Clarification Request

References: ASHRAE 135.1-2007, BTL Specified Tests-5.0.final

Background:

Test Plan Testing Hints for 135.1-7.3.1.3 Command prioritization states that:

… The lab must be able to command at all priorities (excluding priority 6) in order to verify compliance of the device. BTL-CRR-0046

CRR-0046 seems to relate to my question. However, the answer in the CRR generated more questions about our implementation.

Question:

We have a device that contains several Binary Value objects that are commandable only internally by the application. Therefore, if someone attempts to command these objects to any priority (via BACnet), they will receive an error. Is this implementation okay?

We do have the ability to allow the commanding of all priorities (except 6) in order to pass BTL testing. However, we would need to actually download a different application for the field in order to "restrict" their ability to command these points.

Currently the ability to command at the priorities or not is set at compile time. Therefore, I cannot push a button or remove a jumper. It would actually be a different code that is loaded. Basically, the code would be the exact same except in one the objects are commandable and in one they are not.

Is that okay? Or do I need to get the vendor to provide a different method for lifting the restrictions

Response:

The device shouldn't expose internal commandability as the Priority_Array property, if at no priority is it commandable by BACnet means. The standard uses language "This prioritization approach shall be applied to local actions that change the value of commandable properties as well as to write operations via BACnet services." A more appropriate way to expose purely internal commandability is with a proprietary property using a Property-identifier in the proprietary range, but with the same datatype as a Priority_Array property.