impact BES Cyber System(s) and the Cyber Asset(s) outside each asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). Care should be taken that electronic access to or between each ~~BES~~ asset is through the electronic access controls at the centralized location. When permitting the inbound and outbound electronic access permissions, at a minimum, the permissions need to restrict source and destination addresses, or a range of addresses when necessary. Responsible Entities can further restrict electronic access using ports and services based on the capability of the electronic access control, low impact BES Cyber System, application, etc.

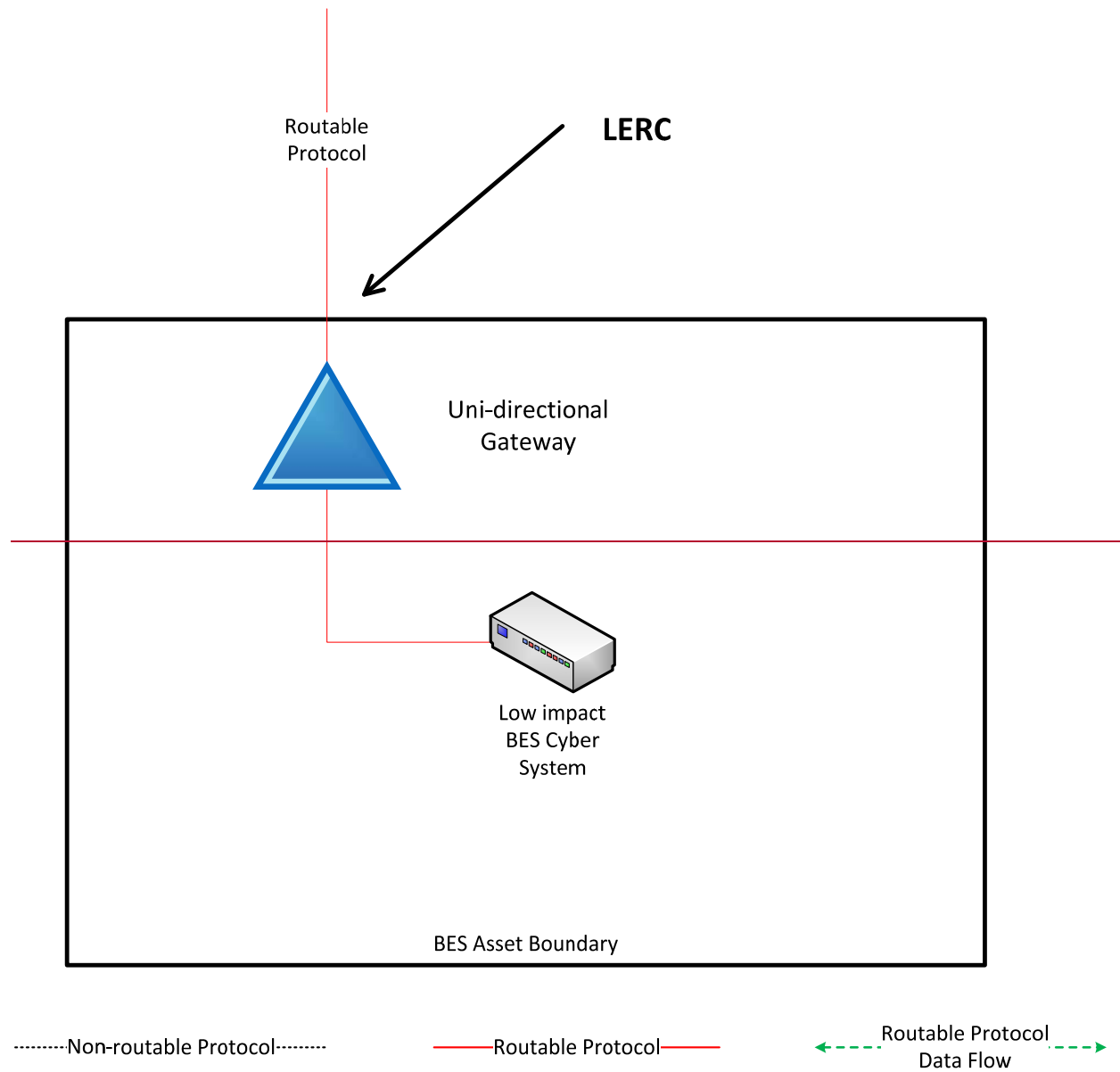


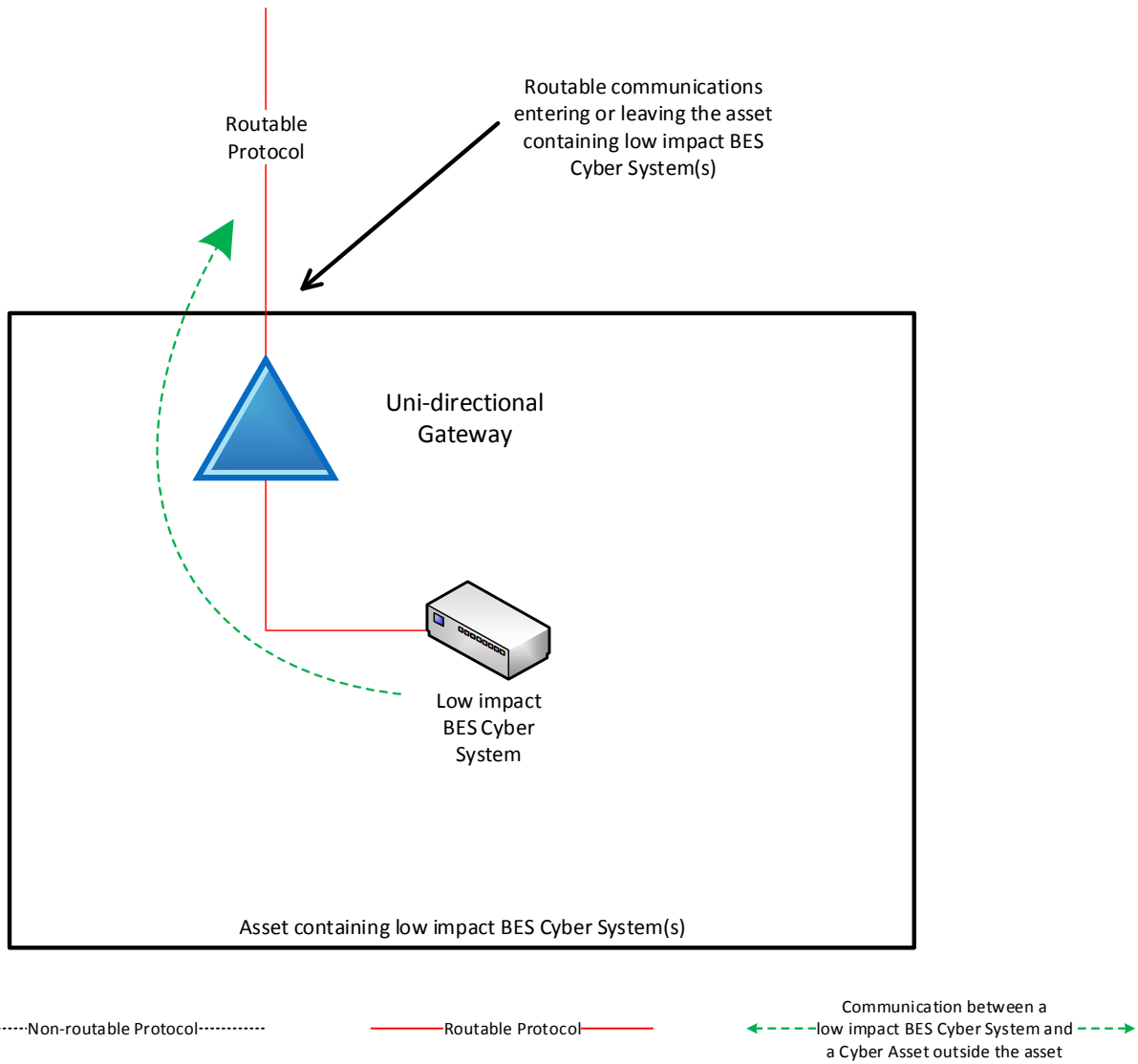


Reference Model 53

~~NERC~~ Reference Model ~~64~~ – Uni-directional Gateway

The Responsible Entity may choose to utilize a uni-directional gateway as the electronic access control. The low impact BES Cyber System(s) is not accessible (data cannot flow into the low impact BES Cyber System) ~~from using~~ the ~~NERC~~routable protocol entering the asset due to the implementation of a “one-way” (uni-directional) path for data to flow ~~across the BES asset boundary~~. The uni-directional gateway is configured to permit only the necessary outbound communications using the routable protocol communication leaving the asset.

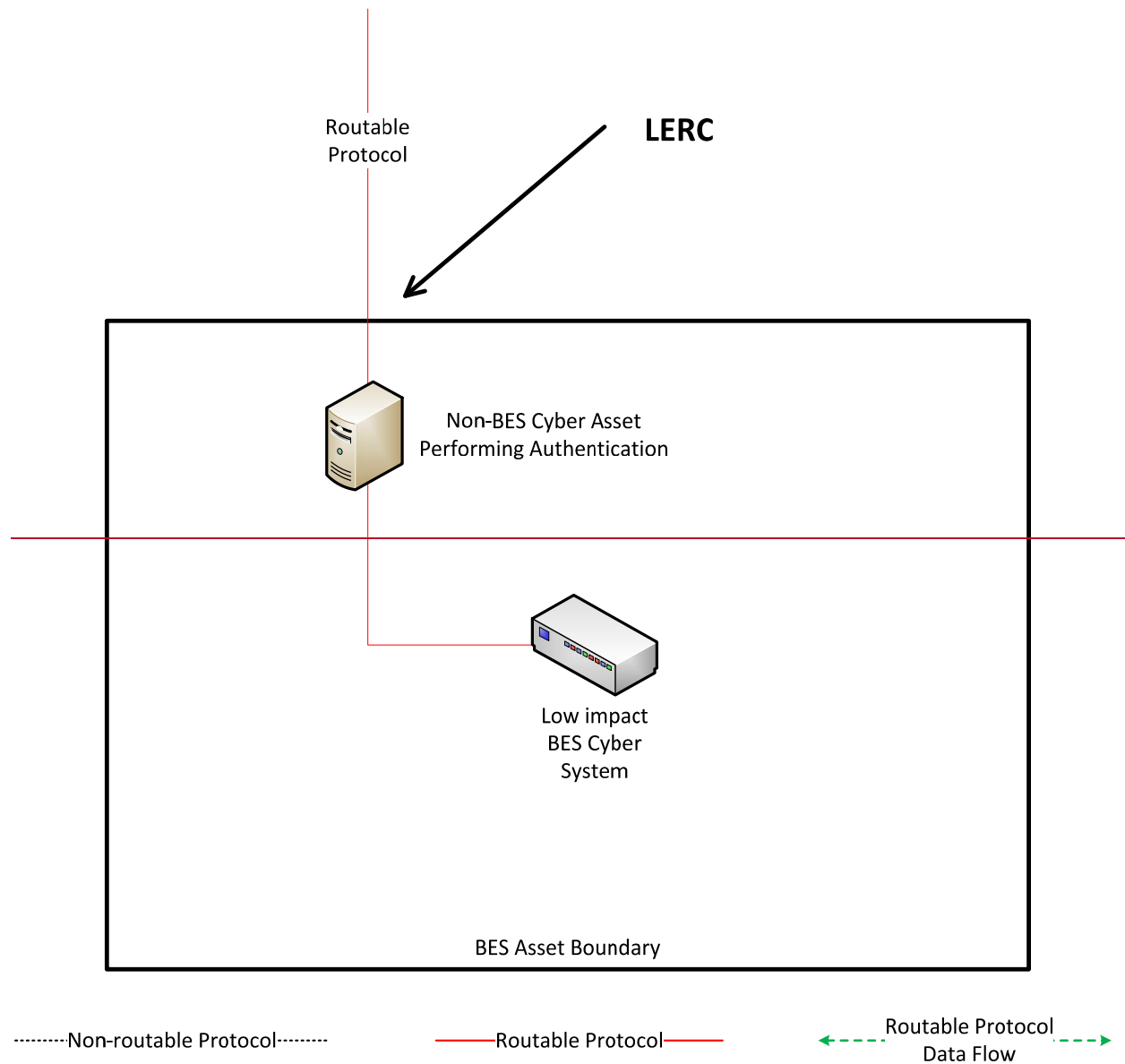




Reference Model 64

~~LERC~~ Reference Model 75 – User Authentication

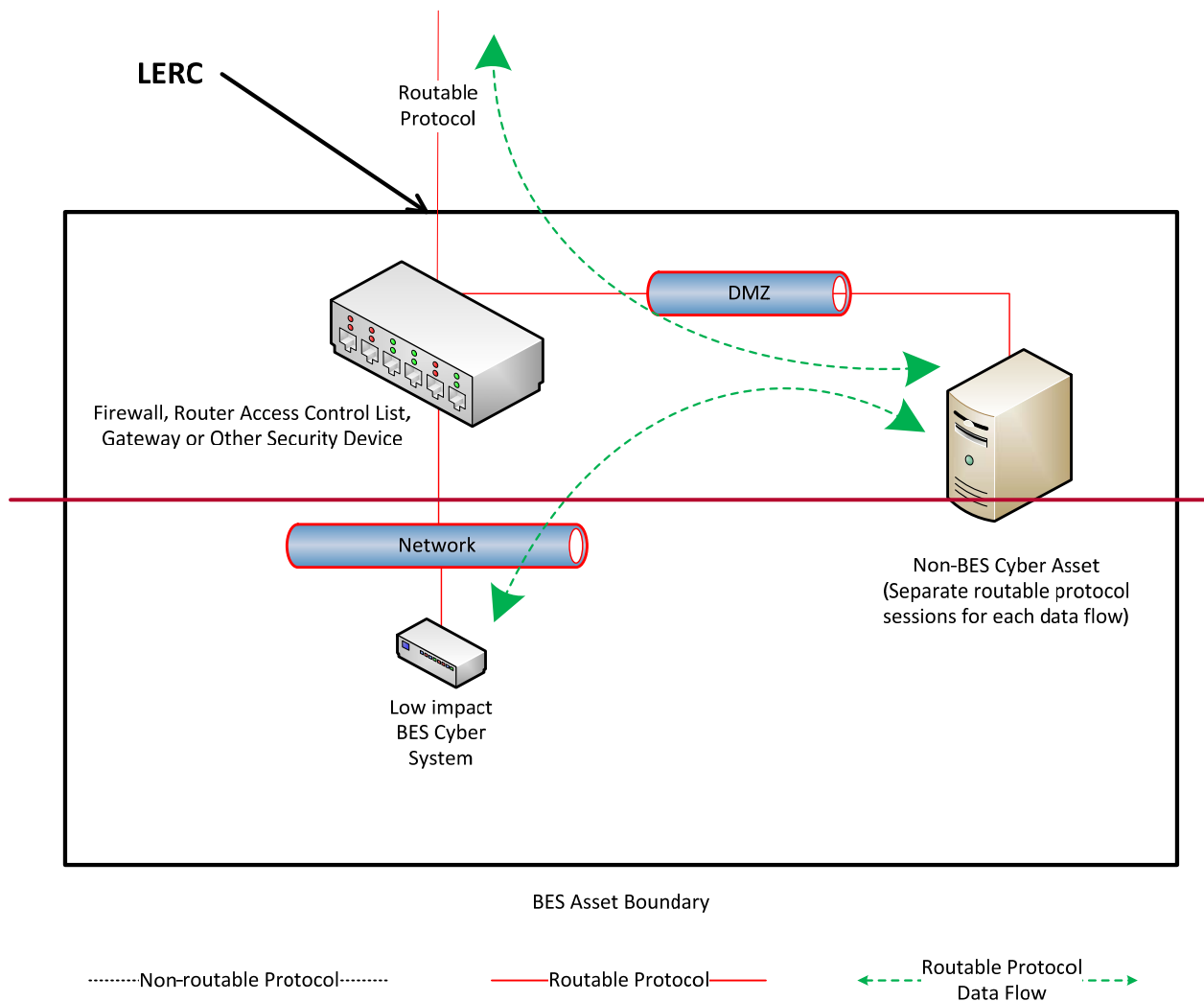
The Responsible Entity may choose to utilize a non-BES Cyber Asset between the network outside the BES asset boundary and the low impact BES Cyber System to perform user authentication for interactive access. The non-BES Cyber Asset would require authentication before establishing a new connection to the low impact BES Cyber System. The electronic access control depicted in this reference model may not meet the security objective for controlling device-to-device communication across the LERC depending on the specific system configuration in place.



Reference Model 7

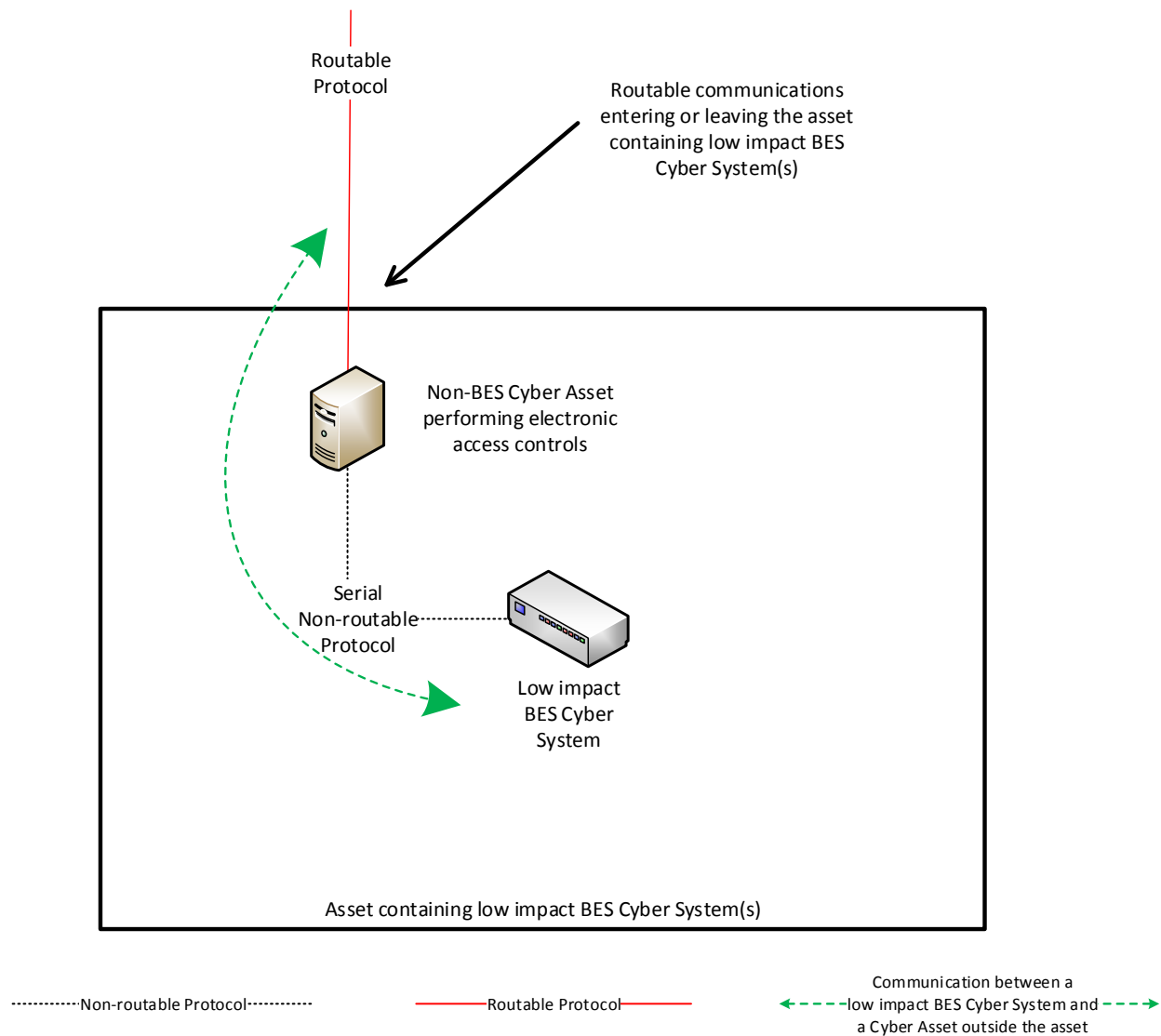
LERC Reference Model 8 — Session Termination

The Responsible Entity may choose to terminate routable protocol application sessions at a non-BES Cyber Asset inside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) such that a separate application session is established to the low impact BES Cyber System(s) from the non-BES Cyber Asset (the routable session from outside the BES asset). The Responsible Entity may choose to authenticate access at a non-BES Cyber Asset either outside BES asset boundary or inside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) such that unauthenticated access to the low impact BES Cyber System(s) is prohibited. The non-BES Cyber Asset sits on a demilitarized zone (DMZ) between the network outside the BES asset boundary and the low impact BES Cyber System(s). The non-BES Cyber Asset in the DMZ terminates the routable protocol session and establishes a new session to the low impact BES Cyber System(s). Additionally, a security device permits traffic from the network outside the BES asset boundary to flow only to and from the non-BES Cyber Asset in the DMZ (the routable session to the low impact BES Cyber System).



This reference model demonstrates that Responsible Entities have flexibility in choosing their electronic access controls so long as the security objective of the requirement is met. The

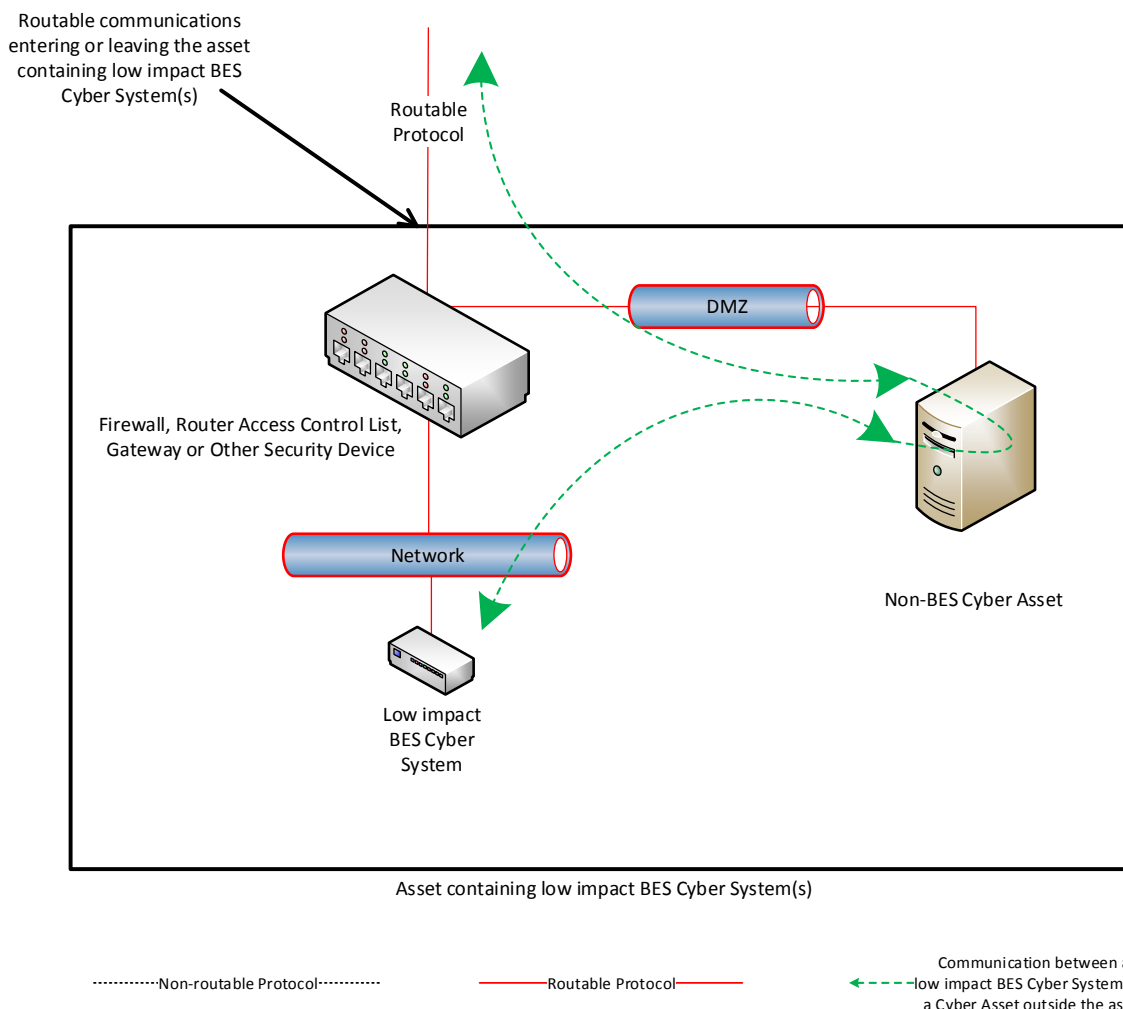
Responsible Entity may choose to utilize a non-BES Cyber Asset located at the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System that requires authentication for communication from the Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset. This non-BES Cyber System performing the authentication permits only authenticated communication to connect to the low impact BES Cyber System(s), meeting the first half of the security objective to permit only necessary inbound electronic access. Additionally, the non-BES Cyber System performing authentication must be configured such that it permits only necessary outbound communication meeting the second half of the security objective. Often, the outbound communications may be controlled in this network architecture by permitting no communication be initiated from the low impact BES Cyber System. This configuration may be beneficial when the only communication to a device is for user-initiated interactive access.



Reference Model 5

Reference Model 6 – Indirect Access

In implementing its electronic access controls, the Responsible Entity may identify that it has indirect access between the low impact BES Cyber System and a Cyber Asset outside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System through a non-BES Cyber Asset located within the asset. This indirect access meets the criteria of having communication between the low impact BES Cyber System and a Cyber Asset outside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System. In this reference model, the Responsible Entity needs to implement electronic access controls that permit only necessary inbound and outbound electronic access to the BES Cyber System. Consistent with the other reference models provided, this electronic access is controlled using the security device that is restricting the communication that is entering or leaving the asset.

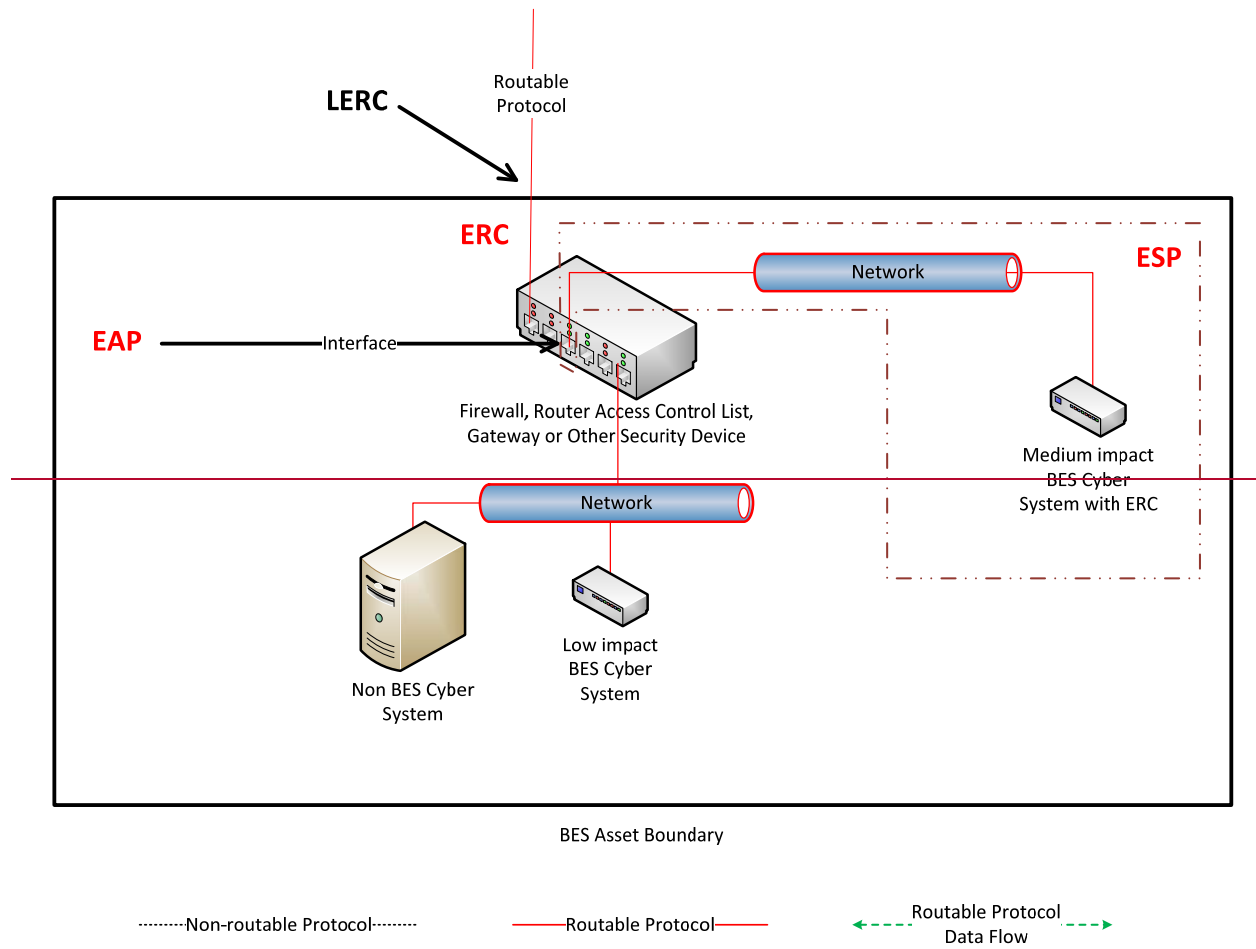


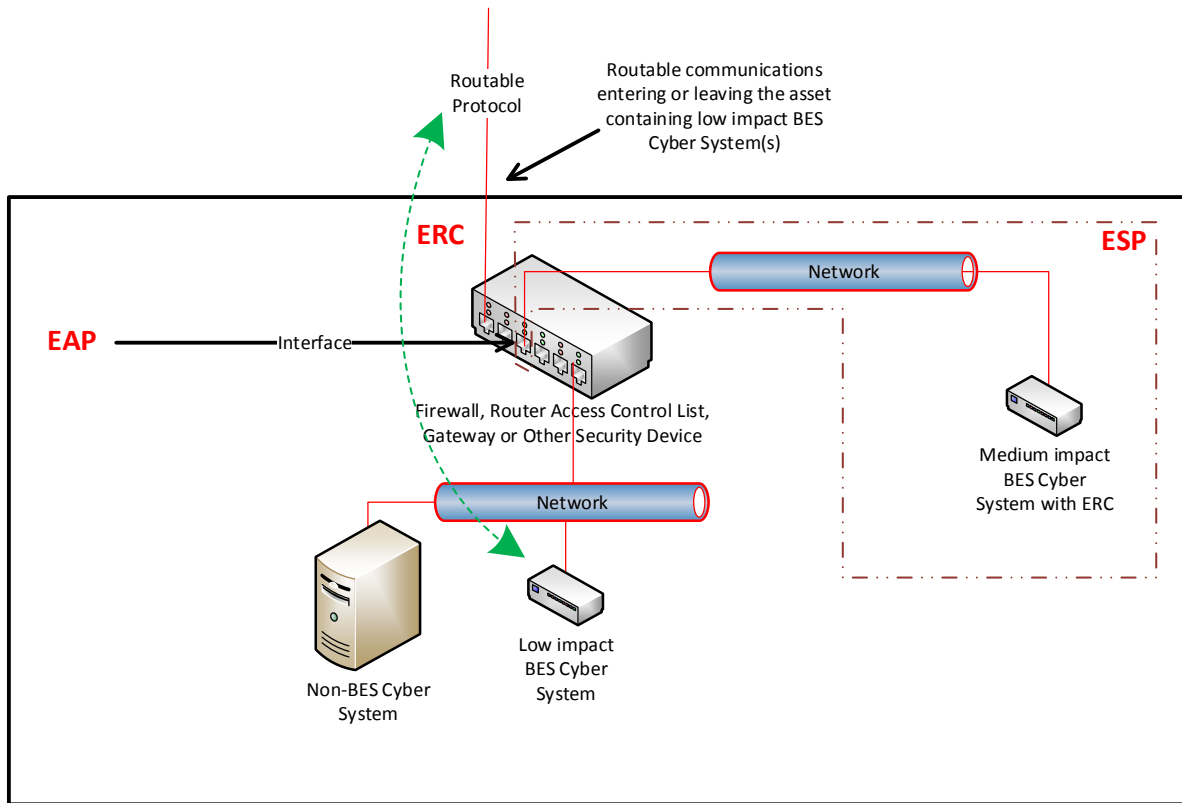
Reference Model 6

Reference Model 8

~~LERC Reference Model 9~~ — ~~LERC7~~ – Electronic Access Controls at assets containing low impact BES Cyber Systems and ERC

~~There is both LERC~~There is both a routable protocol entering and leaving the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) that is used by Cyber Asset(s) outside the asset and ERC present in this reference model because there is at least one medium impact BES Cyber System and one low impact BES Cyber System within the ~~BES asset~~asset using the routable protocol communications. The Responsible Entity may choose to leverage an interface on the medium impact Electronic Access Control or Monitoring Systems (EACMS) ~~device~~ to provide electronic access controls ~~for the LERC~~. The EACMS is therefore performing multiple functions – as a medium impact EACMS and as implementing ~~low impact~~ electronic access controls for an asset containing low impact BES Cyber Systems.





Asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s) and medium impact BES Cyber System(s)

.....Non-routable Protocol.....

————Routable Protocol————

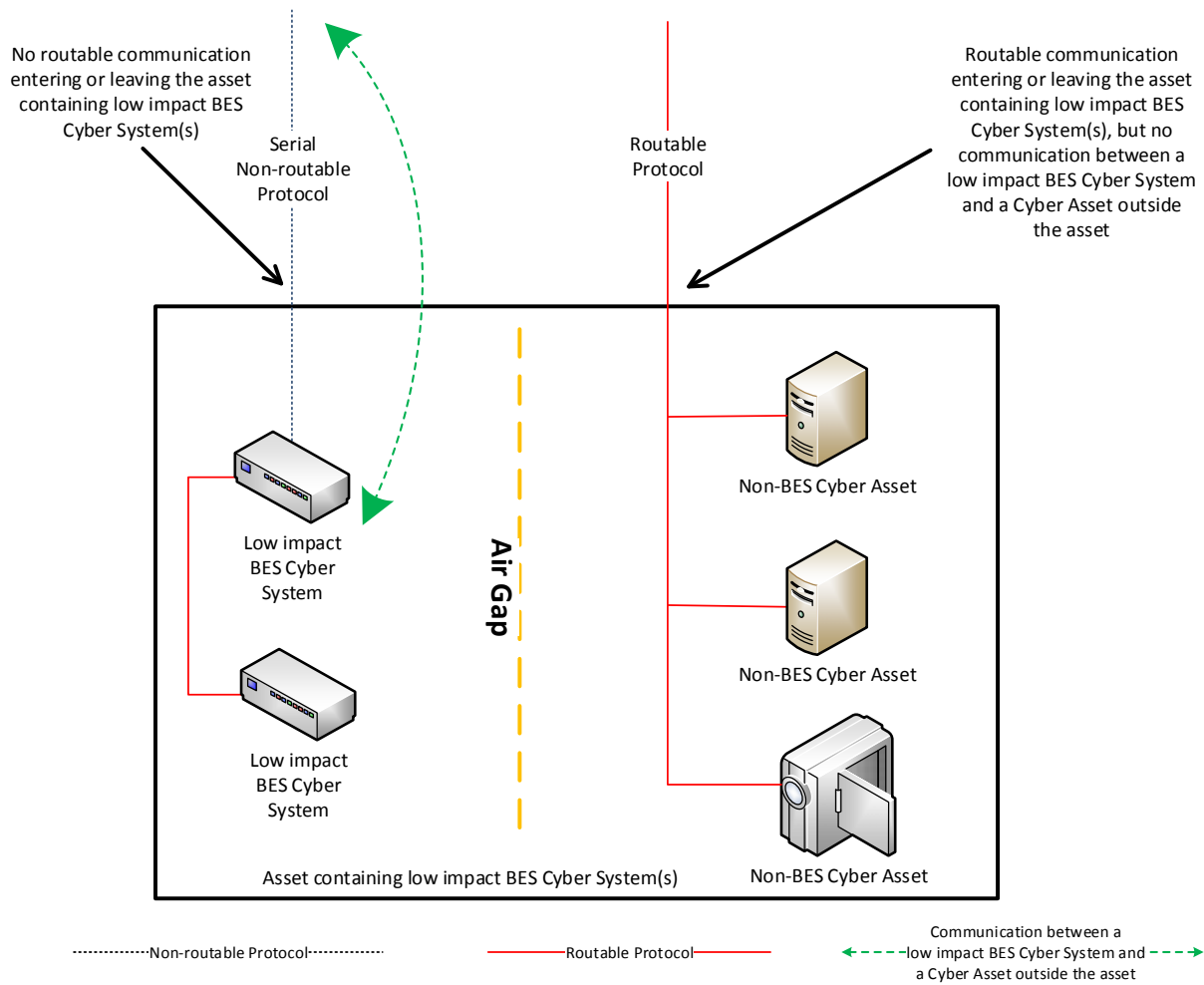
← - - - - Communication between a low impact BES Cyber System and a Cyber Asset outside the asset - - - - →

Reference Model 97

Reference Model 8 – Physical Isolation and Serial Non-routable Communications – No Electronic Access Controls Required

In this reference model, the criteria for requiring the implementation of electronic access controls are not met. This reference model demonstrates three concepts:

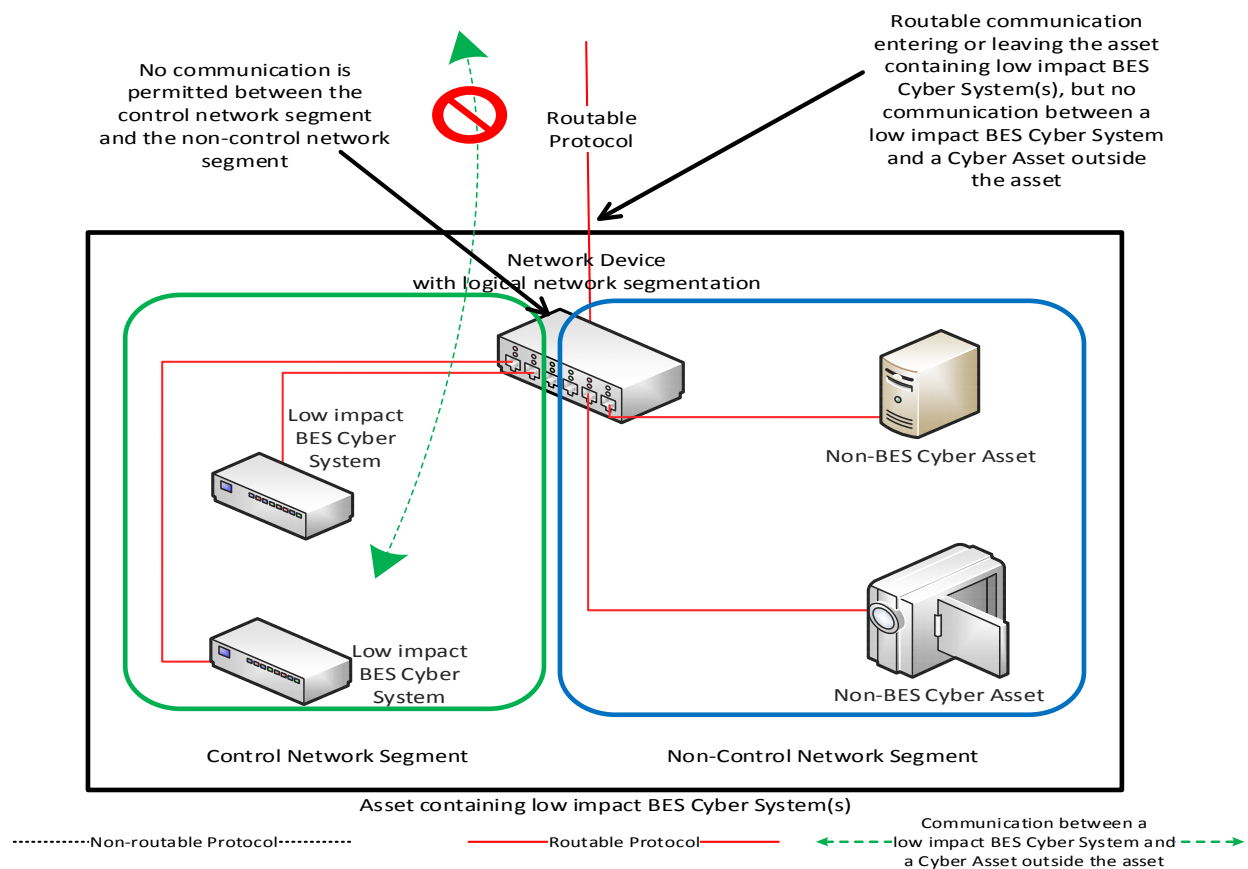
- 1) physical isolation of the low impact BES Cyber System(s) from the routable protocol communication entering or leaving the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s), commonly referred to as an 'air gap', mitigates the need to implement the required electronic access controls;
- 2) communication to the low impact BES Cyber System from a Cyber Asset outside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) using only a serial non-routable protocol where such communication is entering or leaving the asset mitigates the need to implement the required electronic access controls; and
- 3) routable protocol communication between the low impact BES Cyber System(s) and other Cyber Asset(s), such as the second low impact BES Cyber System depicted, may exist without needing to implement the required electronic access controls so long as the routable protocol communications never leaves the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s).



Reference Model 8

Reference Model 9 – Logical Isolation - No Electronic Access Controls Required

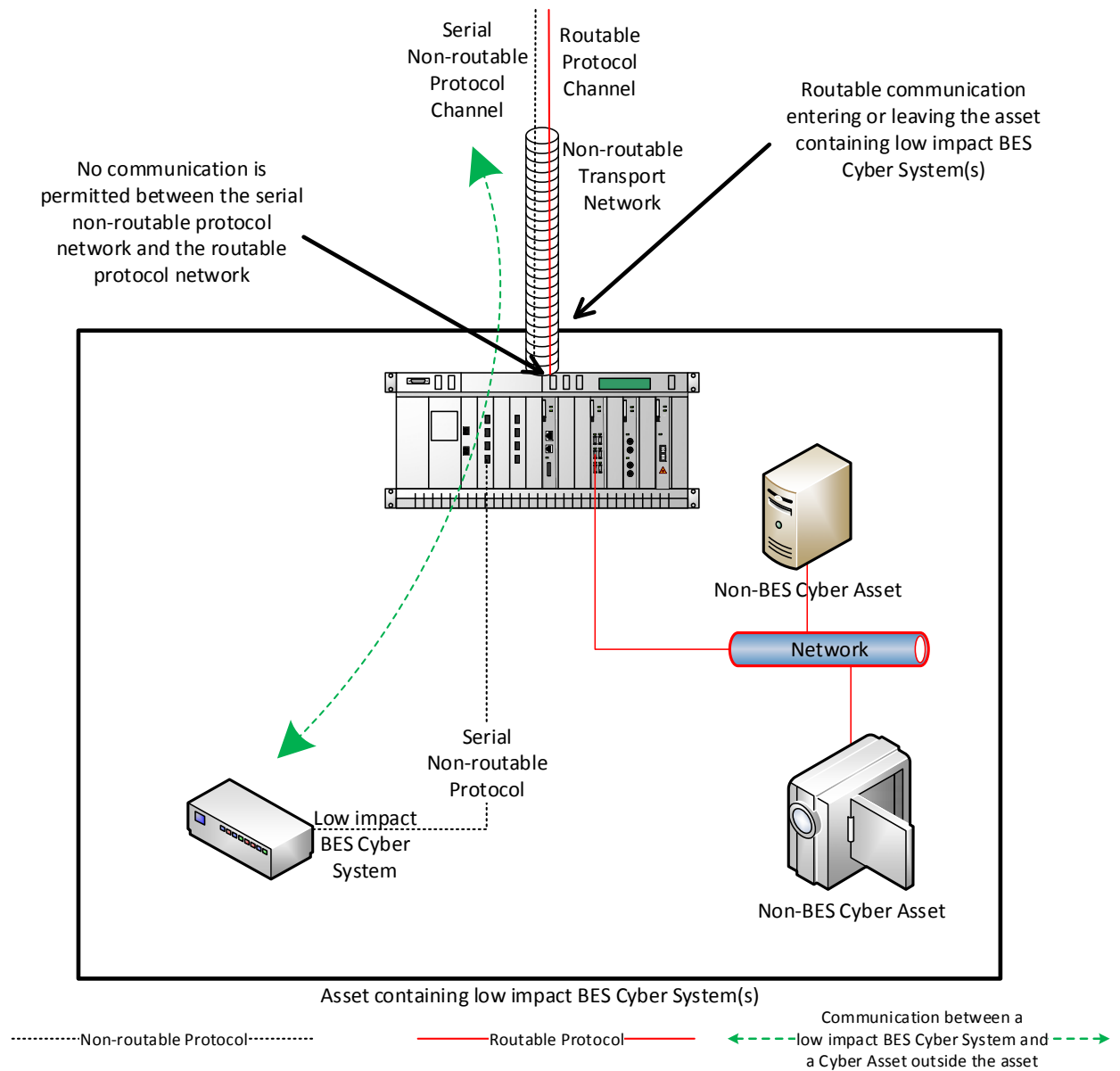
In this reference model, the criteria for requiring the implementation of electronic access controls are not met. The Responsible Entity has logically isolated the low impact BES Cyber System(s) from the routable protocol communication entering or leaving the asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). The logical network segmentation in this reference model permits no communication between a low impact BES Cyber System and a Cyber Asset outside the asset. Additionally, no indirect access exists because those non-BES Cyber Assets that are able to communicate outside the asset are strictly prohibited from communicating to the low impact BES Cyber System(s). The low impact BES Cyber System(s) is on an isolated network segment with logical controls preventing routable protocol communication into or out of the network containing the low impact BES Cyber System(s) and these communications never leave the asset using a routable protocol.



Reference Model 9

Reference Model 10 - Serial Non-routable Communications Traversing an Isolated Channel on a Non-routable Transport Network – No Electronic Access Controls Required

This reference model depicts communication between a low impact BES Cyber System and a Cyber Asset outside the asset containing the low impact BES Cyber System over a serial non-routable protocol which is transported across a wide-area network using a non-routable technology, such as a Time-Division Multiplexing (TDM) or Synchronous Optical (SONET) network. In this reference model, the criteria requiring electronic access controls are not met. While there is routable protocol communication entering or leaving the asset containing low impact BES Cyber Systems(s) and there is communication between a low impact BES Cyber System and a Cyber Asset outside the asset, the communication between the low impact BES Cyber System and the Cyber Asset outside the asset is not using the routable protocol communication. This model is related to Reference Model 9 in that it relies on logical isolation to prohibit the communication between a low impact BES Cyber System and a Cyber Asset outside the asset from using a routable protocol. In similar configurations, the Responsible Entity should closely evaluate the transport entering or leaving the asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). If the communication entering or leaving the asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s) was routable (such as serial encapsulated in TCP/IP or UDP/IP as depicted Reference Model 2 or Reference Model 5), then the criteria requiring electronic access controls would be met.



Reference Model 10

Dial-up Connectivity

Dial-up Connectivity to a low impact BES Cyber System is set to dial out only (no auto-answer) to a preprogrammed number to deliver data. Incoming Dial-up Connectivity is to a dialback modem, a modem that must be remotely controlled by the control center or control room, has some form of access control, or the low impact BES Cyber System has access control.

Insufficient Access Controls

Some examples of situations that would lack sufficient access controls to meet the intent of this requirement include:

- An asset has Dial-up Connectivity and a low impact BES Cyber System is reachable via an auto-answer modem that connects any caller to the Cyber Asset that has a default password. There is no practical access control in this instance.
- ~~An asset has LERC due to a~~ A low impact BES Cyber System ~~within it having~~ has a wireless card on a public carrier that allows the BES Cyber System to be reachable via a public IP address. In essence, low impact BES Cyber Systems should not be accessible from the Internet and search engines such as Shodan.
- Dual-homing or multiple-network interface cards without disabling IP forwarding in the non-BES Cyber Asset within the DMZ to provide separation between the low impact BES Cyber System(s) and the external network would not meet the intent of “controlling” inbound and outbound electronic access assuming there was no other host-based firewall or other security devices on the non-BES Cyber Asset.

Requirement R2, Attachment 1, Section 4 – Cyber Security Incident Response

The entity should have one or more documented Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) that include each of the topics listed in Section 4. If, in the normal course of business, suspicious activities are noted at an asset containing low impact BES Cyber System(s), the intent is for the entity to implement a Cyber Security Incident response plan that will guide the entity in responding to the incident and reporting the incident if it rises to the level of a Reportable Cyber Security Incident.

Entities are provided the flexibility to develop their Attachment 1, Section 4 Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) by asset or group of assets. The plans do not need to be on a per asset site or per low impact BES Cyber System basis. Entities can choose to use a single enterprise-wide plan to fulfill the obligations for low impact BES Cyber Systems.

The plan(s) must be tested once every 36 months. This is not an exercise per low impact BES Cyber Asset or per type of BES Cyber Asset but rather is an exercise of each incident response plan the entity created to meet this requirement. An actual Reportable Cyber Security Incident counts as an exercise as do other forms of tabletop exercises or drills. NERC-led exercises such as GridEx participation would also count as an exercise provided the entity’s response plan is followed. The intent of the requirement is for entities to keep the Cyber Security Incident response plan(s) current, which includes updating the plan(s), if needed, within 180 days following a test or an actual incident.

For low impact BES Cyber Systems, the only portion of the definition of Cyber Security Incident that would apply is, “A malicious act or suspicious event that disrupts, or was an attempt to

disrupt, the operation of a BES Cyber System.” The other portion of that definition is not to be used to require ESPs and PSPs for low impact BES Cyber Systems.

Requirement R3:

The intent of CIP-003-7, Requirement R3 is effectively unchanged since prior versions of the standard. The specific description of the CIP Senior Manager has now been included as a defined term rather than clarified in the Reliability Standard itself to prevent any unnecessary cross-reference to this standard. It is expected that the CIP Senior Manager will play a key role in ensuring proper strategic planning, executive/board-level awareness, and overall program governance.

Requirement R4:

As indicated in the rationale for CIP-003-7, Requirement R4, this requirement is intended to demonstrate a clear line of authority and ownership for security matters. The intent of the SDT was not to impose any particular organizational structure, but, rather, the intent is to afford the Responsible Entity significant flexibility to adapt this requirement to its existing organizational structure. A Responsible Entity may satisfy this requirement through a single delegation document or through multiple delegation documents. The Responsible Entity can make use of the delegation of the delegation authority itself to increase the flexibility in how this applies to its organization. In such a case, delegations may exist in numerous documentation records as long as the collection of these documentation records shows a clear line of authority back to the CIP Senior Manager. In addition, the CIP Senior Manager could also choose not to delegate any authority and meet this requirement without such delegation documentation.

The Responsible Entity must keep its documentation of the CIP Senior Manager and any delegations up-to-date. This is to ensure that individuals do not assume any undocumented authority. However, delegations do not have to be re-instated if the individual who delegated the task changes roles or the individual is replaced. For instance, assume that John Doe is named the CIP Senior Manager and he delegates a specific task to the Substation Maintenance Manager. If John Doe is replaced as the CIP Senior Manager, the CIP Senior Manager documentation must be updated within the specified timeframe, but the existing delegation to the Substation Maintenance Manager remains in effect as approved by the previous CIP Senior Manager, John Doe.

Rationale:

During development of this standard, text boxes were embedded within the standard to explain the rationale for various parts of the standard. Upon BOT approval, the text from the rationale text boxes was moved to this section.

Rationale for Requirement R1:

One or more security policies enable effective implementation of the requirements of the cyber security Reliability Standards. The purpose of policies is to provide a management and governance foundation for all requirements that apply to a Responsible Entity’s BES Cyber Systems. The Responsible Entity can demonstrate through its policies that its management supports the accountability and responsibility necessary for effective implementation of the requirements.

Annual review and approval of the cyber security policies ensures that the policies are kept-up-to-date and periodically reaffirms management’s commitment to the protection of its BES Cyber Systems.

Rationale for Requirement R2:

In response to FERC Order No. 791, Requirement R2 requires entities to develop and implement cyber security plans to meet specific security control objectives for assets containing low impact BES Cyber System(s). The cyber security plan(s) covers four subject matter areas: (1) cyber security awareness; (2) physical security controls; (3) electronic access controls; and (4) Cyber Security Incident response. This plan(s), along with the cyber security policies required under Requirement R1, Part 1.2, provides a framework for operational, procedural, and technical safeguards for low impact BES Cyber Systems.

Considering the varied types of low impact BES Cyber Systems across the BES, Attachment 1 provides Responsible Entities flexibility on how to apply the security controls to meet the security objectives. Additionally, because many Responsible Entities have multiple-impact rated BES Cyber Systems, nothing in the requirement prohibits entities from using their high and medium impact BES Cyber System policies, procedures, and processes to implement security controls required for low impact BES Cyber Systems, as detailed in Requirement R2, Attachment 1.

Responsible Entities will use their identified assets containing low impact BES Cyber System(s) (developed pursuant to CIP-002) to substantiate the sites or locations associated with low impact BES Cyber System(s). However, there is no requirement or compliance expectation for Responsible Entities to maintain a list(s) of individual low impact BES Cyber System(s) and their associated cyber assets or to maintain a list of authorized users.

Rationale for Requirement R3:

The identification and documentation of the single CIP Senior Manager ensures that there is clear authority and ownership for the CIP program within an organization, as called for in Blackout Report Recommendation 43. The language that identifies CIP Senior Manager responsibilities is included in the Glossary of Terms used in NERC Reliability Standards so that it may be used across the body of CIP standards without an explicit cross-reference.

FERC Order No. 706, Paragraph 296, requests consideration of whether the single senior manager should be a corporate officer or equivalent. As implicated through the defined term, the senior manager has “the overall authority and responsibility for leading and managing implementation of the requirements within this set of standards” which ensures that the senior manager is of sufficient position in the Responsible Entity to ensure that cyber security receives the prominence that is necessary. In addition, given the range of business models for responsible entities, from municipal, cooperative, federal agencies, investor owned utilities, privately owned utilities, and everything in between, the SDT believes that requiring the CIP Senior Manager to be a “corporate officer or equivalent” would be extremely difficult to interpret and enforce on a consistent basis.

Rationale for Requirement R4:

The intent of the requirement is to ensure clear accountability within an organization for certain security matters. It also ensures that delegations are kept up-to-date and that individuals do not assume undocumented authority.

In FERC Order No. 706, Paragraphs 379 and 381, the Commission notes that Recommendation 43 of the 2003 Blackout Report calls for “clear lines of authority and ownership for security matters.” With this in mind, the Standard Drafting Team has sought to provide clarity in the requirement for delegations so that this line of authority is clear and apparent from the documented delegations.