Request for Approval under the "Generic Clearance for the Collection of Routine Customer Feedback" (OMB Control Number: 3145-0215)

TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION:

National Science Foundation Website Redesign Usability Testing

PURPOSE:

Viderity, Inc. intends to perform usability testing for the redesign of the National Science Foundation website (NSF.gov). To do this, we will need to engage volunteers from the general public in three different testing exercises:

- **Card Sorts** to determine the optimal organization and hierarchy of public content on the website.
- **Tree Tests** to ensure that navigation menu presents the core information logically and intuitively.
- **Wireframe Tests** to ensure that prototype pages are easy to use, and that critical information can be located quickly and easily.

These tests will be conducted in stages throughout the Spring and Summer of 2019. Each test will take approximately 5-7 working days to complete.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS:

Respondents will be members of the general public not affiliated with the National Science Foundation. They should be at least 18 years of age and have either a professional/educational background in STEM subjects or an interest in scientific disciplines.

TYPE OF COLLECTION: (Check one)

- [] Customer Comment Card/Complaint Form
- **X** Usability Testing (e.g., Website or Software)
- [] Focus Group

- [] Customer Satisfaction Survey
- [] Small Discussion Group

[] Other:_____

CERTIFICATION:

I certify the following to be true:

- 1. The collection is voluntary.
- 2. The collection is low-burden for respondents and low-cost for the Federal Government.
- 3. The collection is non-controversial and does <u>not</u> raise issues of concern to other federal agencies.
- 4. The results are <u>not</u> intended to be disseminated to the public.
- 5. Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of <u>substantially</u> informing <u>influential</u> policy decisions.
- 6. The collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the future.

Name: <u>Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, NSF/OD/OGC</u>

To assist review, please provide answers to the following question:

Personally Identifiable Information:

- 1. Is personally identifiable information (PII) collected? [] Yes ${f X}$ No
- 2. If Yes, is the information that will be collected included in records that are subject to the Privacy Act of 1974? [] Yes [] No
- 3. If Applicable, has a System or Records Notice been published? [] Yes [] No **Gifts or Payments:**

Is an incentive (e.g., money or reimbursement of expenses, token of appreciation) provided to participants? [] Yes **X** No

BURDEN HOURS

Category of Respondent	No. of	Participation	Burden
	Respondents	Time	
Card Sorts	18	15 minutes	4.5
			hours
Tree Testing	20	15 minutes	5 hours
Usability Tests	7	15 minutes	1.75
			hours
Totals	45	15 minutes	11
			hours

FEDERAL COST: The estimated annual cost to the Federal government is \$<u>0</u>

If you are conducting a focus group, survey, or plan to employ statistical methods, please provide answers to the following questions:

The selection of your targeted respondents

Do you have a customer list or something similar that defines the universe of potential respondents and do you have a sampling plan for selecting from this universe?
[] Yes X No

If the answer is yes, please provide a description of both below (or attach the sampling plan)? If the answer is no, please provide a description of how you plan to identify your potential group of respondents and how you will select them?

OptimalWorkshop.com and UserTesting.com, the two services Viderity uses to administer usability tests, provide us with participants culled from their own, proprietary lists of qualified, voluntary participants. We provide the user criteria (see "Description of Respondents" above) and they find matching candidates and invite them to join the test.

Administration of the Instrument

- 1. How will you collect the information? (Check all that apply)
 - **X** Web-based or other forms of Social Media
 - [] Telephone
 - [] In-person
 - [] Mail
 - [] Other, Explain
- 2. Will interviewers or facilitators be used? [] Yes X No

Please make sure that all instruments, instructions, and scripts are submitted with the request.

Instructions for completing Request for Approval under the "Generic Clearance for the Collection of Routine Customer Feedback"

TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION: Provide the name of the collection that is the subject of the request. (e.g. Comment card for soliciting feedback on xxxx)

PURPOSE: Provide a brief description of the purpose of this collection and how it will be used. If this is part of a larger study or effort, please include this in your explanation.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Provide a brief description of the targeted group or groups for this collection of information. These groups must have experience with the program.

TYPE OF COLLECTION: Check one box. If you are requesting approval of other instruments under the generic, you must complete a form for each instrument.

CERTIFICATION: Please read the certification carefully. If you incorrectly certify, the collection will be returned as improperly submitted or it will be disapproved.

Personally Identifiable Information: Provide answers to the questions.

Gifts or Payments: If you answer yes to the question, please describe the incentive and provide a justification for the amount.

BURDEN HOURS:

Category of Respondents: Identify who you expect the respondents to be in terms of the following categories: (1) Individuals or Households;(2) Private Sector; (3) State, local, or tribal governments; or (4) Federal Government. Only one type of respondent can be selected. **No. of Respondents:** Provide an estimate of the Number of respondents. **Participation Time:** Provide an estimate of the amount of time required for a respondent to participate (e.g. fill out a survey or participate in a focus group)

Burden: Provide the Annual burden hours: Multiply the Number of responses and the participation time and divide by 60.

FEDERAL COST: Provide an estimate of the annual cost to the Federal government.

If you are conducting a focus group, survey, or plan to employ statistical methods, please provide answers to the following questions:

The selection of your targeted respondents. Please provide a description of how you plan to identify your potential group of respondents and how you will select them. If the answer is yes, to the first question, you may provide the sampling plan in an attachment.

Administration of the Instrument: Identify how the information will be collected. More than one box may be checked. Indicate whether there will be interviewers (e.g. for surveys) or facilitators (e.g., for focus groups) used.

Please make sure that all instruments, instructions, and scripts are submitted with the request.