UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-1650

September 19, 2023

Veneeth lyengar **Executive Director** Administration, Louisiana Division of 1201 N. 3rd Street Suite 6-180 Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5243

Subject:

Approval of Initial Proposal Vol. 1

Award Number/FAIN:

22-20-B061

Admin POC:

Veneeth lyengar

Grants Specialist:

Gabrielle Zelaya

Program Officer:

Alex Johnson

Dear Veneeth Iyengar,

Volume one of your entity's initial proposal, submitted on June 30, 2023, including any revisions during the review, has been approved by the Assistant Secretary for NTIA. This includes approval of the challenge process proposed in volume one.

This approval only applies to volume one and does not constitute an approval of your entity's volume two submission or initial proposal funding request, if submitted. Therefore, no additional funding is authorized by this approval, nor is your entity authorized to begin executing activities proposed in volume two or the initial proposal funding request (IPFR). Those activities and/or additional funding will be authorized once review of those parts of your initial proposal and the IPFR are deemed complete and approved by NTIA and NIST.

It is your entity's responsibility to execute the approved challenge process consistent with your volume one submission and revisions that took place during the review of that submission.

Please retain a copy of this letter in your official award file.

Digitally signed by DARREN

DARREN OLSON Date: 2023.09.19 09:34:45

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Darren Olson **Grants Officer**

cc: NIST Grants Management Information System