A. Introduction

1. **Title:** Cyber Security — Electronic Security Perimeter(s)

2. **Number:** CIP-005-1a

3. **Purpose:** Standard CIP-005 requires the identification and protection of the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) inside which all Critical Cyber Assets reside, as well as all access points on the perimeter. Standard CIP-005 should be read as part of a group of standards numbered Standards CIP-002 through CIP-009. Responsible Entities should interpret and apply Standards CIP-002 through CIP-009 using reasonable business judgment.

4. **Applicability**

4.1. Within the text of Standard CIP-005, "Responsible Entity" shall mean:

4.1.1 Reliability Coordinator.

4.1.2 Balancing Authority.

4.1.3 Interchange Authority.

4.1.4 Transmission Service Provider.

4.1.5 Transmission Owner.

4.1.6 Transmission Operator.

4.1.7 Generator Owner.

4.1.8 Generator Operator.

4.1.9 Load Serving Entity.

4.1.10 NERC.

4.1.11 Regional Reliability Organizations.

4.2. The following are exempt from Standard CIP-005:

4.2.1 Facilities regulated by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission or the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

4.2.2 Cyber Assets associated with communication networks and data communication links between discrete Electronic Security Perimeters.

4.2.3 Responsible Entities that, in compliance with Standard CIP-002, identify that they have no Critical Cyber Assets.

5. **Effective Date:** TBD

B. Requirements

The Responsible Entity shall comply with the following requirements of Standard CIP-005:

R1. Electronic Security Perimeter — The Responsible Entity shall ensure that every Critical Cyber Asset resides within an Electronic Security Perimeter. The Responsible Entity shall identify and document the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) and all access points to the perimeter(s).

R1.1. Access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) shall include any externally connected communication end point (for example, dial-up modems) terminating at any device within the Electronic Security Perimeter(s).

R1.2. For a dial-up accessible Critical Cyber Asset that uses a non-routable protocol, the Responsible Entity shall define an Electronic Security Perimeter for that single access point at the dial-up device.

R1.3. Communication links connecting discrete Electronic Security Perimeters shall not be considered part of the Electronic Security Perimeter. However, end points of these communication links within the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) shall be considered access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s).

R1.4. Any non-critical Cyber Asset within a defined Electronic Security Perimeter shall be identified and protected pursuant to the requirements of Standard CIP-005.

R1.5. Cyber Assets used in the access control and monitoring of the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) shall be afforded the protective measures as a specified in Standard CIP-003, Standard CIP-004 Requirement R3, Standard CIP-005 Requirements R2 and R3, Standard CIP-006 Requirements R2 and R3, Standard CIP-007, Requirements R1 and R3 through R9, Standard CIP-008, and Standard CIP-009.

R1.6. The Responsible Entity shall maintain documentation of Electronic Security Perimeter(s), all interconnected Critical and non-critical Cyber Assets within the Electronic Security Perimeter(s), all electronic access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) and the Cyber Assets deployed for the access control and monitoring of these access points.

R2. Electronic Access Controls — The Responsible Entity shall implement and document the organizational processes and technical and procedural mechanisms for control of electronic access at all electronic access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s).

R2.1. These processes and mechanisms shall use an access control model that denies access by default, such that explicit access permissions must be specified.

R2.2. At all access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s), the Responsible Entity shall enable only ports and services required for operations and for monitoring Cyber Assets within the Electronic Security Perimeter, and shall document, individually or by specified grouping, the configuration of those ports and services.

R2.3. The Responsible Entity shall maintain a procedure for securing dial-up access to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s).

R2.4. Where external interactive access into the Electronic Security Perimeter has been enabled, the Responsible Entity shall implement strong procedural or technical controls at the access points to ensure authenticity of the accessing party, where technically feasible.

R2.5. The required documentation shall, at least, identify and describe:

R2.5.1. The processes for access request and authorization.

R2.5.2. The authentication methods.

R2.5.3. The review process for authorization rights, in accordance with Standard CIP-004 Requirement R4.

R2.5.4. The controls used to secure dial-up accessible connections.

R2.6. Appropriate Use Banner — Where technically feasible, electronic access control devices shall display an appropriate use banner on the user screen upon all interactive access attempts. The Responsible Entity shall maintain a document identifying the content of the banner.

R3. Monitoring Electronic Access — The Responsible Entity shall implement and document an electronic or manual process(es) for monitoring and logging access at access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

R3.1. For dial-up accessible Critical Cyber Assets that use non-routable protocols, the Responsible Entity shall implement and document monitoring process(es) at each access point to the dial-up device, where technically feasible.

R3.2. Where technically feasible, the security monitoring process(es) shall detect and alert for attempts at or actual unauthorized accesses. These alerts shall provide for appropriate notification to designated response personnel. Where alerting is not technically feasible, the Responsible Entity shall review or otherwise assess access logs for attempts at or actual unauthorized accesses at least every ninety calendar days.

R4. Cyber Vulnerability Assessment — The Responsible Entity shall perform a cyber vulnerability assessment of the electronic access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) at least annually. The vulnerability assessment shall include, at a minimum, the following:

R4.1. A document identifying the vulnerability assessment process;

R4.2. A review to verify that only ports and services required for operations at these access points are enabled;

R4.3. The discovery of all access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter;

R4.4. A review of controls for default accounts, passwords, and network management community strings; and,

R4.5. Documentation of the results of the assessment, the action plan to remediate or mitigate vulnerabilities identified in the assessment, and the execution status of that action plan.

R5. Documentation Review and Maintenance — The Responsible Entity shall review, update, and maintain all documentation to support compliance with the requirements of Standard CIP-005.

R5.1. The Responsible Entity shall ensure that all documentation required by Standard CIP-005 reflect current configurations and processes and shall review the documents and procedures referenced in Standard CIP-005 at least annually.

R5.2. The Responsible Entity shall update the documentation to reflect the modification of the network or controls within ninety calendar days of the change.

R5.3. The Responsible Entity shall retain electronic access logs for at least ninety calendar days. Logs related to reportable incidents shall be kept in accordance with the requirements of Standard CIP-008.

C. Measures

The following measures will be used to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of Standard CIP-005. Responsible entities may document controls either individually or by specified applicable grouping.

M1. Documents about the Electronic Security Perimeter as specified in Requirement R1.

M2. Documentation of the electronic access controls to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s), as specified in Requirement R2.

M3. Documentation of controls implemented to log and monitor access to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) as specified in Requirement R3.

M4. Documentation of the Responsible Entity's annual vulnerability assessment as specified in Requirement R4.

M5. Access logs and documentation of review, changes, and log retention as specified in Requirement R5.

D. Compliance

1. Compliance Monitoring Process

1.1. Compliance Monitoring Responsibility

1.1.1 Regional Reliability Organizations for Responsible Entities.

1.1.2 NERC for Regional Reliability Organization.

1.1.3 Third-party monitor without vested interest in the outcome for NERC.

1.2. Compliance Monitoring Period and Reset Time Frame

Annually.

1.3. Data Retention

1.3.1 The Responsible Entity shall keep logs for a minimum of ninety calendar days, unless longer retention is required pursuant to Standard CIP-008, Requirement R2.

1.3.2 The Responsible Entity shall keep other documents and records required by Standard CIP-005 from the previous full calendar year.

1.3.3 The compliance monitor shall keep audit records for three years.

1.4. Additional Compliance Information

1.4.1 Responsible Entities shall demonstrate compliance through self-certification or audit, as determined by the Compliance Monitor.

1.4.2 Instances where the Responsible Entity cannot conform to its cyber security policy must be documented as exceptions and approved by the designated senior manager or delegate(s). Duly authorized exceptions will not result in noncompliance. Refer to CIP-003 Requirement R3.

2. Levels of Noncompliance

2.1. Level 1:

2.1.1 All document(s) identified in CIP-005 exist, but have not been updated within ninety calendar days of any changes as required; or,

2.1.2 Access to less than 15% of electronic security perimeters is not controlled, monitored; and logged;

2.1.3 Document(s) exist confirming that only necessary network ports and services have been enabled, but no record documenting annual reviews exists; or,

2.1.4 At least one, but not all, of the Electronic Security Perimeter vulnerability assessment items has been performed in the last full calendar year.

2.2. Level 2:

2.2.1 All document(s) identified in CIP-005 but have not been updated or reviewed in the previous full calendar year as required; or,

2.2.2 Access to between 15% and 25% of electronic security perimeters is not controlled, monitored; and logged; or,

2.2.3 Documentation and records of vulnerability assessments of the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) exist, but a vulnerability assessment has not been performed in the previous full calendar year.

2.3. Level 3:

2.3.1 A document defining the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) exists, but there are one or more Critical Cyber Assets not within the defined Electronic Security Perimeter(s); or,

2.3.2 One or more identified non-critical Cyber Assets is within the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) but not documented; or,

2.3.3 Electronic access controls document(s) exist, but one or more access points have not been identified; or

2.3.4 Electronic access controls document(s) do not identify or describe access controls for one or more access points; or,

2.3.5 Electronic Access Monitoring:

2.3.5.1 Access to between 26% and 50% of Electronic Security Perimeters is not controlled, monitored; and logged; or,

2.3.5.2 Access logs exist, but have not been reviewed within the past ninety calendar days; or,

2.3.6 Documentation and records of vulnerability assessments of the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) exist, but a vulnerability assessment has not been performed for more than two full calendar years.

2.4. Level 4:

2.4.1 No documented Electronic Security Perimeter exists; or,

2.4.2 No records of access exist; or,

2.4.3 51% or more Electronic Security Perimeters are not controlled, monitored, and logged; or,

2.4.4 Documentation and records of vulnerability assessments of the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) exist, but a vulnerability assessment has not been performed for more than three full calendar years; or,

2.4.5 No documented vulnerability assessment of the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) process exists.

E. Regional Differences

None identified.

Version History

Version	Date	Action	Change Tracking
1	01/16/06	D.2.3.1 — Change “Critical Assets,” to “Critical Cyber Assets” as intended.	03/24/06
1a	02/16/10	Added Appendix 1 — Interpretation of R1.3 approved by BOT on February 16, 2010	Addition

Appendix 1

Requirement Number and Text of Requirement
Section 4.2.2 Cyber Assets associated with communication networks and data communication links between discrete Electronic Security Perimeters. **Requirement R1.3** Communication links connecting discrete Electronic Security Perimeters shall not be considered part of the Electronic Security Perimeter. However, end points of these communication links within the Electronic Security Perimeter(s) shall be considered access points to the Electronic Security Perimeter(s).
Question 1 (Section 4.2.2)
What kind of cyber assets are referenced in 4.2.2 as "associated"? What else could be meant except the devices forming the communication link?
Response to Question 1
In the context of applicability, associated Cyber Assets refer to any communications devices external to the Electronic Security Perimeter, i.e., beyond the point at which access to the Electronic Security Perimeter is controlled. Devices controlling access into the Electronic Security Perimeter are not exempt.
Question 2 (Section 4.2.2)
Is the communication link physical or logical? Where does it begin and terminate?
Response to Question 2
The drafting team interprets the data communication link to be physical or logical, and its termination points depend upon the design and architecture of the communication link.
Question 3 (Requirement R1.3)
Please clarify what is meant by an “endpoint”? Is it physical termination? Logical termination of OSI layer 2, layer 3, or above?
Response to Question 3
The drafting team interprets the endpoint to mean the device at which a physical or logical communication link terminates. The endpoint is the Electronic Security Perimeter access point if access into the Electronic Security Perimeter is controlled at the endpoint, irrespective of which Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) layer is managing the communication.
Question 4 (Requirement R1.3)
If “endpoint” is defined as logical and refers to layer 3 and above, please clarify if the termination points of an encrypted tunnel (layer 3) must be treated as an “access point? If two control centers are

owned and managed by the same entity, connected via an encrypted link by properly applied Federal Information Processing Standards, with tunnel termination points that are within the control center ESPs and PSPs and do not terminate on the firewall but on a separate internal device, and the encrypted traffic already passes through a firewall access point at each ESP boundary where port/protocol restrictions are applied, must these encrypted communication tunnel termination points be treated as "access points" in addition to the firewalls through which the encrypted traffic has already passed?

Response to Question 4

In the case where the “endpoint” is defined as logical and is >= layer 3, the termination points of an encrypted tunnel must be treated as an “access point.” The encrypted communication tunnel termination points referred to above are “access points.”